

Village of South River
Council Meeting – September 9, 2025

The meeting of the Council of the Village of South River was held virtually and in person on Tuesday September 9, 2025. A quorum was present. In attendance were Mayor Jim Coleman, Deputy Mayor Bill O’Hallarn, Councillor Brenda Scott, Councillor Teri Brandt, and Councillor Robert Brooks.

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

4. Adoption of Minutes – Council July 22, and August 26, 2025

250-2025 Brandt/Brooks

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby adopt the minutes of the Council meetings July 22nd and August 26th 2025 as presented.

Carried

5. Accounts and Finance

5.1 Accounts Reports -

1. August 2025 Income Statement and Machine Time
2. August 2025 Cheque EFT and Online Payments

251-2025 Brandt/Brooks

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby receive the reports from Accounts and Finance #1 to #2.

Carried

6. Reports from Municipal Staff and/or Committees

6.1 Reports from Municipal Staff and Related Business –

1. Dark Sky Plan - Tom Thomson Park
2. 2026 Municipal Election Joint Compliance Audit Committee Draft Terms
3. 281 HWY 124 - Surplus Property
4. OTIF Revised Application and Fare Revenue Breakdown

In regard to 6.1.1, Council discussed the inquiry of the Dark Sky designation for Tom Thomson Park which would continue to grow the economic development of South River as it would draw people to the park for star gazing.

In regard to 6.1.2 Council discussed the OTIF application revisions with the information the Economic Development Officer Tanvir Kabir gathered with the surveys the community completed.

Item 6.1.3 moved in-camera for discussion.

252-2025 Brooks/Scott

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

Carried

6.2 Reports from Shared Services - nil

6.3 Reports from Regional Committees --

1. ACED August 2025 Directors and Additional Report
2. Joint Building Committee July 2025 Statistics
3. PSDSSAB CAO July-August Report
4. PSDSSAB – Financial Analysis

In regard to item 6.3.1, Council reviewed the cost per municipality with ACED shifting to 2 full time employees and rates based on Tax Levy. Council discussed the new rates and options of staying a member verse withdrawing at the end of the year.

In regard to 6.3.2 Council reviewed the July stats for number of permits, the increases and changes.

253-2025 O'Hallarn/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 --

1. Resolution – Administrative Monetary Penalties Policies
2. Resolution – Support North Bay - NORDS Permanent Funding and Expanding Eligibility
3. Resolution - Support Municipality of South Huron and Glengarry - Producer Responsibility for Blue Boxes
4. Resolution – CN Train Safety Week Sept 15 -21, 2025
5. By-law 35-2025 – Administrative Monetary Penalties

254-2025 O'Hallarn/Scott

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby adopt the following policies to support Administrative Monetary Penalties;

- 1) MLE -AMPS – 01 Financial Management and Reporting
- 2) MLE-AMPS-02 Conflict of Interest
- 3) MLE-AMPS-03 Prevention of Political Interference
- 4) MLE-AMPS-04 Public Complaints

Carried

255-2025 Brandt/Brooks

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby support the City of North Bay's resolution 2025-279 calling on the Province of Ontario to make the Northern Ontario Resource Development Support (NORDS) program a permanent fixture of its support to Northern municipalities and this resolution be sent to the City of North Bay and the Hon. Graydon Smith MPP.

Carried

256-2025 Brooks/Brandt

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby support the Municipality of South Huron and Glengarry resolution 286-2025 calling on the Province of Ontario to amend Regulation 391/21: Blue Box so that producers are responsible for the end of life management of recycling products from all sources and this resolution be sent to the Municipality of South Huron and Glengarry and the Hon. Graydon Smith MPP.

Carried

257-2025 Brandt/O'Hallarn

WHEREAS Rail Safety Week is to be held across Canada from September 15 to 21, 2025;

WHEREAS, 261 railway crossing and trespassing incidents occurred in Canada in 2024; resulting in 68 avoidable fatalities and 58 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, indigenous communities, police services, media and others to raise rail safety awareness;

WHEREAS CN and Operation Lifesaver have requested City Council adopt this resolution in support of its ongoing efforts to raise awareness, save lives and prevent injuries in communities, including our municipality;

It is hereby RESOLVED to support national Rail Safety Week to be held from September 15 to 21, 2025.

Carried

258-2025 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# 35-2025, being a by-law to adopt Administrative Monetary Penalties with the signatures of the Mayor and the Clerk-Administrator and the corporate seal affixed.

Carried

8. Correspondence

1. DPMSA Fall Agenda.
2. South River Friendly Circle - Pool Table
3. MMAH MSO North - 2025 Northeast Municipal Workshop- Oct 21 and 22, 2025
4. Labour Market Group July and August Reports
5. Ombudsman Ontario – Annual Report
6. AHCC Sept. 2025 Newsletter
7. Municipality of Tweed - Garbage and Incineration
8. Town of Goderich - Standing Senate Committee on Agriculture and Forestry Report

259-2025 Scott/Brooks

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby receive the Correspondence: Agenda Items #1 to #8

Carried

9. Council Roundtable (Items of Interest) –

Councillor Brenda Scott discussed with Council that she was approached by someone interested in one of the lots the village owned and interested in building on it, would we be interested in selling the lot. Councillor Scott also wanted to acknowledge the volunteer skateboard program at the skate park every Monday. It is very successful and thank you be sent to the volunteer. Councillor Scott also informed Council the Food Bank is inquiring on expanding to the office space in their building which would increase their rent. Being a regional Food Bank, it was suggested other municipalities and the Province representing the unincorporated should be encouraged to support the Food Bank as the Village of South River does.

Deputy Mayor Bill O’Hallarn noted that the previous concern with the dirt bikes being unsafe seems to have improved.

Councillor Robert Brooks noted that Sundridge is getting a new council member. Councillor Brooks also noted the Trout Creek Arena had another engineer assessment and has been given options on how to reinforce and will continue to operate.

Candice Robertson leaves the meeting at 4:05pm

10. In Camera – Item 6.3.1 281 HWY 124 - Surplus Property

260-2025 Scott/Brooks

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 4:06pm for the purpose of discussing issues related to the above.

Carried

261-2025 Brooks/O’Hallarn

BE IT RESOLVED THAT this Council adjourn the Closed meeting and reconvene in Open Session at 5:00pm with Mayor Jim Coleman as Chair.

Carried

11. Confirming By-law – By-law #36-2025

262-2025 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# 36-2025, being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of Council at its meeting held on the 9th day of September 2025 with the signatures of the Mayor and the Clerk-Administrator and the corporate seal affixed.

Carried

12. Adjournment

263-2025 Brandt/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 Tuesday, September 23rd, 2025 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: 5:11 p.m.

Carried

Jim Coleman, Mayor

Don McArthur, Clerk-Administrator