

January 14, 2026

COUNCIL MEETING – MINUTES

On Wednesday, January 14, 2026, 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 Collins
Councillor Joe Florent
Councillor Joan Kuiack
Councillor Shawn Pigeon
Councillor Laurie Siydock

ZOOM:

Councillor Bill Rodnick

Staff: Bryan Martin, CAO/Clerk-Treasurer
Tracy Cannon, Deputy CAO/Deputy Clerk-Planner

1. OPEN MEETING/CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

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

2. ROLL CALL: All Present

3. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

4. ADDITIONS/AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

New Business:

- Boat Launch & Trails Master Plan Development
- Update – Hiring of Economic Development Intern
- Implementation of Bag Tags

5. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Moved by: Councillor Collins Seconded by: Councillor Siydock Res. # 26-606

THAT: Council for the Corporation of the Township of South Algonquin adopts the Agenda as circulated and amended for the Regular Council Meeting of January 14, 2026.

-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 Pigeon Seconded by: Councillor Kuiack Res. # 26-607

THAT: Council for the Corporation of the Township of South Algonquin adopts the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of December 3, 2025 as circulated.

-Carried-

Moved by: Councillor Siydock Seconded by: Councillor Kuiack Res. # 26-608

THAT: Council for the Corporation of the Township of South Algonquin adopts the minutes of the Asset Management Committee Meeting of December 17, 2025 as circulated and amended.

-Carried-

Moved by: Councillor Collins Seconded by: Councillor Pigeon Res. # 26-609

THAT: Council for the Corporation of the Township of South Algonquin adopts the minutes of the Waste Management Committee Meeting of December 17, 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 January 13, 2026 and Minutes of November 13, 2025 were provided in the Council package.

Whitney Recreation Committee

Whitney Recreation, Minutes of December 2, 2025 were provided in the Council package.

Councillor Florent

- There have been significant roadblocks to expanding the parking lot at the Tom & Mick Murray Boat Launch due to requirements from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, including archaeological and heritage studies. What was initially expected to be a low-cost project could now involve substantial expenses. The expansion would have improved access to lands within the land claim should it be finalized. As a result of the additional costs associated with the required studies, Council has agreed to halt the project. Staff will follow up with MNRF.

10. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES: None

11. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

12. CORRESPONDENCE-Action Items;

- Resolution of Support; RE: Alternative Servicing Methods for Rural and Northern Municipalities, Municipality of Magnetawan.
- Resolution of Support; RE: Strengthening Self-Defence Protections and Addressing Rising Home Invasions in Ontario, Municipality of Calvin.
- Resolution of Support; Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF), Town of Smith Falls.
- Resolution of Support; Federal Measures Aimed to Stabilize and Strengthen Canada's Steel and Softwood Lumber Sectors, Township of Nairn and Hyman.

13. CORRESPONDENCE-Information Items Received and Filed;

- Solicitor General RE: OPP Annual Billing.
- November 17, 2025 Killaloe OPP Detachment Board Report.
- November 27, 2025 Municipal Dog Pound Board Meeting Minutes.

14. NEW BUSINESS:

Use of Lester Smith Building During Winter Months

- The consensus was to allow the Lester Smith Building to be used for events organized by the Recreation Committee. Currently, the Recreation Committee, in conjunction with the Seniors, wishes to host Bingo once a month. They will assist with moving the games and tables, and the washrooms will remain available for rink users during the event.
- Some members of the Recreation Committee are currently cleaning out the storage area and have identified a large number of surplus items. It was determined that items suitable to be sold, could be sold with the proceeds going to Whitney Recreation.

Boat Launch & Trails Master Plan Development

- Mayor LaValley informed Council that she received a call yesterday from MPP Billy Denault advising that the Township was successful in receiving \$25,000 for the development of a Boat Launch & Trails Master Plan.

Update – Hiring of Economic Development Intern

- Mayor LaValley informed Council that the Economic Development Intern position has been filled. Stephanie Russell will be starting on Monday and will attend the Economic Development Committee meeting. Mayor LaValley noted that she believes Stephanie will be an asset to the Township.

Implementation of Bag Tags

- Mayor LaValley advised Council that she had met with Matt Fitzpatrick (resident), who had also circulated correspondence to all members of Council expressing concerns that implementing the bag tag system prior to the start of the recycling program was unfair. Mr. Fitzpatrick outlined the reasons for these concerns and requested that the bag tag system be suspended until the recycling program is in effect. Council's consensus was that the bag tag system will remain in place.

15. MOTIONS OF COUNCIL:

Moved by: Councillor Collins Seconded by: Councillor Florent Res. # 26-610

THAT: Council for the Corporation of the Township of South Algonquin supports the resolution from the Municipality of Magnetawan urging the Province of Ontario to revise its grant funding criteria to recognize alternative servicing methods as eligible infrastructure for rural and northern municipalities; and

THAT this resolution along with the resolution from the Municipality of Magnetawan be circulated to Hon. Premier Doug Ford; Hon. Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance; Hon. Victor Fedeli, Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade; Hon. Billy Denault, MPP for Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke; Hon. Cheryl Gallant, MP for Algonquin-Renfrew-Pembroke; FONOM; and AMO.

-Carried-

Moved by: Councillor Collins Seconded by: Councillor Florent Res. # 26-611

THAT: Council for the Corporation of the Township of South Algonquin supports the resolution from the Municipality of Calvin pertaining to strengthening self-defence protections and addressing rising home invasions in Ontario; and

THAT this resolution along with the resolution from the Municipality of Calvin be circulated to Hon. Mark Carney, Prime Minister of Canada; The Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada; Hon. Cheryl Gallant, MP for Algonquin-Renfrew-Pembroke; Hon. Premier Doug Ford; The Attorney General of Ontario; The Solicitor General of Ontario; and Hon. Billy Denault, MPP for Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke.

-Carried-

Moved by: Councillor Collins Seconded by: Councillor Kuiack Res. # 26-612

THAT: Council for the Corporation of the Township of South Algonquin supports the resolution from the Town of Smiths Falls pertaining to the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF); and

THAT this resolution along with the resolution from the Town of Smiths Falls be circulated to Hon. Premier Doug Ford; Hon. Kinga Surma, Minister of Infrastructure; Hon. Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; Hon. Francois-Phillipe Champagne, Minister of Finance; Hon. Billy Denault, MPP for Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke; and AMO.

-Carried-

Moved by: Councillor Florent Seconded by: Councillor Pigeon Res. # 26-613

THAT: Council for the Corporation of the Township of South Algonquin supports the resolution from the Township of Nairn and Hyman pertaining to federal measures aimed to stabilize and strengthen Canada's steel and softwood lumber sectors; and

THAT this resolution along with the resolution from the Township of Nairn and Hyman be circulated to Hon. Mark Carney, Prime Minister of Canada; Hon. Premier Doug Ford; The Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry; The Minister of Northern Development; Hon. Cheryl Gallant, MP for Algonquin-Renfrew-Pembroke; Hon. Billy Denault, MPP for Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke; and FONOM.

-Carried-

Moved by: Councillor Florent Seconded by: Councillor Kuiack Res. # 26-614

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.

-Defeated-

16. BY-LAWS:

Moved by: Councillor Siydock Seconded by: Councillor Collins Res. # 26-615

THAT:

- 1) By-Law 2026-854 to authorize the signing of the Agreement of Purchase and Sale for Lyell Landfill Site.
- 2) By-Law 2026-855 to authorize the signing of Conditional Contribution Agreement with Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation to hire a Community Development Intern.
- 3) By-Law 2026-856 Ontario Fire Protection Grant Transfer Payment Agreement
- 4) By-Law 2026-857 to Confirm the Proceedings of Council

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

-Carried-

Moved by: Councillor Florent Seconded by: Councillor Pigeon Res. # 26-616

THAT:

- 1) By-Law 2026-854 to authorize the signing of the Agreement of Purchase and Sale for Lyell Landfill Site.
- 2) By-Law 2026-855 to authorize the signing of Conditional Contribution Agreement with Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation to hire a Community Development Intern.
- 3) By-Law 2026-856 Ontario Fire Protection Grant Transfer Payment Agreement
- 4) By-Law 2026-857 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. # 26-617

THAT: Council for the Corporation of the Township of South Algonquin adjourns the Regular Council Meeting of January 14, 2026 at 10:25 a.m.

-Carried-

The next regular council meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 4, 2026 at 9:00 a.m.

Mayor Ethel LaValley

CAO/Clerk-Treasurer Bryan Martin