

**The Village of South River  
Council Meeting – January 11, 2010**

The meeting of the Council of the Village of South River was held on Monday, January 11, 2010 in the South River Council Chambers. A quorum was present. In attendance were Mayor Coleman, Deputy-Mayor Mahon, Councillors Dickerson and Scott.

Councillor Parker was absent with permission (Resolution # 319-2009).

Staff present was Susan Arnold, Clerk-Administrator.

1. **Call to Order** – The meeting was called to order by Mayor Coleman at 5:30 p.m.

2. **Declaration of Pecuniary Interest** - NIL

3. **Minutes**

1-2010 Scott/Dickerson

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT this Council of the Village of South River does hereby accept the minutes of Monday, December 14, 2009, as printed.**

Adopted

4. **Reports From Staff and Committees**

2-2010 Dickerson/Scott

**WHEREAS the Ministry and the Village of South River recognize that investments in public infrastructure are fundamental to the quality of life of Ontarians and necessary to ensure continued economic growth;**

**AND WHEREAS the Her Majesty the Queen in Right of Canada, as represented by the Minister of Industry hereby offers to make a contribution under the Community Adjustment Fund (CAF) to the Village of South River; and**

**AND WHEREAS the Village agrees to the terms and conditions outlined within the Contribution Agreement;**

**NOW THEREFORE the Village of South River directs the Mayor and Clerk-Administrator to sign the Agreement on behalf of the Municipality of South River.**

Adopted

3-2010

Mahon/Scott

**WHEREAS the Council of the Village of South River recognizes the need to provide long-term care; and**

**WHEREAS, as a result of provincial under-funding, municipal levies have continually increased to assist Eastholme, our Home for the Aged, and are forecasted to increase by \$450,000 for 2010 which represents a 95% increase in the municipal levy; and**

**WHEREAS, current provincial funding is insufficient and annual increases to the provincial subsidy have not covered inflationary increases on base costs such as wages, employees benefits, supplies and utilities, as well as ensuring that the home can meet the care needs of the home's residents to meet compliance standards; and**

**WHEREAS, with the passing of the new Long-Term Care Homes Act, 2007 and the soon to be released regulations, there**

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are concerns that more of the home's limited resources will be spent on the new administrative requirements leading to less money getting to the bedsides of the residents; and

WHEREAS, any possible increase to the accommodation subsidy each year is currently not a reliable source of funding; and

WHEREAS, the province's last few budgets have not provided sufficient additional permanent operating funding for long-term care homes; and

WHEREAS, the province is currently funding the unincorporated townships' share of the budget for the District of Parry Sound Social Services Administration Board, but has not provided a similar arrangement for Boards of Management operating

district homes for the aged which have unincorporated townships within their jurisdiction, notwithstanding that Eastholme and other district homes for the aged have in the past years received funding payments by the province in respect of the unincorporated townships for operational purposes and capital projects;

NOW THEREFORE, the Corporation of the Village of South River is requesting that the province provide increased subsidies for 2010 and future years to ensure adequate care of the residents in long-term care homes and to meet the inflationary increases on base expenditures, as well as an annual operational funding payment to the district homes for the aged in respect of the unincorporated townships within their jurisdiction; and

FURTHERMORE, this resolution be forwarded to:

The Minister of Health and Long-Term Care,

The Minister of Finance,

The North East Local Health Integration network,

Monique Smith, M.P.P. Nipissing,

Norm Miller, M.P.P. Parry Sound-Muskoka,

Anthony Rota, M.P.P. Nipissing-Timiskaming,

Tony Clement, M.P. Parry Sound- Muskoka,

The Association of Municipalities of Ontario, and

All supporting municipalities of Eastholme for the Aged for their action.

Adopted

4-2010

Scott/Dickerson

WHEREAS the Ministry of Education had previously committed to the construction of a new 946,000 square foot Almaguin Highlands Secondary School and committed to funding it as long as the school design was reasonable (this included a hallway configuration to allow enough room for an indoor track, a gymnasium and science classrooms with direct access to the outdoors and a Ground Source heating System); and

WHEREAS the cost of construction of a school in our environment has been estimated by engineers to be \$250/square foot, which results in an approximate cost of \$23,650,000; and

WHEREAS the Ministry of Education now says the maximum allowable expenditure is \$20,800,000; and

WHEREAS the fifteen communities whose youth attend the school have helped sponsor a Feasibility Study into add-ons to

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the facility to enhance our children's education in a 2,500 square kilometer area, with no public transportation, no gathering places for the students outside of the school and limited or no access to amenities those in urban areas take for granted such as museums, swimming pools, theatres, shopping malls and live entertainment facilities. This has resulted in the establishment of a public committee, ACCESS2011, dedicated to funding extra facilities for our youth, and the community at large, at the school; and

WHEREAS the Ministry of Education has unilaterally:

1. Cut 3,000 square feet, an area equal to three classrooms, from the design;
2. Dictated that the school will be designed as a square box type building, thereby cutting the size of hallways to be used as an indoor track;
3. Moved the science classrooms to the second floor, thereby denying them direct access to the 65 acres of woodland to be used for part of the science curriculum teaching;
4. Removed direct access from the gym to the outdoors for physical education activities and;
5. Changed the Geothermal Heating System to a system fired by Natural Gas.

WHEREAS the decisions listed above make no sense to the municipalities of the Almaguin Highlands since:

1. A cut of 3,000 square feet from the design of the building will limit teaching space and no viable rationale has been provided;
2. A square box type of building may work in Southern Ontario but our school was designed with the local climate and needs of OUR students in mind. Indoor physical education activities on a track would enhance our physical education programs and allow for students interested in track events to train for more than three months a year. The building has been designed with energy conservation in mind and a change in design at this time will no doubt cost more money and probably make the facility less environmentally friendly;
3. The biology and physics classrooms were put on the first floor to provide students and teachers with an easily accessible outdoor teaching and learning environment from the classroom. Putting custodial supplies in a prime teaching area makes no sense;
4. Having physical education students access the outdoors through hallways is possible but the present design provides for easier movement and less disruption of other classes;  
The Ministry claims that Geothermal Heating is too expensive and is complicated to operate. They say it will take 25 years to make up the extra \$900,000.00 cost over natural Gas. The cost of heating currently is \$100,000 per year. The School Board estimates the time to repay this at 10 years using the present cost of natural gas. While costs from Ground Source Heat aren't going to increase, the cost of fossil fuels will. Environmentally, there is no doubt that ground Source Heat is superior and in addition it will allow us to keep the building temperature at a maximum of 20 degrees Celsius in the warmer months in the whole school, not just provide the Principal and the Guidance offices with air conditioning as is the Ministry's plan. Local engineers assure us that a ground Source Heating System is probably simpler to run and easier to maintain than a fossil fuel system.

WHEREAS the Ministry decisions listed above lead us to believe we are to get a school designed by Accountants with no

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accommodation for the educational or cultural needs of the students and the rural communities in which they live, the climate or the environment. Specifically, the local educational leadership, in consultation with the students, staff and the participating municipalities, has designed a “bare bones” educational facility which can accommodate community additions to complement the structure and enhance our youth’s education. We, the residents and educators of the Almaguin highlands, know what is needed to provide an education for our students which is equal to those who live in urban areas, even if we have to finance some of the “extras” ourselves.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council for the Village of Burk’s Falls demand that the Ministry of Education fully fund the reasonable school design previously agreed upon by the Ministry and the Near North District School Board and that this resolution be forwarded to the Hon. Kathleen Wynne, the Minister of Education; the Hon. Tony Clement, M.P. for Parry Sound-Muskoka; Norm Miller, M.P.P. for Parry Sound-Muskoka; the Hon. Monique Smith. M.P.P. for Nipissing; Anthony Rota, M.P. for Nipissing – Timiskaming; Al Bottomley, Chair of the Near North District School Board; and to the catchment municipalities of the proposed Almaguin Highlands secondary School.

Adopted

5-2010

Mahon/Scott

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby approve the administrative server upgrade with the cost, excluding taxes, not to exceed \$5,000.

Adopted

6-2010

Mahon/Dickerson

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby accept the Almaguin Bike Routes descriptions as presented at CAEDA.

Adopted

7-2010

Scott/Dickerson

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby receive the following reports:

1. Community Adjustment Fund (CAF) Contract Agreement
2. Chartered Accountants’ Letter of Engagement
3. Eastholme 2010 Update
4. Request for Notice for Proposed Amendments
5. Almaguin Highlands OPP Partnership Request
6. MLEO December Report
7. Village of South River Resolution re: New School Construction Costs
8. 2009 Goal Review
9. Hardware Upgrade (Server)
10. Central Almaguin Bike Routes
11. WTP Decant Sludge Tank Info

Adopted

8-2010

Scott/Mahon

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby accept the following reports from regional committees:

1. Steering Committee, November 26, 2009
2. DSSAB, November 12, 2009
3. POA Partners, December 17, 2009

Adopted

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9-2010 Dickerson/Scott  
**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby approve the purchase of and ad in the Almaguin Highlands Art Directory. Size: 1/3 and Price not to exceed \$150.00.**

Adopted

10-2010 Mahon/Scott  
**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby receive the following correspondence to Council:**  
**1. Almaguin highlands Arts Council**  
**2. North Bay Parry Sound District, December 22, 2009**

Adopted

**5. Roundtable**

The Clerk-Administrator spoke to Ron Begin regarding the name of a facilitator to assist Council in determining needs and direction for the community's future. The individual is away for the winter but it has been suggested Council meet to discuss preliminary goals and objectives it wishes to see this process accomplish.

The hallway downstairs has been painted. Additional cosmetic work will be done following the installation of the geo-thermal system.

The Olympic Torch Flags will remain on the flagpoles at the VIC, Village Office and the Legion until after the closing ceremonies of the 2010 Olympics.

**6. By-laws**

11-2010 Mahon/Scott  
**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby read a first, second and third time and finally pass By-law 1-2010, being a by-law to authorize borrowing from time to time to meet current expenditures.**

Adopted

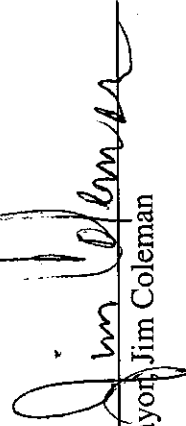
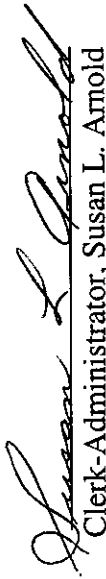
12-2010 Scott/Mahon  
**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Village of South River does hereby read a first, second and third time and finally pass By-law 2-2010, being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of Council at its meeting held on the 11th day of January, 2010 with the signatures of the Mayor and the Clerk Administrator and the corporate seal affixed.**

Adopted

**7. Adjournment**

13-2010 Dickerson/ Scott  
**BE IT RESOLVED THAT this Council of the Village of South River does hereby adjourn to meet again as the South River Council on Monday, January 25, 2010 at 5:30 p.m. in the South River Council Chambers located at 63 Marie Street or at the call of the Mayor. Time of Adjournment: 7:53 p.m.**

Adopted

  
Mayor, Jim Coleman  
  
Clerk-Administrator, Susan L. Arnold