

February 4, 2026

COUNCIL MEETING – MINUTES

On Wednesday, February 4, 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 Shawn Pigeon
Councillor Bill Rodnick
Councillor Laurie Siydock

ZOOM:

Councillor Joan Kuiack

Staff: Tracy Cannon, Deputy CAO/Deputy Clerk-Planner
Stephanie Russell, Community Development Intern

Regrets: Bryan Martin, CAO/Clerk-Treasurer

1. OPEN MEETING/CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

Mayor LaValley called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m.

2. ROLL CALL: All Present

3. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

4. ADDITIONS/AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA: None

5. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Moved by: Councillor Florent Seconded by: Councillor Pigeon Res. # 26-618

THAT: Council for the Corporation of the Township of South Algonquin adopts the Agenda as circulated for the Regular Council Meeting of February 4, 2026.

-Carried-

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

7. PETITION, DELEGATION AND/OR PRESENTATIONS:

OPP East Region Superintendent Stephan Neufeld, Acting Inspector Sarah Darraugh (Upper Ottawa Valley OPP), and Trevor Pitts, Interim OPP Detachment Commander – Bancroft, provided an update on the Whitney OPP Service realignment. Superintendent Neufeld introduced Interim Commander Pitts, who will oversee the amalgamation process. The project is a priority for both the region and the province.

The formal amalgamation date is approaching and remains on schedule, with the transition progressing well.

The Whitney Detachment is currently in the rebuilding phase, with a target of six officers to be based at the detachment. Recruitment efforts are underway that includes a global outreach.

Interim Commander Pitts shared his background and experience, noting his familiarity with the needs of small communities.

It was noted that under Acting Inspector Darraugh's leadership, there has been an increased police presence in the community.

Superintendent S. Neufeld, Acting Inspector S. Darraugh and Interim Commander T. Pitts, and S. Russell exited the meeting.

8. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Moved by: Councillor Collins Seconded by: Councillor Rodnick Res. # 26-619

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

-Carried-

Moved by: Councillor Siydock Seconded by: Councillor Florent Res. # 26-620
THAT: Council for the Corporation of the Township of South Algonquin adopts the minutes of the Economic Development Committee Meeting of January 21, 2026 as circulated and amended.
-Carried-

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

Jennifer Baragar, Deputy Treasurer RE: 2025 Year End Reserve Transfer Report

- Resolution included under Motions of Council.

M&L Parks & Recreation Committee

M&L Parks and Recreation Committee Minutes of December 9, 2025 were provided in the Council package.

Whitney Recreation Committee

Whitney Recreation, Minutes of January 6, 2026 were provided in the Council package.

- Councillor Kuiack reported verbally that the committee held a meeting the previous evening which she was unable to attend. She noted that the January 27th Bingo event was a success.

Councillor Kuiack departed the meeting to attend another meeting.

10. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES: None

11. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

12. CORRESPONDENCE-Action Items;

- Resolution of Support; RE: Letter of Support for Enhanced School Bus Safety and the Implementation of Stop-Arm Camera.

13. CORRESPONDENCE-Information Items Received and Filed;

- Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing RE: Police Service Boards in Strong Mayor Power Municipalities.
- Municipal Dog Pound Board RE: 2023 Financial Statement.
- Municipal Dog Pound Board RE: 2024 Financial Statement.
- Office of MPP Billy Denault RE: 2026 Funding Opportunities from Ontario Arts Council – Ministry of Tourism, Culture & Gaming.
- District of Nipissing Social Services Administration Board RE: Municipalities Under Pressure: One Year Later – Norther Ontario Homelessness Update.
- North Watch RE: Transportation of High-Level Radioactive Waste on Our Highways. - *Resolution will be brought back to March 4, 2026 Council meeting for consideration.*
- Renfrew County and District Health Unit RE: Medical Officer of Health Report to the Board.

14. NEW BUSINESS: None

15. MOTIONS OF COUNCIL:

Moved by: Councillor Siydock Seconded by: Councillor Collins Res # 26-621
THAT: Council for the Corporation of the Township of South Algonquin hereby authorizes staff to further investigate the Waste Processing Plant request from GTA Strategies, in accordance with the recommendations from the Economic Development Committee dated January 21, 2026.
-Carried-

Moved by: Councillor Florent Seconded by: Councillor Pigeon Res # 26-622
THAT: Council for the Corporation of the Township of South Algonquin hereby supports the request received from the Municipality of North Grenville regarding the enhancement of School Bus Safety and the implementation of stop-arm camera; and
THAT staff use the draft letter provided and forward it to the parties listed on behalf of the Township.
-Carried-

Moved by: Councillor Collins Seconded by: Councillor Siydock Res. # 26-623

THAT: Council for the Corporation of the Township of South Algonquin authorizes the CAO/Clerk-Treasurer effective December 31, 2025 to make the following reserve transfers:

1. \$8,578.00 from Fire Facilities/Equipment Reserve
2. \$150,198.00 from Transportation Fleet/Equipment Reserve
3. \$9,528.00 from Roads Reserve
4. \$3,253.00 from Recreation Facility/Equipment/Programming Reserve
5. \$4082.12 from Recreation Committee Reserve (M&L Rec)
6. \$24,000.00 to General Reserve
7. \$2,975.00 to Fire Equipment Reserve
8. \$23,000.00 to Planning Reserve
9. \$2,416.98 to Recreation Committee Reserve (WRec)
10. 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-

16. BY-LAWS:

Moved by: Councillor Florent Seconded by: Councillor Pigeon Res. # 26-624

THAT:

- 1) By-Law 2026-858 to Amend the Vote By Mail Policy
- 2) By-Law 2026-859 to Authorize the signing of the ORNGE Agreement
- 3) By-Law 2026-860 to Authorize the signing of a Pothole Prevention & Repair Program Agreement
- 4) By-Law 2026-861 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 Siydock Res. # 26-625

THAT:

- 1) By-Law 2026-858 to Amend the Vote By Mail Policy
- 2) By-Law 2026-859 to Authorize the signing of the ORNGE Agreement
- 3) By-Law 2026-860 to Authorize the signing of a Pothole Prevention & Repair Program Agreement
- 4) By-Law 2026-861 to Confirm the Proceedings of Council

BE READ A THIRD TIME AND PASSED

-Carried-

17. CLOSED SESSION: None

18. ADJOURNMENT:

Moved by: Councillor Collins Seconded by: Councillor Florent Res. # 26-626

THAT: Council for the Corporation of the Township of South Algonquin adjourns the Regular Council Meeting of February 4, 2026 at 10:25 a.m.

-Carried-

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

Mayor Ethel LaValley

Deputy CAO/Deputy Clerk-Planner Tracy Cannon