

Village of South River
Council Meeting – May 26, 2026

The meeting of the Council of the Village of South River was held virtually and in person on Tuesday May 26, 2026. 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 (virtually)

Staff in Attendance: Don McArthur, Clerk Administrator – In person
Janet Wedseltoft, Chief Financial Officer – In person
Candice Robertson, Administrative Assistance – In Person
Tanvir Kabir, Economic Development Officer – In Person

1. Call to Order - The meeting was called to order by Mayor Jim Coleman at 2:00 p.m.

The Village of South River acknowledges the Robinson-Huron and Williams Treaties on the land of the Anishinabek that we meet today. We seek to work respectfully with Indigenous people, and are thankful for their teachings and stewardship of the land.

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

3. Delegation and Public Meeting – Nil

4. Adoption of Minutes – Council May 12, 2026

203/2026 Scott/Brandt

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby adopt the minutes of the Council meeting May 12th as presented.

Carried

5. Accounts and Finance

5.1 Accounts Reports – Nil

6. Reports from Municipal Staff and/or Committees

6.1 Reports from Municipal Staff and Related Business –

1. Economic Development Officer April 2026 Report
2. Public Works Committee Minutes April 21, 2026

In regard to 6.1.1 Economic Development Officer (EDO) Tanvir Kabir reviewed his report with Council. Highlighting the Star Gazing Project, the new train cutout at Dufferin Park and the OTIF funding application.

In regard to 6.1.2 Council reviewed the minutes from the Public Works Committee in particular the H&G Controls presentation. Public works also recommending 2 summer students to maximize projects and vacation coverage during the summer months. Council also discussed the swabbing report and that public works has identified problem areas.

204-2026 Scott/Brandt

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does support a Star Gazing Event with a budget amount of \$600.

Carried

205-2026 Brandt/O’Hallarn

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby accept the staff and committee report #1 to #2 as presented.

Carried

6.2 Reports from Shared Services –

1. South River Machar Fire Chief Report for May 2026
2. South River Machar Community Centre Chief Operator Report April 2026
3. South River Machar Recreation Director Report May 2026

In regard to 6.2.3 the Recreation Director reviewed his report with Council. Summer camp registration is on-going and some weeks are almost full. The Dance program has been very successful. The private skateboard program at the skate park continues to provide beginner learning opportunities. Soccer registration opened and will be open for another week.

Tanvir Kabir left the meeting at 3:23pm

206-2026 Brandt/O'Hallarn

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 #3 as presented.

Carried

6.3 Reports from Regional Committees --

1. PSDSSAB April and May CAO Report
2. Almaguin OPP Detachment Board Letter
3. Emergency Management Ontario -South River Compliance Results 2025

207-2026 O'Hallarn/Scott

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby receive the Reports from the Regional Committees: Items #1 to #3.

Carried

7. By-Laws and Resolutions –

1. By-law-34-2026- Marriage Solemnization
2. Resolution – Support AORS Protect Municipal Workers Legislation

208-2026 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# 34-2026, being a by-law to permit the Clerk-Administrator to solemnize marriages and the fee for marriage ceremonies be set at \$300 with the signatures of the Mayor and the Clerk-Administrator and the corporate seal affixed.

Carried

209-2026 Brandt/O'Hallarn

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby support the Association of Ontario Road Supervisors request for Provincial Legislation Amendments to strengthen protections for municipal workers and contractors. and further that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Premier of Ontario, Michael Kerzner, Solicitor General of Ontario, Hon Graydon Smith, Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) and the Association of Ontario Roads Supervisors (AORS).

Carried

8. Correspondence

1. M Krasivskyy - Building Request
2. District of Parry Sound Municipal Association Delegate Package
3. Explorers Edge May Newsletter
4. Eastholme Spring 2026 Newsletter
5. South River Lions Club Canada Day Request
6. AHHC Minutes March 5 2026
7. Ryan Group - Ontario Property Tax Reform
8. Hon George Pirie - NORDS Funding
9. Hon George Pirie - Northern Ontario Tourism Campaign
10. East Parry Sound Community Services- New Website
11. Ministry for Seniors and Accessibility - Seniors Month 202 Factsheet
12. Bruce Mines ,Prince Edward, and Stone Mills- Repeal FOI in Bill 97
13. Clearview Township - Public Sector Salary Disclosure Inflation Adjustments
14. County of Prince Edward - Vacant Commercial Storefront Tax
15. Municipality of Morris-Turnberry- Conservation Authority Consolidation and Future Funding
16. Richmond Hill City – Integrated and Assistive Living
17. Township of Springwater - Bill 100 Better Regional Governance Act 2026

Council will like to support 8.1 and 8.12

210-2026 O'Hallarn/Scott

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby support the request to not enforce the trailer by-law restriction at 31 Marie St. up until December 31, 2026 while a valid building permit is held by the owner.

Carried

211-2026 Brandt/O'Hallarn

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby authorize the road closure of Ottawa Ave. at 1:30 pm on Saturday June 27th from Dufferin St to Tom Thomson Park for the South River Lions Annual Canada Day Parade.

Carried

212-2026 Scott/O'Hallarn

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby authorize the purchase of two large cakes for the South River Lions Annual Canada Day Celebration at Tom Thomson Park.

Carried

213-2026 Brandt/Scott

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby receive the Correspondence: Agenda Items #1 to #17.

Carried

9. Council Roundtable (Items of Interest) –

Councillor Brooks inquired about the status of the amalgamation of Township of Joly, Township of Strong and Village of Sundridge.

Councillor Scott mentioned there is a person living in a tent on the highway that is confrontational with some of the business owners and can be very aggressive. The Clerk Administrator added the Municipal Law Enforcement officer was working on this situation.

Mayor Coleman inquired what are we doing with the canoe this year and suggested returning it to the same spot for this year. Mayor Coleman added there are issues with the water at the Community Gardens.

Clerk Administrator suggested the possibility of a Staff Picnic at Tom Thomson. There is possibility of expanding the Community Gardens next year with Employment North and the Food Bank. In our last council meeting it was brought up about OPP having to appear in court in person instead of having the option of being remote. The Clerk Administrator looked into if there was a reason to why there are not more virtual court cases. The Clerk Administrator to share his research with Council. The Disc Golf Tournament was successful and the new baskets are all installed and look great. There will be an increase to the cash flow from HSWS Water Treatment Plant Upgrade as the province provides 25% of the budget upfront.

Councillor Brooks inquired what is being built at the coffee shop in town. Councillor Brandt replied they are building a shelter for the tractor. Councillor Brooks added the addition to the Double Decker in Sundridge is complete and they are now licensed.

Councillor Scott reminded everyone the Fire Department Open House is this weekend, May 30. Councillor Scott asked if the welcome banners can be put out and if business can request to have them put out.

Candice Robertson left the meeting at 4:44pm

10. In Camera –

1. 281 HWY 124 Sale of Property
2. 10 and 12 Poplar St Disposal of Property

214-2026 Brandt/O'Hallarn

Be it Resolved that this meeting of the Village of South River Council be closed under Subsection 239. (b) a proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land by the municipal or local board purposes and that this Council proceed in Camera at 4:44pm for the purpose of discussing issues related to the above.

Carried

215-2026 O'Hallarn/Brandt

BE IT RESOLVED THAT this Council adjourn the Closed meeting and reconvene in Open Session at 5:42pm with Mayor Jim Coleman as Chair.

Carried

216-2026 Scott/O’Hallarn
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby authorize the Clerk-Administrator to enter into a sales listing with Royal LePage Lakes of Muskoka Realty for the properties at 10 and 12 Poplar St with an asking price of \$70,000 each.

Carried

11. Confirming By-law – By-law #35-2026

217-2026 Scott/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# 35-2026, being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of Council at its meeting held on the 26th day of May 2026 with the signatures of the Mayor and the Clerk-Administrator and the corporate seal affixed.

Carried

12. Adjournment

218-2026 O’Hallarn/Scott
BE IT RESOLVED THAT this Council of the Village of South River does hereby adjourn to meet again as the South River Council on Tuesday, June 9th, 2026 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: 5:44 p.m.

Carried

Jim Coleman, Mayor

Don McArthur, Clerk-Administrator