

Village of South River  
Council Meeting – June 12, 2023

The meeting of the Council of the Village of South River was held virtually and in person on Monday June 12, 2023. A quorum was present. In attendance were Deputy Mayor Bill O’Hallarn, Councillor Teri Brandt, Councillor Robert Brooks and Councillor Brenda Scott in person. Mayor Coleman was absent with notice.

**Staff in Attendance:** Don McArthur, Clerk Administrator – In person  
Janet Wedseltoft, Chief Financial Officer – In person  
Allister Johnston, Administrative Assistant – In person

1. **Call to Order** - The Meeting was called to order by Deputy Mayor Bill O’Hallarn at 5:30pm.

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

**3. Delegation and Public Meeting** – Rezoning 17 and 19 Main St from Rural to R2

In regards to Item 3 - Rezoning 17 and 19 Main St from Rural to R2 there were no submissions either verbal or in writing other than the applicants. The rezoning is consistent with the Provincial Policy Statement and the Village Official Plan in regard to encouraging new housing

177-2023 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# 25-2023, being a by-law to rezone 17 and 18 Main St from Rural (RU1) to Second Density Residential (R2) and the signatures of the Deputy Mayor and the Clerk Administrator and the corporate seal affixed.**

Carried

**4. Adoption of Minutes**

178-2023 Brandt/Brook

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby adopt the minutes of the Council meeting May 23, 2023 as presented.**

Carried

**5. Accounts and Finance**

**5.1 Accounts Reports**

1. Income Statement to May 31, 2023
2. Cheque Register to May 31, 2023
3. 2023 Budget
4. BFL 2023 Insurance Renewal

In discussion of Item 5.1.1 Income Statement to May 31, 2023 Council discussed possibility of starting a separate spreadsheet for the Machine Costs for the Village. It was further discussed by Council how the Machine Costs influence the reports and how the related reporting would be easier for budgeting if the Machine Costs were in a Separate Report.

Regarding Item 5.1.2 Cheque Register to May 31, 2023 Council discussed their annual budget and payments. It was noted that substantial Construction related payments would be arriving soon.

In discussion of Item 5.1.3 2023 Budget Council discussed the 2023 Budget and various machine expenses in the Village. Council discussed the impact of modernization of financial technology and the costs associated with it. The increased input costs for Village services were discussed. Council reviewed the negative impact on the budget of water related issues in 2022 and noted they should be temporary. Council investigated ways to mitigate tax increases through various resources. The possibility of contracting services outside of the Village was brought forward as a way of reducing costs. Council then discussed the Watermain Projects and their impact on the budget. Lastly, the South River Power

Generation Corporation was discussed and its effect on the Budget and future returns.

In regards to Item 5.1.4 BFL 2023 Insurance Renewal Council discussed the increase in cost for this year's Insurance Renewal and putting the insurance out for tender in 2024.

179-2023 Brandt/Brooks

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby recommend that the 2023 South River Municipal Budget be brought forward at the June 26<sup>th</sup> Council meeting reflecting a 5.5% increase from the 2022 budget.**

Carried

180-2023 Brandt/Brooks

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby approve the renewal of the municipal insurance for July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024 with BFL Canada Risk and Insurance Services INC. in the amount of \$116,565 plus applicable taxes and for Volunteer Firefighters with MIS Insurance in the amount of \$4100 plus applicable taxes.**

Carried

181-2023 Scott/Brandt

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby receive the reports from Accounts and Finance #1 to #4.**

Carried

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

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

1. National Junior Hockey League Ice Rental
2. Walkerton Clean Water Centre Training
3. Food Cycler Update
4. Joint Health and Safety Minutes June 7 2023

During discussion of Item 6.1.1 National Junior Hockey League Ice Rental Council discussed the ice rental history of junior hockey and the minimal budget impact. Council felt junior hockey would have positive social benefits for the community.

In discussion of Item 6.1.2 Walkerton Clean Water Centre Training Council discussed the costs of training and would review courses on an individual basis if anyone wished to attend.

Regarding item 6.1.3 Food Cycler Update Council discussed the usage of the Food Cycler's effectiveness and the communities Food Cyclers are already being used. The end user cost of \$150 for the Food Cycler may make it difficult to attract the minimum 50 participants required for the program.

In regards to item 6.1.4 Joint Health and Safety Minutes June 7 2023 Council noted the suggestions by the Joint Health and Safety committee for team building and encouraged their development.

182-2023 Brandt/Scott

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby authorize the Chief Arena Operator and Clerk Administrator to sign a one year ice rental agreement with the National Junior Hockey League at the South River Machar Arena.**

Carried

183-2023 Scott/Brandt

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

Carried

## **6.2 Reports from Shared Services**

1. Township of Machar 2023 Arena Budget Resolution
2. South River Machar Public Library Donation Request
3. South River – Machar Medical Centre Minutes May 16 2023
4. SRMFD - Potential Service Agreement Letter

In regards to item 6.2.3 South River – Machar Medical Centre Minutes May 16 2023 Council also discussed the Powassan Area Health Team expansion and how it might improve medical services at the SRM Medical Centre.

Regarding item 6.2.4 SRMFD - Potential Service Agreement Letter Council discussed South River’s Fire Chief’s Maki proposed letter to offer fire services to Laurier Township. After discussion on the letter to be sent, Council made minor amendments to present a clearer picture of the offer being made to the Ontario Government.

184-2023Brooks/Brandt

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby support a letter be sent from Mayor Coleman to the Ontario Government encouraging them to consider entering into a Fire Services Protection Agreement with the South River Machar Fire Department on behalf of the unorganized Township of Laurier.**

Carried

185-2023 Brandt/Brooks

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby support a donation to the South River Machar Union Public Library in the amount of \$250 to celebrate their 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.**

Carried

186-2023 Brandt/Brooks

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the 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. ACED-Director Report and April 27 2023 Minutes
2. Joint Building Committee 2022 Financial Statements, May Statistics, Policy Change, and May 31 Special meeting Minutes
3. Central Almaguin Planning Board Minutes April 5 2023
4. North Bay Mattawa Conservation Authority – Pre-Consultation
5. Parry Sound POA Court Manager's Report Q1 2023 and Fine Distribution
6. EMS Advisory AGENDA MINUTES May 25 2023 and 2023 Invoice

In discussion of Item 6.3.1 ACED-Director Report and April 27 2023 Minutes Council noted the current number of Town and Villages currently part of the ACED program.

Regarding Item 6.3.2 Council discussed a decrease in the number of Building Permits being issued compared to 2022. Council discussed the possibility of adding insurance and legal expenses to the Joint Building Committees financial responsibilities as each municipality now bears those cost individually.

In regards to Item 6.3.4 North Bay Mattawa Conservation Authority – Pre-Consultation Council believes that the consultation would be beneficial. Council requested having a NBMCA representative present to Council.

In regards to Item 6.3.5 Parry Sound POA Court Manager's Report Q1 2023 and Fine Distribution Council was concerned with the elimination of satellite POA courts across Ontario occurring. Council requested more information regarding nearby satellite courts in our area.

187-2023 Brandt/Brooks

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South river does hereby approve changes to the Joint Building Committee Policies C-1.5 Probationary Period and C-5.1 Employee Discipline, as recommended in their Resolution #2023-024.**

Carried

188-2023 Brooks/Brandt

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby approve the 2023 Land Ambulance invoice from the Town of Parry Sound in the amount of \$25,187.31.**

Carried

189-2023 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 #6.**

Carried

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

1. Support Township of Armour – Aerodrome Resolution
2. Support City of Stratford –Long Term Care Funding
3. Support Fort Francis – Opioid Crisis
4. South River Lions Pump Track Funds
5. Amend Building Inspector Appointment By-law
6. Infrastructure Ontario Loan Watermain Phase 2 Project

190-2023 Scott/Brandt

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT this Council of the Village of South River does hereby support the Township of Armour May 9, 2023 Resolution #132 requesting that Transport Canada amend current legislation regarding water aerodromes to require mandatory consultation and transparency with provincial and municipal authorities prior to construction and that mixed-use docks and structures not be permitted.**

**And further that Council directs staff to forward this resolution of support to neighbouring municipalities, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM), Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), MP Scott Aitchison, and MPP Graydon Smith.**

Carried

191-2023 Brandt/Brooks

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby support the City of Stratford in their request to the provincial government to redirect ministry funding for long-term beds of currently held in abeyance towards the support of community care services.**

Carried

192-2023 Scott/Brooks

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby support the Town of Fort Frances in advocating for additional resources to combat the opioid crisis as per their May 15<sup>th</sup> Resolution #195.**

Carried

193-2023 Brooks/Scott

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby direct that the remaining allocated funds for the Skate Park \$2481.22 and donation of \$500 be transferred to the South River Lions Club for the construction of a pump track.**

Carried

194-2023 Scott/Brooks

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby amend**

**By-law 17-2023 being a By-law to Appoint a Deputy Chief Building Official by deleting in article 4. “and all previous By-laws appointing a DCBO or Building Inspector”.**

Carried

195-2023 Brooks/Scott

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby approve an application to Infrastructure Ontario for a construction and long-term funding of the Phase 2 Watermain Project in an amount up to \$1.5million.**

Carried

## **8. Correspondence**

1. FONOM - CMHC Housing Accelerator Seminar
2. B Schmidt - Almaguin News
3. Powassan Area Health Team - Request for Expansion Support
4. Health Sciences North Annual Meeting Invitation
5. Labour Market Group May Report and April Jobs
6. City of Quinte West - Renovictions
7. County of Lanark - Paramedics
8. Hon. Raymond Cho - Seniors Active Living Centres Program Expansion
9. Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry- Aggregates

Regarding item 8.6 City of Quinte West – Renovictions Council discussed the high costs of renovations and their effect on evictions.

In regards to Item 8.7 County of Lanark – Paramedics Council recommends returning to this item in a future Council meeting for further discussion.

Regarding Item 8.8 Hon. Raymond Cho - Seniors Active Living Centres Program Expansion Council discussed the total funding being directed towards each Township, Village and City’s Seniors Centre’s and the disparities between South River’s Friendly Circle as opposed to other Townships and Villages.

196-2023 Scott/Brooks

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby Support an application by the Powassan Area Health Team to expand Healthcare services in the Village of South River with the South River Machar Medical Centre Board of Management.**

Carried

197-2023 Brooks/Brandt

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby receive the Correspondence: Agenda Items #1 to #9.**

Carried

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

Councillor Robert Brooks attended the Environmental Conference with multiple experts regarding water related issues and found it very informative. Robert Brooks also notes some of the main things impacting water quality issues are invasive grasses, shoreline buildings, tourists and road salt.

Councillor Brenda Scott brings up that some signs in the Village are damaged. Clerk-Administrator Don McArthur advises that one of the signs along the Highway has already been addressed and repaired. The others will be looked into.

Discussion about the Train Station, Ontario Northlands involvement in the project, and artifacts in the museum were discussed

Clerk-Administrator Don McArthur discussed the Ontario Trillium Fund grant application. The

lack of space on Ottawa Ave for a path and using the Bogart and Riverside road allowances as a better option for a multi-use trail.

*Allister Johnston leaves the meeting at 8:32pm.*

**10. In Camera** - Personnel Employee Performance

198-2023 Scott/Brooks

**Be it Resolved that this meeting of the Village of South River Council be closed under Subsection 239. (d) personal matter about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees and that this Council proceed in Camera at 8:32 p.m. for the purpose of discussing issues related to the above.**

Carried

199-2023 Brooks/Scott

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT this Council adjourn the Closed meeting and reconvene in Open Session at 8:50 p.m. with Deputy Mayor Bill O'Hallarn as Chair.**

Carried

200-2023 Brooks/Brandt

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby authorize the Deputy Mayor and Clerk-Administrator to sign a Letter of Understanding with CUPE Local 4616-03 to adjust the wages of Chief Public Work Operator Seppe Maes effective July 1, 2023.**

Carried

**11. Confirming By-law –** By-law #26-2023

201-2023 Scott/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# 26 -2023, being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of Council at its meeting held on the 12<sup>th</sup> day of June 2023 with the signatures of the Deputy Mayor and the Clerk-Administrator and the corporate seal affixed.**

Carried

**12. Adjournment**

202-2023

**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, June 26<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: 8:52 p.m.**

Carried

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**Jim Coleman, Mayor**

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**Don McArthur, Clerk-Administrator**