

Village of South River  
Council Meeting – December 14, 2020

The meeting of the Council of the Village of South River was held virtually and in person on Monday December 14, 2020. A quorum was present. In attendance were Mayor Jim Coleman and Councilors Doug Sewell, Teri Brandt, and Brenda Scott, and Bill O’Hallarn.

**Staff in Attendance :** Don McArthur, Clerk Administrator  
Sherri Hawthorne; Chief Financial Officer\Deputy Clerk  
Joe Segato, Business Development Intern

**1. Call to Order** – The meeting was called to order by Mayor Jim Coleman at 5:30 p.m.

**2. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof - Nil**

**3. Delegations - Nil**

**4. Adoption of Minutes**

294-2020 Sewell/O’Hallarn

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby adopt the minutes of the Council meeting on November 23<sup>rd</sup> and December 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020 as presented.**

Carried

**5. Accounts and Finance**

295-2020 O’Hallarn/Sewell

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby accept the finance reports #1 to #4 as presented.**

Carried

**6. Reports from Municipal Staff/Committees**

296-2020 O’Hallarn/Scott

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does authorize the Clerk-Administrator to enter into a contract with GSS Engineering for engineering and contract management services as per their submission for RFP 04-2020 at a cost of \$238,780 plus applicable taxes and the appropriate bylaw be brought forward.**

Carried

297-2020 Sewell/O’Hallarn

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT this Council of the Village of South River does hereby authorize the Chief Financial Officer to enter into an agreement for employee healthcare benefits and disability insurance as presented with Community Services Benefit Trust (CSBT) effective January 1, 2021 to be paid by monthly pre-authorized debit.**

Carried

298-2020 Brandt/Sewell

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby accept the staff reports #1 to #4 as presented.**

Carried

**6.2 Shared Services**

299-2020 Brandt/Sewell

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT this Council of the Village of South River does hereby accept the report from the Arena Chief Operator.**

Carried

**6.3 Regional Committees**

300-2020 Brandt/Scott

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

Carried

**7. Correspondence**

301-2020 O’Hallarn/Sewell

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby receive the Correspondence: Agenda Items #1 to #11.**

Carried

### **8. Council Roundtable**

Councillor Teri Brandt addressed concern about the speed limit in town especially downtown South River on Ottawa street. She suggests changing the current speed limit of 50 KM/H to 40 KM/H to slow traffic in that area.

Councillor Bill O'Hallarn cautioned now that Muskoka is in the "Red Zone", precautions need to be taken in town, especially at our arena. Bill also mentioned how impressed he was with the arenas in the area and how they are doing everything they can to ensure their facilities are safe.

Councillor Brenda Scott mentioned that ACED is inviting municipalities to help provide information that would help ACED successfully market and continue to grow the Villages of Almaguin. Brenda also mentioned that a revised 2021 budget plan means reduced fees for the communities and a general budget surplus.

Clerk Administrator Don McArthur noted the Safe Restart Application has been updated and that certain parts of the application will not be included in the grant, although he is still hopeful that they will provide a significant grant. The Safe Restart Application has already contributed roughly \$64,000 to the village as a part of their application.

Chief Financial Officer Sherri Hawthorne informed council that the South River Power Generation Corporation is far ahead of schedule on paying back the initial allowance the village gave the SRPGC to kick start the operation. The SRPGC is years ahead of schedule and only owes a small portion now. The SRPGC also hired a new operator. Lastly, Sherri mentioned that the village will hold a donation cheque to the South River Agriculture Association because the current pandemic disallowed them to follow through with the event the cheque was supposed to contribute to. South River plans on awarding the cheque when the event can take place.

### **9. In Camera – CUPE Negotiations**

302-2020 Scott/O'Hallarn

Be it Resolved that this meeting of the Village of South River Council be closed under Subsection 239. (d) labour relations or employee negotiations and that this Council proceed in Camera at 7:25 p.m. for the purpose of discussing issues related to the above.

Carried

303-2020 Sewell/O'Hallarn

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT this Council adjourn the Closed meeting and reconvene in Open Session at 7:44 p.m. with Mayor Jim Coleman as Chair.**

Carried

### **10. By-laws and Resolutions - Nil**

#### **11. Confirming By-law**

304-2020 Brandt/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# 40-2020, being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of Council at its meeting held on the 14th day of December 2020 with the signatures of the Mayor and the Clerk Administrator and the corporate seal affixed.**

Carried

#### **12. Adjournment**

305-2020 Brandt/O'Hallarn

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT this Council of the Village of South River does hereby adjourn to meet again as the South River Council on Monday, January 11, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. in the South River Council Chambers located at 63 Marie Street or at the call of the Mayor. Time of Adjournment: 7:54 p.m.**

Carried

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**Jim Coleman, Mayor**

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**Don McArthur, Clerk-Administrator**