

February 7, 2024

COUNCIL MEETING – MINUTES

On Wednesday, February 7, 2024, the Council for the Corporation of the Township of South Algonquin held a Regular Hybrid Council Meeting via Zoom Meeting and in Chambers, which was streamed to YouTube.

In Chambers:

Mayor LaValley
Councillor Collins
Councillor Joe Florent
Councillor Joan Kuiack
Councillor Shawn Pigeon
Councillor Bill Rodnick
Councillor Laurie Siydock

Staff: Bryan Martin, CAO/Clerk-Treasurer
Ian Collins- Fire Chief
Steven Ronholm – Public Works Superintendent
Tracy Cannon, Planning & Building Administrator
Charlene Alexander, CEO/Head Librarian-Zoom

1. OPEN MEETING/CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

Mayor Ethel LaValley called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

2. ROLL CALL

3. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

4. ADDITIONS/AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA: None

5. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Moved by: Councillor Florent Seconded by: Councillor Siydock Res. # 24-313

THAT: Council for the Corporation of the Township of South Algonquin adopts the Agenda as circulated for the Regular Council Meeting of February 7, 2024.

-Carried-

6. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST:

Councillor Florent disclosed a pecuniary interest for a proposed resolution pertaining to Flying Feathers Archery Club.

Councillor Rodnick disclosed a pecuniary interest for Action Item #4 Physician Recruitment & Recruitment & Retention for Barry's Bay & Area; Funding Request.

7. PETITIONS, DELEGATIONS and/or PRESENTATIONS:

Erin Gienow, Director, St. Francis Valley Healthcare Foundation, Dr. Joe Cybulski and Ray Pastway, volunteer members of the Campaign Leadership Team who are assisting the foundation to raise funds for the redevelopment of the Emergency Department and renovations of the Ambulatory Care Clinic were in attendance to present Council with a presentation.

The presentation included history on St. Francis Memorial Hospital, the current Emergency Department and the challenges with the department. It also provided the redevelopment solutions for the Emergency Department and the opportunity for the Ambulatory Care Clinic. The presentation also included the redevelopment costs and the financial support requested of the township for the campaign.

Council thanked the group for the presentation and the request will be considered during budget deliberations.

Council took a short recess.

E.Gienow, Dr. Cybulski and R. Pastway left the meeting.

8. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Moved by: Councillor Collins Seconded by: Councillor Rodnick Res. # 24-314

THAT: Council for the Corporation of the Township of South Algonquin adopts the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of January 10, 2024 as circulated.

-Carried-

Moved by: Councillor Florent Seconded by: Councillor Pigeon Res # 24-315
THAT: Council for the Corporation of the Township of South Algonquin adopts the minutes of the Asset Management Committee Meeting of January 17, 2024 as circulated.
-Carried-

Moved by: Councillor Rodnick Seconded by: Councillor Kuiack Res # 24-316
THAT: Council for the Corporation of the Township of South Algonquin adopts the minutes of the Waste Management Committee Meeting of January 17, 2024 as circulated.
-Carried-

Moved by: Councillor Kuiack Seconded by: Councillor Collins Res # 24-317
THAT: Council for the Corporation of the Township of South Algonquin adopts the minutes of the Special Council Meeting of January 26, 2024 as circulated.
-Carried-

9. COMMITTEE REPORTS, STAFF AND/OR COUNCILLOR REPORTS:

Library Report

Minutes of October 17th Library Board Meeting and February Library Report was provided in the council package by CEO/Head Librarian Charlene Alexander.

Public Works Report A written report was provided in the council package by Public Works Superintendent Steven Ronholm.

In addition to the written report S. Ronholm verbally reported:

- S. Ronholm will follow up with the Algonquins of Pikwakanagan First Nations and the Algonquins of Ontario to request a response in writing that can be provided to the MNRF for the Tom & Mick Murray Park Story Boards.

Fire Report

A written report was provided in the council package by Fire Chief Ian Collins.

In addition to the written report I. Collins verbally reported:

- CPR/First Aide has been rescheduled to February 24th and 25th.
- I. Collins will provide the office a notice that can go out on social media to try and recruit additional members for the Whitney Station.
- I. Collins will follow up with a property owner regarding a recent fire.

Budgetary Control Summary Report

The Budgetary Control Summary Report was provided in the council package by Jennifer Baragar, Deputy Treasurer.

In addition to the written report J. Baragar verbally reported:

- More year end entries to come from the auditors. Most of spending from 2023 is complete.
- Auditors will be presenting their 2023 Financial Statements in April or May.

2023 Year End Reserve Transfer Report

The 2023 Year End Reserve Transfer Report was provided in the council package by Jennifer Baragar, Deputy Treasurer. Resolution included in Motions of Council.

Shore Road Allowance Sale Report

A Shore Road Allowance Sale Report was provided in the council package for lands in front of 54 Ottawa Street by Tracy Cannon, Planning & Building Administrator. Resolution included in Motions of Council.

Lake Opeongo Final Recovery Strategy Report

A Lake Opeongo Final Recovery Strategy Report was provided in the council package by Tracy Cannon, Planning & Building Administrator.

- Staff to proceed with recommendations within the report. In addition, send the letter to the Premier and forward the information to other local municipalities.

M&L Parks & Recreation Committee

December 14, 2023 Minutes were provided in the council package.

In addition to the written report Councillor Florent verbally reported:

- The recreation committee has requested a few things for the hall and the requests have been passed on to staff.

Discussion around the weather and the ice surface. Currently on the third time this year making ice due to the weather. Will monitor the weather.

Community Safety Well-being Coordinating Committee

Minutes of January 30th were provided in the council package.

Councillor Pigeon: Age Well Initiative Grant – staff will research.

Councillor Kuiack: Attended the ROMA Conference - provided council with information on workshops attended.

Councillor Collins: Attended the ROMA Conference - provided council with information on workshops attended. Further provided information on the delegation with the Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Long-Term Care that Mayor LaValley, Councillor Siydock, and Councillor Kuiack and herself attended regarding Casselholme.

Councillor Florent: Proposed walking trail in Madawaska – proposes to proceed to have control over the crownlands. Staff have done some research and Infrastructure Ontario will also need to get involved for the use of these lands.

Mayor LaValley: Attended the ROMA Conference- provided council with information on workshops attended and organizations and ministers she was able to speak to. Spoke further to the presentation to the Ministry of Long-Term Care regarding Cassellholme.

District Nipissing Social Service Administration Board (DNSSAB) - In the process in hiring the CEO. Mayor LaValley going to North Bay for the interviews tomorrow and Friday. Mayor LaValley has been elected as Chair of Community Social Services Committee. Donna Mayer, Manager of Project Development has resigned.

10. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

- Waste Site Passes have been received and a letter will also be sent with the interim tax bills. The card only will be accepted. Pictures of the cards will not be accepted.

11. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

12. CORRESPONDENCE-Action Items

- Resolution of Support; Township of Clearview & Town of Plympton-Wyoming Re: Cemetery Transfer/Abandonment Administration & Management Support
- Resolution of Support; City of Greater Sudbury & Town of Plympton-Wyoming RE: Amendment to the Occupational Health and Safety Act to Clarify the Definition of “Employer”
- Resolution: Association of Ontario Road Supervisors (A.O.R.S.) Municipal Equipment Operator Course
- Physician Recruitment & Retention for Barry’s Bay & Area; Funding Request – Councillor Rodnick left the chambers due to a declaration of pecuniary interest for this discussion and returned to the chambers after discussion. Consensus was to table the request and reach out to the other municipalities that are included in the fund request. Council took a short recess.
- Rural Economic Development Grant (R.E.D.)- staff to apply for the Strategic Economic Infrastructure Stream to replace the gazebo at the Galeairy Lake Memorial Park.

13. CORRESPONDENCE-Information Items

- Renfrew County and District Health Unit – Medical Officer of Health Report to Board and Food Affordability

14. NEW BUSINESS: None

15. MOTIONS OF COUNCIL:

Councillor Florent left the chambers due to a declaration of pecuniary interest for the below resolution.

Moved by: Councillor Collins Seconded by: Councillor Pigeon Res. # 24-318
THAT: Council for the Corporation of the Township of South Algonquin approves the annual grandfathered obligation of \$2,500.00 to the Flying Feathers Archery Club.
-Carried-

Councillor Florent re-entered the chambers for the remainder of the meeting.

Moved by: Councillor Florent Seconded by: Councillor Siydock Res. # 24-319
THAT: Council for the Corporation of the Township of South Algonquin authorizes the CAO/Clerk-Treasurer effective December 31, 2023 to make the following reserve transfers:
1. \$100,498.50 from General Reserve
2. \$2,973.37 from Fire Facilities/Equipment Reserve
3. \$80,964.22 from Transportation Fleet/Equipment Reserve
4. \$11,864.00 from Recreation Facility/Equipment/Programming Reserve
5. \$6,860.00 from Accessibility Reserve
6. \$3,879.05 to Recreation Committee Reserve (WRec)
7. \$7,431.53 to Recreation Committee Reserve (M&L Rec)
8. Transfer remaining surplus/deficit to General Reserve. Upon determination transferred surplus will be reassigned to the appropriate reserve accounts.
AND THAT the aforementioned transfer be completed following auditor review.
-Carried-

Moved by: Councillor Kuiack Seconded by: Councillor Pigeon Res. # 24-320
THAT: Council for the Corporation of the Township of South Algonquin authorize staff to proceed with the application received for the purchase of the unopened shore road allowance as discussed at the January 17, 2024 Asset Management Committee Meeting for lands in front of CON 5 PT LOT 13, Lyell Ward, locally known as 178 Davies Lane, adjacent to Lyell Lake on the condition that an easement be granted benefitting 198 Davies Lane through a Consent Application process.
-Carried-

Moved by: Councillor Siydock Seconded by: Councillor Kuiack Res. # 24-321
THAT: Council for the Corporation of the Township of South Algonquin accepts Gloria Beauclair as a member of the Whitney Recreation Committee.
-Carried-

Moved by: Councillor Florent Seconded by: Councillor Collins Res. # 24-322
WHEREAS, municipal public works departments from across the Province of Ontario provide invaluable services to our communities ensuring the health and safety of all residents;
AND WHEREAS, if it was not for our municipal public works employees from across the Province of Ontario maintaining our public roads systems, our communities would not be able to function as emergency personnel could not respond to calls, school buses could not get our children to school, residents would not be able to get to work, school or appointments and many more basic functions would not be able to happen;
AND WHEREAS, municipal public works departments are already feeling the impacts of a labour shortage, which will only be exasperated over the next three to five years, which will cause levels of service municipalities are able to provide to ensure the health and safety of our residents to decrease;
AND WHEREAS, there is currently no provincial-wide course that properly trains potential municipal public works employees, specifically relating to municipal heavy equipment.
THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED, that the Township of South Algonquin supports the work of the Association of Ontario Road Supervisors to develop a Municipal Equipment Operator Course to address this issue;
AND THAT, The township of South Algonquin calls on the Province of Ontario's Ministry of Labour, Training, Immigration and Skilled Trades to fully fund the Municipal Equipment Operator Course in 2024 through the Skills Development Fund;

AND THAT, a copy of this resolution be sent to the Minister of Labour, Training, Immigration and Skilled Trades David Piccini, Township of South Algonquin's Member of Provincial Parliament, John Yakabuski and the Association of Ontario Road Supervisors.

-Carried-

Moved by: Councillor Pigeon Seconded by: Councillor Collins Res # 24-323

THAT: Council for the Corporation of the Township of South Algonquin implements a \$10.00 replacement fee for Waste Disposal Site Passes;

AND at such time the Schedule of Fees By-Law 2023-768 is amended or replaced this fee will be included in the schedule.

-Carried-

Moved by: Councillor Kuiack Seconded by: Councillor Florent Res # 24-324

THAT: Council for the Corporation of the Township of South Algonquin supports the resolutions from Township of Clearview and The Town of Plympton-Wyoming regarding Cemetery Transfer/Abandonment Administration & Management Support.

-Carried-

Moved by: Councillor Florent Seconded by: Councillor Pigeon Res # 24-325

THAT: Council for the Corporation of the Township of South Algonquin supports the resolutions from City of Greater Sudbury and The Town of Plympton-Wyoming regarding an amendment to the Occupational Health and Safety Act to clarify the definition of "Employer".

-Carried-

16. NOTICE OF MOTIONS: None

17. BY-LAWS:

Moved by: Councillor Siydock Seconded by: Councillor Collins Res. # 24-326

THAT:

- 1) By-Law 2024-781 for the stopping up and closing shore road allowance in front of 54 Ottawa Street
- 2) By-Law 2024-782 to provide for an Interim Tax Levy and to provide for the payment of taxes.
- 3) By-Law 2024-783 Confirm the Proceedings of Council

BE READ A FIRST TIME AND BE DEEMED READ A SECOND TIME

-Carried-

Moved by: Councillor Collins Seconded by: Councillor Pigeon Res. # 24-327

THAT:

- 1) By-Law 2024-781 for the stopping up and closing shore road allowance in front of 54 Ottawa Street
- 2) By-Law 2024-782 to provide for an Interim Tax Levy and to provide for the payment of taxes.
- 3) By-Law 2024-783 Confirm the Proceedings of Council

BE READ A THIRD TIME AND PASSED

-Carried-

18. CLOSED SESSION: None

19. ADJOURNMENT:

Moved by: Councillor Florent Seconded by: Councillor Rodnick Res. # 24-328

THAT: Council for the Corporation of the Township of South Algonquin adjourns the Regular Council Meeting of February 7, 2024 at 12:42 p.m.

-Carried-

The next council meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 6, 2024 at 9:00 a.m.

Mayor Ethel LaValley

CAO/Clerk-Treasurer Bryan Martin