

December 3, 2025

COUNCIL MEETING – MINUTES

On Wednesday, December 3, 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

ZOOM:

Councillor Collins

Staff: Bryan Martin, CAO/Clerk-Treasurer
Tracy Cannon, Deputy CAO/Deputy Clerk-Planner
Aurel Thom, Fire Chief/CEMC

1. OPEN MEETING/CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

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

2. ROLL CALL: All Present

3. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

4. ADDITIONS/AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

- New Business-Committee of the Whole

5. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Moved by: Councillor Florent Seconded by: Councillor Pigeon Res. # 25-596
THAT: Council for the Corporation of the Township of South Algonquin adopts the Agenda as circulated and amended for the Regular Council Meeting of December 3, 2025.
-Carried-

6. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST OR A GENERAL NATURE THEREOF:

None

7. PETITION, DELEGATION AND/OR PRESENTATIONS:

Inspector Stephan Neufeld, Detachment Commander of the Upper Ottawa Valley OPP, Ryan Martin, Interim Commander of the Bancroft OPP Detachment, and S/Stg. Sarah Darraugh were in attendance to present on the Whitney Realignment, the OPP 2026–2029 Strategic Plan, and the OPP priorities for the coming year.

As Inspector Neufeld was delayed, Council proceeded with the meeting until his arrival. The notes for this portion are recorded in the order in which the discussion occurred.

8. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Moved by: Councillor Kuiack Seconded by: Councillor Rodnick Res. # 25-597
THAT: Council for the Corporation of the Township of South Algonquin adopts the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of November 5, 2025 as circulated.
-Carried-

Moved by: Councillor Siydock Seconded by: Councillor Florent Res. # 25-598
THAT: Council for the Corporation of the Township of South Algonquin adopts the minutes of the Economic Development Committee Meeting of November 19, 2025 as circulated.
-Carried-

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

M&L Parks & Recreation Committee

M&L Parks and Recreation Committee Agenda of November 11, 2025 Minutes of October 14, 2025 were provided in the Council package.

Councillor Florent verbally reported;

- He has received numerous inquiries about the Fibre Internet installation and is requesting an update.
- Request update on the Blue Box Program. Staff advised that they have a meeting scheduled with Circular Materials on Friday and expect to have more information at that time. This item is also included on the agenda for the Waste Management Committee Meeting on the 17th.

Whitney Recreation Committee

Whitney Recreation, Minutes of November 4, 2025 were provided in the Council package.

Councillor Kuiack verbally reported;

- Committee had a quick meeting yesterday, focusing on December 14th Breakfast with Santa, photo with Santa and Parade.
- There does not appear to be much interest at this time in Volleyball or Pickleball at the school for the winter; promotion will continue.
- The Committee is looking ahead and setting dates for next year's activities.
- Councillor Kuiack thanked Mayor LaValley for her participation in the Tree Lighting.

T. Cannon, Deputy CAO/Deputy Clerk-Planner

- T. Cannon presented a written report regarding the request to purchase the Shore Road Allowance in front of 124A Lakeside Lane. A corresponding resolution has been included in the Motions of Council for Council's consideration.

Councillor Collins

- Councillor Collins inquired about the Rink Attendant position. Staff advised that interviews for both the Rink Attendant Position and the Community Development Intern Position will be conducted in the coming weeks.

Councillor Siydock

- Councillor Siydock attended the second Police Services Board meeting on November 17th. The Board is seeking two community members to join. The report has been circulated. The next meeting will be held in February.

10. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES: None

11. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

12. CORRESPONDENCE-Action Items:

- Resolution of Support; RE: Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury regarding removing HST/GST from new homes to support housing affordability.

13. CORRESPONDENCE-Information Items Received and Filed:

- Ministry of Municipal Affairs; RE: Fighting Delays, Building Faster Act, 2025 (Bill 60).
- MP Cheryl Gallant; RE: Rights of Private Landowner Under Common Law.
- The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) and the Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association (NOMA); RE: Kapuskasing Paper Facility.
- Ministry of the Solicitor General; RE: Update to Ontario Regulation 416/23: Oaths and Affirmations under the Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019
- Planning Report RE: Official Plan Amendment No. 2. (In preparation for Dec.17th Committee Meeting).
- Kelly Wallace, Managing Director Think Turtle Conservation Initiative; RE: Request to Maintain the Moratorium on Aerial Glyphosate Spraying.
- Chris Fitzpatrick; RE: Unemployment Insurance Benefits; *Staff will invite C. Fitzpatrick to an upcoming meeting to outline his specific request to Council.*
- MP Cheryl Gallant; RE: Herbicide Glyphosate.
- Ministry of Municipal Affairs; RE: Building Faster and Smarter Act, 2025(Bill 17).

14. NEW BUSINESS:

Committee of the Whole – Staff will create a report.

PETITION, DELEGATION AND/OR PRESENTATIONS:

Upon Inspector Neufeld arrival, Council returned to this portion of the meeting.

Inspector Neufeld has accepted a promotional position, and S/Sgt Sarah Darraugh will assume the role of Interim Detachment Commander. S/Sgt Ryan Martin will continue as Interim Commander of the Bancroft Detachment until at least February.

Inspector Neufeld apologized for the lack of communication with the municipality regarding the transition of South Algonquin OPP services from the Killaloe Detachment to the Bancroft Detachment. The transition is proceeding as a phased process with community consultation. A preliminary plan is awaiting final approval before being shared.

Inspector Neufeld emphasized that the Whitney Detachment is not closing but is in a rebuild phase. The OPP is assessing the support required for South Algonquin.

Inspector Stephan Neufeld, S/Stg. Sarah Darraugh & Ryan Martin exited the meeting.

Short Recess

15. MOTIONS OF COUNCIL:

Moved by: Councillor Florent Seconded by: Councillor Pigeon Res. # 25-599
THAT: Council for the Corporation of the Township of South Algonquin hereby accepts the resignation of Nadia Pruett from the Economic Development Committee and appoints Jim Hollett as a new member, as recommended by the Committee.

-Carried-

Moved by: Councillor Florent Seconded by: Councillor Kuiack Res. # 25-600
THAT: Council for the Corporation of the Township of South Algonquin supports the resolution from Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury regarding removing HST/GST from new homes to support housing affordability; and
THAT the resolution be circulated to the Prime Minister of Canada, Minister of Finance and the Minister of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities; and to the Premier of Ontario, the Ontario Minister of Finance, the Ontario Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, our local MP and MPP, and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario.

-Carried-

Moved by: Councillor Florent Seconded by: Councillor Kuiack Res. # 25-601
THAT Council for the Corporation of the Township of South Algonquin wishes to reconsider Resolution No. 25-560, which reads as follows:

Moved by: Councillor Florent Seconded by: Councillor Kuiack Res. # 25-560
“THAT: Council for the Corporation of the Township of South Algonquin endorses the resolution passed by the Municipality of West Nipissing requesting a moratorium on aerial spraying, and further urges that such a moratorium be extended to include the Township of South Algonquin; and
THAT this resolution, along with a copy of the West Nipissing’s resolution, be forwarded to Mike Harris Jr., Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry; Sylvia Jones, Minister of Health; MPP, Billy Denault; Robin Jones, President of AMO; Christa Lowry, President of ROMA; and Bancroft, Minden Forestry Office; and MP Cheryl Gallant.”

AND THAT if this Motion to Reconsider is approved, Resolution No. 25-560 shall be brought back before Council for further discussion and determination at the January 14, 2026 Regular Council Meeting.

-Carried-

Moved by: Councillor Siydock Seconded by: Councillor Kuiack Res. # 25-602
THAT: Council for the Corporation of the Township of South Algonquin authorizes staff to proceed with the request to purchase the Shore Road Allowance along Lyell Lake in front of lands legally describes as LYELL PLAN M382 LOT 16 PCL;21867 NIP, in the geographic ward of Lyell and locally known as 124A Lakeside Lane.

-Carried-

16. BY-LAWS:

Moved by: Councillor Collins Seconded by: Councillor Siydock Res. # 25-603
THAT:

- 1) By-Law 2025-852 to authorize the signing of the Automotive Material Stewardship Amending Agreement
- 2) By-Law 2025-853 to Confirm the Proceedings of Council

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

-Carried-

Moved by: Councillor Pigeon Seconded by: Councillor Rodnick Res. # 25-604

THAT:

1) By-Law 2025-852 to authorize the signing of the Automotive Material Stewardship Amending Agreement

2) By-Law 2025-853 to Confirm the Proceedings of Council

BE READ A THIRD TIME AND PASSED

-Carried-

17. CLOSED SESSION: None

18. ADJOURNMENT:

Moved by: Councillor Florent Seconded by: Councillor Pigeon Res. # 25-605

THAT: Council for the Corporation of the Township of South Algonquin adjourns the Regular Council Meeting of December 3, 2025 at 10:51 a.m.

-Carried-

The next regular council meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 14, 2026 at 9:00 a.m.

Mayor Ethel LaValley

CAO/Clerk-Treasurer Bryan Martin