

July 2, 2025

COUNCIL MEETING – MINUTES

On Wednesday, July 2, 2025, the Council for the Corporation of the Township of South Algonquin held a Regular Hybrid Council Meeting via Zoom and in Chambers, which was streamed to YouTube.

In Chambers:

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

Staff: Bryan Martin, CAO/Clerk-Treasurer - Zoom
Taya McKay, Administrative Assistant/Accounting Clerk

Absent due to issues with zoom connection Councillor Sandra Collins

1. OPEN MEETING/CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

Mayor LaValley called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

2. ROLL CALL

3. LAND ACKNOWLEDEMENT

4. ADDITIONS/AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA: None

5. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Moved by: Councillor Kuiack Seconded by: Councillor Rodnick Res. # 25-542

THAT: Council for the Corporation of the Township of South Algonquin adopts the Agenda as circulated and amended for the Regular Council Meeting of July 2, 2025.

-Carried-

6. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST OR A GENERAL NATURE THEREOF:
None

7. PETITION, DELEGATION AND/OR PRESENTATIONS: None

8. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Moved by: Councillor Siydock Seconded by: Councillor Florent Res. # 25-543

THAT: Council for the Corporation of the Township of South Algonquin adopts the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of June 4, 2025 as circulated.

-Carried-

Moved by: Councillor Florent Seconded by: Councillor Kuiack Res. # 25-544

THAT: Council for the Corporation of the Township of South Algonquin adopts the minutes of the Asset Management Committee Meeting of June 18, 2025 as circulated.

-Carried-

Moved by: Councillor Pigeon Seconded by: Councillor Kuiack Res. # 25-545

THAT: Council for the Corporation of the Township of South Algonquin adopts the minutes of the Economic Development Committee Meeting of June 18, 2025 as circulated.

-Carried-

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

M&L Parks & Recreation Committee

M&L Parks and Recreation Committee Minutes of May 13, 2025 were provided in the council package.

Whitney Recreation Committee

Whitney Recreation, Minutes of June 3, 2025 were provided in the council package.

Council Reports

Councillor Florent:

- Canada Day celebration was a success. Great sales on foods.
- Thanks to the Madawaska Fire Department for putting on the fireworks.

Councillor Kuiack

- Cornhole Canada Day event was a success.
- Fireworks put on by Wrec were well done.
- Congratulations to Angela Pollock on receiving the King Charles III Coronation Meda for her leadership in accessibility and inclusive innovation.
- Contacted Renfrew County Health unit regarding needles and learned how to safe handle needles and training will be offered to staff who may come in contact.
- Safety disposal boxes for needles in outdoor bathrooms.

Councillor Pigeon:

- Gives thanks to the Whitney Fire department for putting on a great show of fireworks.
- Attended Hay Lake Association complemented that it was nice and high tech.

Mayor LaValley:

- Canada day was well put together and thanks to those who volunteered are on the fire department and rec committees.
- Thanks, and appreciation to Emily Etmanski for her dedication working in the DNSSAB.

10. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES: None

11. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- Delegation to AMO to The Ministry of Natural Resources for release of land and how to go about this. Been in contact with office. Next steps look into areas of crown land. Delegation not necessary at this time
- Ministers' office reached out to Mayor LaValley and advised if we have an area of crown land and a plan to reach out to Ministers office in Bancroft.

12. CORRESPONDENCE-Action Items

- Resolution of Support; RE: The Request to Support Advocacy to the Federal Government for 'Disability Without Poverty', Prince Edward County.
- Resolution of Support; RE: The Request for Exemption to the Proposed Mandatory Firefighter Certificate Requirements Under Ontario Regulation 343/22, Black River-Matheson.

13. CORRESPONDENCE-Information Items Received and Filed;

- Ombudsman Ontario RE: Notice of Investigation.
- June 12, 2025 Draft Municipal Dog Pound Special Meeting Minutes
- Ministry of Rural Affairs RE: Rural Ontario Development (ROD)
- Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Association RE: Media Release: Municipalities Encouraged to Act on Floating Accommodations.

14. NEW BUSINESS: None

15. MOTIONS OF COUNCIL:

Moved by: Councillor Florent Seconded by: Councillor Pigeon Res. # 25-546

THAT: Council for the Corporation of the Township of South Algonquin hereby accepts the Asset Management Financial Plan Report as presented at the Asset Management Committee Meeting held on June 18, 2025, adopting the alternative scenario which identifies a total requirement of 5.2%, inclusive of estimated assessment growth;

AND THAT staff be directed to actively seek grants and other sources of revenue to help mitigate this annualized financial impact;

AND FURTHER THAT staff continue to work towards achieving the necessary 7.7% requirement to support the full renewal of municipal assets.

-Carried-

Moved by: Councillor Florent Seconded by: Councillor Rodrick Res. # 25-547
THAT: Council for the Corporation of the Township of South Algonquin supports the resolution from Township of Black River-Matheson, requesting an exemption from the proposed mandatory firefighter certificate requirements under Ontario Regulation 343/22.

-Carried-

Moved by: Councillor Florent Seconded by: Councillor Kuiack Res. # 25-548
THAT: Council for the Corporation of the Township of South Algonquin supports the resolution from Prince Edward County, requesting advocacy to the Federal Government in support of the “Disability Without Poverty” initiative.

-Carried-

Moved by: Councillor Florent Seconded by: Councillor Pigeon Res # 25-549
THAT: Council for the Corporation of the Township of South Algonquin authorize staff to investigate the criteria and requirements involved for the Township to assume responsibility for the maintenance of the parking lot at the Bear Mountain Hiking Trail, as recommended at the Economic Development Committee Meeting held on June 18, 2025.

-Carried-

Moved by: Councillor Florent Seconded by: Councillor Pigeon Res # 25-550
THAT Council for the Corporation of the Township of South Algonquin authorize staff to investigate the criteria and requirements involved for the Township to assume responsibility for the maintenance of the Cenotaph in Madawaska, as recommended at the Asset Management Committee Meeting held on June 18, 2025.

-Carried-

Moved by: Councillor Kuiack Seconded by: Councillor Siydock Res # 25- 551
WHEREAS the Ministry of Transportation follows a set of criteria established by the Transportation Association of Canada (TAC);
AND WHEREAS Highway 60, which runs through the villages of Whitney and Madawaska, does not currently meet the criteria for a speed reduction;
AND WHEREAS the Council for the Corporation of the Township of South Algonquin has concerns regarding vehicle speed and increased transport and vehicle traffic, particularly during the summer and fall seasons, and during road closures on Highway 17;
AND WHEREAS approximately one-third of visitors to Algonquin Provincial Park travel through the Township via the Highway 60 corridor;
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council for the Corporation of the Township of South Algonquin strongly advocates for the Ministry of Transportation to install radar speed signs in the villages of Whitney and Madawaska;
AND FURTHER that this resolution be forwarded to the Honourable Prabmeet Sarkaria, Minister of Transportation and Billy Denault, MPP for Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke for their support and action.

-Carried-

16. BY-LAWS:

Moved by: Councillor Florent Seconded by: Councillor Rodnick Res. # 25-552
THAT:

- 1) By-Law 2025-841 to Set Rates for Remuneration & Expenses for Council members
- 2) By-Law 2025-842 to Confirm the Proceedings of Council

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

-Carried-

Moved by: Councillor Siydock Seconded by: Councillor Florent Res. # 25- 553
THAT:

- 1) By-Law 2025-841 to Set Rates for Remuneration & Expenses for Council members
- 2) By-Law 2025-842 to Confirm the Proceedings of Council

BE READ A THIRD TIME AND PASSED

-Carried-

17. CLOSED SESSION: None

18. ADJOURNMENT:

Moved by: Councillor Rodnick Seconded by: Councillor Florent Res. # 25-554

THAT: Council for the Corporation of the Township of South Algonquin adjourns the Regular Council Meeting of July 2, 2025 at 9:56 a.m.

-Carried-

The next regular council meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 3, 2025 at 9:00 a.m.

Mayor Ethel LaValley

CAO/Clerk-Treasurer Bryan Martin