

**March 13, 2024**

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING – MINUTES**

On Wednesday, March 13, 2024 the Economic Development Committee held an in-person and Zoom Meeting, livestreamed to YouTube.

**Council Present:**

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

**Staff Present:**

Bryan Martin, CAO/Clerk Treasurer  
Tracy Cannon, Planning & Building Administrator

**Guest:**

Dr. David Robinson, Economist  
Barney Baker, South Algonquin Business Alliance (SABA)

Chair of the Asset Management Committee, Councillor Pigeon called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

**LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

**ADDITIONS/AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA: None**

**ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

**Moved by: Councillor Kuiack**                      **Seconded by: Councillor Siydock**  
To adopt the agenda as circulated.

**DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST: None**

**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT & TRAINING**

Bryan Martin, CAO/Clerk-Treasurer introduced Dr. David Robinson, Economist and provided Dr. Robinson’s professional background on Economic Development. Dr. Robinson presented a presentation that included municipal responsibilities and the general challenges for municipalities. South Algonquin is unique and presents its own challenges due to the location. However, the township has a lot of the same challenges as other northern communities. The presentation also included how to promote sustainable development and development targets, three sides of sustainability and the role of an Economic Development Officer. Dr. Robinson also provided current statistics and what South Algonquin may look like in the future, and the importance of succession planning.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- Discussion pertaining to how the recreation committees could contribute to programming for seniors and age groups between 20 to 40 years.
- Discussion pertaining to public transportation.
- Grant application writing-Staff to put out a request for proposal for anyone interested in grant writing for the township.
- Moving forward, the committee will absorb what was discussed today and at the next meeting discuss the direction the committee wishes to take.
- Community Futures Development Corporation has offered to come and do a presentation. Councillor Pigeon will follow up with them and T.Cannon on dates for the next Economic Development Committee Meeting.
- The Housing Needs Study from DNSSAB is due to be distributed by the end of April.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

**Moved by: Councillor Siydock**

**Seconded by: Councillor Rodnick**

To adjourn the Economic Development Committee Meeting of March 13, 2024 at 12: 52 p.m.

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Councillor S. Pigeon

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Bryan Martin, CAO/Clerk-Treasurer