

Village of South River
Council Meeting – June 25th 2024

The meeting of the Council of the Village of South River was held virtually and in person on Tuesday June 25th, 2024. A quorum was present. In attendance were Mayor Jim Coleman (Chairing in-person in Council Chambers), Deputy-Mayor Bill O’Hallarn, Councillor Robert Brooks, Councillor Teri Brandt and Councillor Brenda Scott.

Staff in Attendance: Don McArthur, Clerk Administrator – In person
Janet Wedseltoft, Chief Financial Officer – In Person
Allister Johnston, Administrative Assistant – In Person

Guests: Judy Kleinhaus (Virtual), Fire Chief Risto Maki and Donald Bruce

1. Call to Order - The meeting was called to order by Deputy-Mayor Bill O’Hallarn at 2:00 p.m.

2. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof – Nil

3. Delegation and Public Meeting – J Kleinhuis, Grant Thornton – 2023 Audited Financial Statements

Regarding Item 3.1 J Kleinhuis, Grant Thornton – 2023 Audited Financial Statements Judy Kleinhuis presented the 2023 Audited Financial Statements. Judy Kleinhuis explained Auditors responsibilities. Judy Kleinhuis reviewed findings with Council on the Consolidated, Fire, Arena and Trust Fund and concluded a clean Audit opinion.

Judy Kleinhuis leaves the meeting at 2:56 PM

218-2024 Scott/Brooks

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby accept the Village of South River Consolidated financial statements, the South River Machar Arena financial statements, the South River Machar Fire Department financial statements and the Trust Funds financial statements for 2023 as presented by Grant Thornton.

With permission from Council, Mayor Jim Coleman moved forward Item 6.2.1 to accommodate Fire Chief Maki.

6.2 Reports from Shared Services

1. South River Machar Fire Chief Report June 2024

In regards to Item 6.2.1.South River Machar Fire Chief Report June 2024 Fire Chief Risto Maki presented his report to Council regarding Firehall activity in the Village. Fire Chief Risto Maki highlighted the proposal of funding for a drone for the Fire Department. Council discussed drone range, speed, estimated end of use timeline, training and number of operators.

Fire Chief Risto Maki leaves the meeting at 3:25 PM

4. Adoption of Minutes – Council Tuesday June 11, 2024

219-2024 Brooks/Scott

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby adopt the minutes of the Council meeting June 11, 2024 as presented.

Carried

5. Accounts and Finance

5.1 Accounts Reports

1. 2024 South River Municipal Budget
2. OREG 284-09 2024 Budget Report and OPTA Tools
3. 2024 BFL Insurance Renewal Proposal

In regards to Item 5.1.1 2024 South River Municipal Budget Council reviewed the Village Projects, water expenses, and a discussion and review on Tax and Water rates.

Regarding item 5.1.3 2024 BFL Insurance Renewal Proposal Council discussed the premium increase. Council assessed currently insured Village assets.

220-2024 O'Hallarn/Brandt

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby adopt the 2024 Municipal Budget as presented with a 4.8% overall tax increase and a 10% increase on all water rates.

Carried

221-2024 Brandt/Scott

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby accept the O-Reg 284/09 Budget 2024 report as presented.

222-2024 Brandt/Scott

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby authorize the renewal of the municipal insurance for the period June 30, 2024 to June 30, 2025 with BFL Insurance at a cost of \$127,237.00 plus applicable taxes.

Carried

223-2024 Brandt/Scott

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby receive the reports from Accounts and Finance #1 to #3.

Carried

6. Reports from Municipal Staff and/or Committees

6.1 Reports from Municipal Staff and Related Business –

1. Black and McDonald Change order #1- Suction Header Insulation
2. CSBT Employee Benefits Provider-2023-Annual-Report
3. South River Draft Disposition of Land Policy
4. NOHFC Approval EDO/Business Manager Intern
5. Lions Club - Tom Thomson Bandshell
6. Hiring of Admin Assistant Candice Robertson

In regards to Item 6.1.1 Black and McDonald Change order #1- Suction Header Insulation Council discussed the inspection done on pipes and removal and replacement of insulation surrounding pipes.

Regarding Item 6.1.5 Lions Club - Tom Thomson Bandshell - Council highlighted the large amount needed to be fundraised by the Lions Club. Council understands the Lions Club will be formally looking at the proposal this fall. If the Lions Club decides to move forward Council could support the project through grant applications. 2026 was discussed as the earliest possible construction time given the large scope of the project.

224-2024 Brandt/Brooks

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby approve change order #1 from Black and McDonald for additional insulation in the amount of \$2840 plus applicable taxes for the Arena Renewal Project.

Carried

225-2024 Scott /Brooks

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby direct staff to bring forward an updated land disposition policy.

Carried

226-2024 Brandt/Scott

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby accept the recommendation of the hiring committee and appoint Candice Robertson to the

position of Administrative Assistant

Carried

227-2024 Brooks/Brandt

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby accept the staff and committee reports #1 to #6 as presented.

Carried

6.2 Reports from Shared Services –

- 2. Chief Arena Operator Report for May 2024
- 3. South River Machar Library Minutes June 11, 2024
- 4. South River Machar Medical Centre Minutes May 21, 2024

In regards to Item 6.2.4 South River Machar Medical Centre Minutes May 21, 2024 Council noted that an RPN is going to be at the Medical Centre 3 days a week. Council discussed other possible services to come.

228-2024 Brandt/Brooks

BE IT RESOLVED THAT this Council of the Village of South River does hereby accept the reports from Shared Services Staff and Committees #1 to #4.

Carried

6.3 Reports from Regional Committees --

- 1. PSDSSAB June CAO Report
- 2. ACED - RCIP Support Letter Request

Regarding Item 6.3.2 ACED - RCIP Support Letter Request Council stressed the difficulty in keeping people local.

229-2024 Scott/Brooks

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby receive the Reports from the Regional Committees: Items #1 to #2.

Carried

7. By-Laws and Resolutions

- 1. By-law-28-2024-Black and MacDonald Arena Upgrades
- 2. By-law 29-2024 OTF Trillium Contribution Agreement
- 3. By-law 30-2024 AMO CCBF (Gas Tax Agreement)
- 4. By-law 31-2024 Circular Materials Master Agreement
- 5. Resolution support Town of The Blue Mountains Re Ridesharing Services
- 6. Resolution support Municipality of Callander - Assessment Cycle
- 7. Resolution OCWA Swabbing Alfred –Lincoln-Connolly

230-2024 Scott/Brooks

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby read a first, second and third time and finally pass By-law#28-2024, being a by-law to enter into a agreement with Black and McDonald for Arena upgrades in the amount of \$352,845 plus applicable taxes with the signatures of the Mayor and the Clerk and the corporate seal affixed.

Carried

231-2024 Brooks/O'Hallarn

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby read a first, second and third time and finally pass By-law#29-2024, being a by-law to enter into a contribution agreement with the Ontario Trillium Fund for Trail Development with the signatures of the Mayor and the Clerk and the corporate seal affixed.

Carried

232-2024 Brooks/O'Hallarn

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby read a first, second and third time and finally pass By-law#30-2024, being a by-law to enter into a

contribution agreement with the Association of Municipalities of Ontario for the Canada Community Building Fund with the signatures of the Mayor and the Clerk and the corporate seal affixed.

Carried

233-2024 O'Hallarn/Brooks

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby read a first, second and third time and finally pass By-law#31-2024, being a by-law to enter into a contribution agreement with Circular Materials for residential recycling with the signatures of the Mayor and the Clerk and the corporate seal affixed.

Carried

234-2024 Brooks/Brandt

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby support the Town of The Blue Mountains resolution urging the Government to adopt province wide regulations for ride-sharing services and this resolution be forwarded to the Town of The Blue Mountains.

Carried

235-2024 Brooks/Brandt

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby support the Municipality of Callander Resolution No. 2024/05/184 urging the Government to promptly resume the assessment cycle and this resolution be forwarded to the Municipality of Callander and MPP Graydon Smith

Carried

236-2024 Scott/Brooks

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby authorize the Ontario Clean Water Agency to conduct swabbing on watermain pipes primarily on Alfred St. Lincoln Ave. and Connolly St. at a cost up to \$20,000 and the funds be allocated from the 2024 OCIF funding in the 2024 municipal budget.

Carried

8. Correspondence

1. MAHC Strategic Healthcare Roadmap and AHHC Resolution
2. Donald Bruce - Firework Support Request
3. Municipality of West Nipissing - Champlain Bridge Replacement
4. Municipality of Tweed - OPP Notice of Motion
5. City of Hamilton - Paid Plasma Sites
6. MNR Aggregate Resources Act General Letter
7. Almaguin Pride Summer 2024
8. AMO - Indigenous Community Awareness Training
9. North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit - Nicotine Pouches
10. SRM Public Library - Boot Sale

In regards to Item 8.2 Donald Bruce - Firework Support Request Council reviewed Donald Bruce's request for funding. Donald Bruce underlined the preparation, insurance liability and work he has undergone to meet regulations.

237-2024 Scott/Brooks

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby receive the Correspondence: Agenda Items #1 to #10.

Carried

237-2024 Brandt/Brooks

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby authorize a \$200 donation to Donald Bruce to assist with his Canada Day Celebrations

Carried

9. Council Roundtable (Items of Interest) –

Councillor Brenda Scott wanted to confirm water at the Community Gardens was operational again. Clerk Administrator Don McArthur confirmed water is back in order. Councillor Brenda Scott additionally asked staff to investigate if the area behind the brewery could be used for additional Community Gardens.

Councillor Brenda Scott requested an update on Advertising Blades, and suggested that they be permanently installed to reduce maintenance time. Clerk Administrator Don McArthur reminded that an application to Great Canadian Wilderness is an option to reduce the Village's cost.

Councillor Robert Brooks requested an estimated time for the first open house of the Train Station. Clerk Administrator Don McArthur estimated 2026.

Mayor Jim Coleman brought to attention an invasive spruce tree killing insect found locally. Councillor Teri Brandt suggested the MNR (Ministry of Natural Resources) may be working on a plan of action. Mayor Jim Coleman would like to investigate what the Village can do to help with the problem, particularly the disposal of dead trees.

Clerk Administrator Don McArthur presented the Yard Waste sign to Council. Councillor Teri Brandt recommended 'Materials' be changed to 'Brush' for clarity.

Allister Johnston Leaves the Meeting at 6:16 PM

Donald Bruce Leaves the Meeting at 6:16 PM

10. In Camera – Commercial Lease – 309 HWY 124
Fire and Arena Shared Services Contract Renewal

239-2024 Scott/O'Hallarn

Be it Resolved that this meeting of the Village of South River Council be closed under Subsection 239. (a) the security of the property of the municipality or local board and that this Council proceed in Camera at 6:20 p.m. for the purpose of discussing issues related to the above.

Carried

240-2024 Brooks/O'Hallarn

BE IT RESOLVED THAT this Council adjourn the Closed meeting and reconvene in Open Session at 7:27 p.m. with Mayor Jim Coleman as Chair.

Carried

241-2024 Brooks/Brandt

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby accept the offer a month lease for 309 HWY 124 with West Wind Trading Co as per the terms and conditions attached.

Carried

242-2024 Scott/Brooks

Whereas the Township of Machar has withdrawn from negotiations for the renewal of the South River Machar Fire Department and South River Machar Community Centre joint services agreement and the Village of South River supports a fair, equitable and sustainable joint services agreement with the Township of Machar for Fire and Community Centre services, and;

Whereas the shared services funding model for Fire, Library, Medical Centre, Ambulance Building and capital at the Community Centre are all equally shared and operate well, and;

Whereas the Township of Machar has indicated that a funding formula change for the operating costs at the Community Centre to be fair, equitable, and sustainable is not possible to align it with all other shared services;

Whereas the funding formula for the South River Machar Fire Department is currently has the cost per household for the Village of South River resident at \$441 and the Township of Machar cost at \$244 and the number of households in the Township of Machar has increased from 240 (60% of South Rivers 400 households in 1981) to 875 (172% of South Rivers 510 households in 2021) since the original 1977 agreement, and;

Therefore be it resolved that the Village of South River supports that the South River Machar Fire Department costs be based on the same cost per household in both communities served by the service and the funding changes be incorporated in the new

contract.

Carried

11. Confirming By-law – By-law #32-2024

243-2024 Brooks/Scott

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby read a first, second and third time and finally pass By-law# 32-2024, being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of Council at its meeting held on the 25th day of June 2024 with the signatures of the Mayor and the Clerk-Administrator and the corporate seal affixed

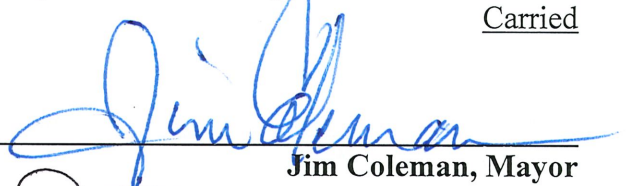
Carried

12. Adjournment

244-2024 Scott/Brooks

BE IT RESOLVED THAT this Council of the Village of South River does hereby cancel the next regular meeting of Council and adjourn to meet again as the South River Council on Tuesday, July 23rd, 2024 at 2:00 p.m. in the South River Council Chambers located at 63 Marie Street or at the call of the Mayor. Time of Adjournment: 7:28 p.m.

Carried



Jim Coleman, Mayor



Don McArthur, Clerk-Administrator