

Village of South River  
Council Meeting – July 24, 2023

The meeting of the Council of the Village of South River was held virtually and in person on Monday July 24, 2023. A quorum was present. In attendance were Mayor Jim Coleman, Deputy Mayor Bill O’Hallarn, Councillor Teri Brandt, Councillor Brenda Scott and Councillor Robert Brooks.

**Staff in Attendance:** Don McArthur, Clerk Administrator – In person  
Allister Johnston, Administrative Assistant – In person

**Guests:** Risto Maki, Fire Chief – In person

1. **Call to Order** - The Meeting was called to order by Mayor Jim Coleman at 5:30pm.

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

3. **Delegation and Public Meeting** – OPP Staff Sergeant G.D Vincer

O.P.P. Staff Sergeant Doug Vincer introduced himself to Council and spoke to his time as a local resident. Doug Vincer presented to Council about; a change in staffing, new traffic observation and less accidents, different types of calls for service, types of offenses most often committed, increased Criminal Background/Record Checks in area and the O.P.P.’s plans to attend the Sunflower Festival to show support for the community. Council discussed the role of Auxiliary Officers and Standard O.P.P. Council additionally discussed what sections Officers would be monitoring.

*Staff Sergeant G.D Vincer leaves at 6PM*

4. **Adoption of Minutes** - Council Monday July 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023

237-2023 Brandt/ O’Hallarn

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby adopt the minutes of the Council meeting dated July 10, 2023 as presented.**

Carried

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

**6.2 Reports from Shared Services**

1. SRM Fire Chief Maki July Report

Regarding Item 6.2.1 SRM Fire Chief Maki July Report Fire Chief Maki discussed parts of the July report such as; the FireproCAD Software, NG911 Capital Grant, MOL training center capital grant and upcoming training with Sundridge in September. Council discussed the new phone system planned for the Firehall. Council noted that the CodeRed system is working well and has made alerts easier and more efficient.

*Fire Chief Risto Leaves at 6:40PM*

**5. Accounts and Finance**

**5.1 Accounts Reports**

1. Infrastructure Ontario Debenture Update

Regarding Item 5.1.1 Infrastructure Ontario Debenture Update Council discussed deadlines for Infrastructure Ontario Debenture. Council discussed the requirement for a Special Meeting August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023 to get the signing process completed. Council discussed the interest rate on the amount to be borrowed.

238-2023 O'Hallarn/Brooks

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

Carried

## **6. Reports from Municipal Staff and/or Committees**

### **6.1 Reports from Municipal Staff and Related Business –**

1. Public Works Committee Minutes July 19, 2023
2. HiPS Committee minutes July 19 2023
3. Phase 1 Construction Meeting #8 June 29, 2023

In regards to Item 6.1.1 Public Works Committee Minutes July 19, 2023 Council discussed suggestion to create a small public picnic area at the scenic river near the Hydro-Electric Dam. Council suggested they re-visit the request to establish a Picnic area in Spring of 2024. Council briefly touched on the fencing from the Public School likely not being fit for use in Cemetery due to damage.

Regarding Item 6.1.2 HiPS Committee minutes July 19 2023 Council discussed progress on Train Station-Museum and costs for upgrading Museum to fit current public building regulations. Council discussed the Train Station visit from Minister Graydon Smith, Chad Evans of Ontario Northland and Minister Stan Cho.

In discussion of Item 6.1.3 Phase 1 Construction Meeting #8 June 29, 2023 Council discussed estimated end-date of construction. Council noted underground work as nearly completed. Council discussed the progress Bruman and Canor have made on the Watermain Projects.

239-2023 Brooks/Scott

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby accept the staff and committee reports #1 to #3 as presented.**

Carried

### **6.2 Reports from Shared Services**

2. SRM Chief Arena Operator June Report and 2023/24 Proposed Arena Rates
3. SRM Medical Centre Meeting Minutes June 13, 2023
4. SRM Library Meeting Minutes June 13, 2023

In regards to Item 6.2.2 Council reviewed Arena rates and amended the proposed daily arena rate.

Regarding Item 6.2.4 SRM Library Meeting Minutes June 13, 2023 Council discussed the re-organization of the library and noted it looks very nice. Council briefly discussed attendance for the upcoming Library 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on August 20<sup>th</sup> 2023.

240-2023 Brooks/O'Hallarn

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby accept and adopt the 2023/24 Arena and Community Centre rates as amended.**

Carried

241-2023 O'Hallarn/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 July CAO Report
2. North Bay Board of Health Minutes April 26, 2023
3. ACED June Highlights
4. ACED Request for Rural and Northern Immigration Pilot Program Support

In discussion of Item 6.3.1 PSDSSAB July CAO Report Council discussed how the PSDSSAB has been very active for June and July. Council discussed how the PSDSSAB has been attempting to fill the market rate apartments in Powassan and how more transport options may increase interest.

In regards to Item 6.3.2 North Bay Board of Health Minutes April 26, 2023 Council touched on the new Director for the Board and Parry Sound's new building.

Regarding Item 6.3.3 ACED June Highlights Council discussed the positive effect to the community that the Almaguin Carpool Program has been having. Council discussed the video program ACED is using to promote communities. Council also touched on the creation of the new ACED Housing task force.

In discussion of Item 6.3.4 ACED Request for Rural and Northern Immigration Pilot Program Support Council discussed the need for additional housing and job opportunities to fully benefit from the immigration.

242-2023 Brandt/Scott

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby support the ACED Request for the Rural and Northern Immigration Pilot Program by sending a letter on behalf of the Village of South River to the Honourable Sean Fraser Minister of Immigration, Refugees & Citizenship Canada.**

Carried

243-2023 Scott/Brandt

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby receive the Reports from the Regional Committees: Items #1 to #4.**

Carried

### **7. By-Laws and Resolutions**

#### **8. Correspondence**

1. Housing Accelerator Fund - Highlights
2. Ontario Energy Board Rate Notice.
3. Township of Perry - Community Centre Grand Opening
4. L Loney - Property Standards Bylaw Concern
5. Labour Market Group June Report and May Jobs Report
6. Outdoor Adventures ATV -Grounds and Website
7. CN – Rail Safety Week

In regards to Item 8.1 Housing Accelerator Fund - Highlights Council discussed funding for housing offered by HAF (Housing Accelerator Fund) and the short time-window for applying.

Regarding Item 8.2 Ontario Energy Board Rate Notice Council discussed the gas-line piping and charge increase occurring January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024.

In regards to Item 8.3 Township of Perry - Community Centre Grand Opening Council discussed the Community Centre grand opening and the new building they will be using.

Regarding Item 8.4 L Loney - Property Standards Bylaw Concern Council discussed current

Property Standards and Yard Sale By-Laws.

Regarding Item 8.6 Outdoor Adventures ATV -Grounds and Website Council discussed the renovations to the building and area and repairing the ground after removal of defunct shed. Council lastly discussed that the 'Recreational' page on the website may need it's picture updated.

244-2023 Brandt/Brooks

**WHEREAS Rail Safety Week is to be held across Canada from September 18 to 24, 2023;**

**WHEREAS, 232 railway crossing and trespassing incidents occurred in Canada in 2022; resulting in 66 avoidable fatalities and 43 avoidable serious injuries;**

**WHEREAS, educating and informing the public about rail safety (reminding the public that railway rights-of-way are private property, enhancing public awareness of the dangers associated with highway rail grade crossings, ensuring pedestrians and motorists are looking and listening while near railways, and obeying established traffic laws) will reduce the number of avoidable fatalities and injuries cause by incidents involving trains and citizens; and**

**Whereas Operation Lifesaver is a public/private partnership whose aim is to work with the public, rail industry, governments, police services, media and others to raise rail safety awareness;**

**Whereas CN has requested City Council adopt this resolution in support of its ongoing efforts to raise awareness, save lives and prevent injuries in communities, including our village;**

Carried

245-2023 O'Hallarn /Scott

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby receive the Correspondence: Agenda Items #1 to #7.**

Carried

### **9. Council Roundtable (Items of Interest) –**

Councillor Robert Brooks asked for an update on the status of the Hockey League, to which Clerk-Administrator Don McArthur informed Robert that they have not yet visited but they are optimistic that they will be visiting soon.

Mayor Jim Coleman was very impressed with the turnout for the Tom Thomson Car Show. Councillor Teri Brandt noted there was some difficulty with parking and recommended a sign be added to help direct parking for the next time. Councillor Brenda Scott would like there to be parking attendants at the next Car Show to help direct the flow of traffic. Teri Brandt mentioned there were some events for kids and talked about how people asked about additional future events in the park.

Mayor Jim Coleman suggested the stage plans for Tom Thomson Park stage be shared with the South River Lions, which Councillor Brenda Scott agreed, would be beneficial for future event planning.

Councillor Robert Brooks asked for an update for the Lion's pump track, to which Clerk-Administrator Don McArthur informed that the pump track is in progress but is moving slowly as the volunteers have busy schedules.

### **10. In Camera – none**

**11. Confirming By-law –** By-law #32-2023

246-2023 O'Hallarn/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# 32-2023, being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of Council at its meeting held on the 24<sup>th</sup> day of July 2023 with the signatures of the Mayor and the Clerk-Administrator and the corporate seal affixed.**

Carried

**12. Adjournment**

247-2023 O'Hallarn/Brooks

**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 August 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023 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: 8:33 p.m.**

Carried

---

**Jim Coleman, Mayor**

---

**Don McArthur, Clerk-Administrator**