

Village of South River  
Council Meeting – February 13, 2023

The meeting of the Council of the Village of South River was held virtually and in person on Monday February 15th, 2023. A quorum was present. In attendance were Mayor Jim Coleman (Chairing in person in Council chambers), Deputy Mayor Bill O’Hallarn, Councilor Robert Brooks and Councilor Teri Brandt. Councilor Brenda Scott was away with notice.

**Staff in Attendance:** Don McArthur, Clerk Administrator – In person  
Janet Wedseltoft, Chief Financial Officer– In Person  
Kristen Grieg, Administrative Assistant - Virtual

**Guests:** Rocco Frangione, Media – Virtual  
Scott Gardiner, Near North Palliative Care Network – In Person

1. **Call to Order** - The Meeting was called to order by Mayor Jim Coleman at 5:31pm.

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

**3. Delegation and Public Meeting**

*Delegation presented by Scott Gardiner with the Near North Palliative Care Network was delayed until 6:30 PM with permission from Mayor Jim Coleman, Chairing person in Council Chambers.*

**4. Adoption of Minutes**

41-2023 Brooks/O’Hallarn

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby adopt the minutes of the Council meetings dated January 23, 2023, February 1, 2023 and the Committee of the Whole Meeting January 25, 2023 as presented.**

Carried

**5. Accounts and Finance**

**5.1 Accounts Reports**

1. Income Statement to January 31, 2023
2. Cheques to January 31, 2022
3. Tax Sale Fee Review

During Discussion of Item 5.1.3 Council reviewed the implications of establishing an administrative fee associated with tax sale process. The fee schedules were presented to suggest comparable prices with neighboring municipalities. Council instructs staff to proceed with the adjustments pertaining to the tax sale fee schedule.

42-2023 O’Hallarn/Brooks

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

Carried

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

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

1. Public Works Committee Minutes January 20, 2023
2. Strategic Plan Update
3. Almaguin Highlands Health Council – New Hospital Funding
4. MAHC Political Leaders Forum January Minutes
5. 2022 Annual Summary Section 11 Drinking Water Report
6. CEMC Emergency Planning Report and Sundridge Resolution

During Discussion of Item 6.1.1 Public Works Committee Minutes January 20, 2023 Council reviewed the costs associated with purchasing or leasing a sweeping attachment. Council was advised that the Public Works Committee continues to consider the purchase.

During Discussion of Item 6.1.2 Strategic Plan Update Council reviewed the strategic plan and examined the possibility of a construction project regarding an outdoor ice rink and if one is it to be built what the appropriate location would be. Council agreed the discussion of such project could be brought up at the upcoming South River Strategic Plan Public Meeting held on Tuesday, March 7<sup>th</sup>.

Discussion of Item 6.1.3 Almaguin Highlands Health Council – New Hospital Funding Council discussed in detail the proposed hospitals and the funding model presented. The challenge of fiscally supporting health care in addition to our mandated services and the impact that would have on the Village's already high property tax rate. It was noted that South River also has a lower average household income than many of our neighbouring communities. Council recommended that further discussion will be needed at a later date.

*Scott Gardiner enters the meeting at 6:30 p.m.*

### **3. Delegation and Public Meeting**

#### 1. Scott Gardiner, Near North Palliative Care Network

Scott Gardiner from the Near North Palliative Care Network presented Council with sobering statistics regarding the current and worsening crisis in palliative care. Gardiner highlighted that by 2050, there will be roughly 9.6 million baby boomers in Ontario that will require end of life services and that there are less than 500 hospices and 4000 care beds in the entire province. The Near North Palliative Care Network provides free of charge Palliative Care Visiting Hospice, Caregiver's Respite and Support, and Bereavement and Grief Support Sessions. Gardiner adds that the organization operates on a volunteer basis with additional funding for the Ministry of Health and grant applications. Gardiner stresses the impact that this lack of resources will have on the aging population and urges community members to participate in the free of charge training offered by the organization noting that there is no obligation to volunteer with the organization after the training is completed. Council noted that they will help to spread the information to other boards and through the Village's website, social media outlets, and community newsletters.

*Scott Gardiner leaves the meeting at 6:47 p.m.*

43-2023 Brooks/Brandt

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby accept the 2022 Section 11 Annual Water Report Summary dated January 31, 2023 as prepared the Ontario Clean Water Agency.**

Carried

44-2023 Brandt/Brooks

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby accept the report dated January 30, 2023 regarding Emergency Planning Committee;**

**AND THAT the Council of South River acknowledge that a shared Municipal Emergency Management Program Coordinator and Emergency Management Program will collectively improve emergency management capabilities;**

**AND THAT the Village of South River commit to a shared Emergency Management Program, including a primary Municipal Emergency Management Program Coordinator;**

**AND THAT the Clerk-Administrator is authorized to assist in developing the parameters of a shared program with Fire Chiefs Risto Maki and Andrew Torrance to prepare a report for participating municipalities approval.**

Carried

45-2023 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**

1. SRM Medical Centre January Minutes

46-2023 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.**

Carried

**6.3 Reports from Regional Committees**

1. ACED Minutes December 2022
2. ACED 2022 Annual Report, Strategic Plan Review and Algonquin Granite Letter
3. Joint Building Committee January Minutes and Statistics
4. Central Almaguin Planning Board Dec 2022 and Jan 2022 Minutes

47-2023 O'Hallarn/Brooks

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

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

**8. Correspondence**

1. H. Wierenga 132 Broadway St. Severance Request
2. NOHFC Acknowledgement Letter
3. Blackfly Disc Golf Tournament Update
4. MPAC Meeting Request
5. District Parry Sound Municipal Association 2022 – 2026 Appointments
6. Labor Market Group Jan Report and December Statistics
7. NECO Community Futures Update
8. Near North District School Board – Hockey Program
9. Crime Stoppers Signs
10. Ontario's Provincial Emergency Management Strategy and Action Plan
11. Township of Strong and Perry – ACED Budget Resolutions
12. County of Huron – Warden's Letter Regarding Cannabis Act
13. Town of Petrolia – School Board Election
14. City of Brantford – VIA Rail Cancellations Letter
15. City of Thunder Bay – Bill 42 Gender Affirming Healthcare Act

Regarding Item 8.4 MPAC Meeting Request: Council directs staff to accept the meeting request and to plan for the meeting to take place throughout the workday. Meeting date has yet to be determined.

Regarding Item 8.9 Crimestoppers Signs: Council directs staff to acquire two signs from Crimestoppers.

48-2023 Brooks/O'Hallarn

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby support in principle the consent application for the severance of 132 BROADWAY ST MACHAR CON 2 PT LOT 2 RP 42R 11305 PART 1 known as roll# 49560000112585 as per the attached sketch.**

Carried

49-2023 Brooks/O'Hallarn

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby receive the Correspondence: Agenda Items #1 to #15.**

Carried

*Rocco Frangione leaves the meeting at 7:59 p.m.*

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

1. Mayor and Council Contact Information
2. Media Policy

Councilor O'Hallarn complimented the South River Lions Club on the events held through Winterfest. Adding that a train station project meeting was needed to move the plan along.

Clerk Administrator McArthur mentioned that he was approached by a legal student pertaining to completed internship hours with the Village of South River for estimated months' worth of working hours, adding that this intern could be involved in updating and reviewing by-laws.

*Kristen Greig leaves meeting at 8:33 p.m.*

## **10. In Camera**

### **1. Firefighter Appointment Review**

50-2023 O'Hallarn/Brooks

**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 8:32 p.m. for the purpose of discussing issues related to the above.**

Carried

51-2023 Brandt/Brooks

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT this Council adjourn the Closed meeting and reconvene in Open Session at 8:37 p.m. with Mayor Jim Coleman as Chair.**

Carried

## **11. Confirming By-law – By-law #09-2023**

52-2023 Brandt/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 #09-2023, being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of Council at its meeting held on the 13<sup>th</sup> day of February 2023 with the signatures of the Mayor and the Clerk-Administrator and the corporate seal affixed.**

Carried

## **12. Adjournment**

53-2023 Brooks/Brandt

**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, February 27<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: 8:38 p.m.**

Carried

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**Jim Coleman, Mayor**

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**Don McArthur, Clerk-Administrator**