

**JOINT COUNCIL MEETING
VILLAGE OF SOUTH RIVER – TOWNSHIP OF MACHAR
6:30PM Wednesday March 19, 2025**

In attendance for Machar: Mayor Lynda Carleton, Councillors Neil Scarlett, Pearl Ivens, and Blair Flowers, Clerk Administrator Angela Loney.

In attendance for South River: Mayor Jim Coleman, Councillors Bill O’Hallarn, Brenda Scott, and Teri Brandt in person. Councillor Robert Brooks attended via remote livestream. Clerk-Administrator Don McArthur and Chief Financial Officer Janet Wedseltoft were also in attendance.

Also in attendance for both communities were Fire Chief Risto Maki, Captain Bart Wood and Chief Arena Operator Justin Forget.

1. Call to Order as the Joint Council of the Township of Machar and Village of South River and Land Acknowledgement

The Village of South River acknowledges the Robinson-Huron and Williams Treaties on the land of the Anishinabek that we meet today. We seek to work respectfully with Indigenous people, and are thankful for their teachings and stewardship of the land.

2. Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof - nil.

3. South River Machar Community Centre 2024 Annual Report and 2025 Budget

The South River Machar Community Centre Annual report was presented by Chief Arena Operator Justin Forget. The style was noted as being thorough and there were few questions. General discussion about the ongoing arena upgrade project and the timeliness of the work was confirmed. General discussion about future upgrades such as round tables for the community centre and maintenance of the gravel parking lot. Also discussion about possible new user groups like a JR A hockey team. The consensus was the budget should be passed by each Council as presented.

4. South River Machar Fire 2024 Annual Report and 2025 Budget

The South River Machar Fire Joint Annual Report was presented by Fire Chief Risto Maki. A thorough discussion about the operations of the department was had. Unfortunately the graphs in the document did not appear in the final version. Concern was raised about the onus on the department for training and the effect that has on both costs and viability of recruiting. The consensus was the budget should be passed by each Council as presented.

5. Committee Meeting Schedule

It was agreed that the Fire Committee would meet in September and the Community Centre Committee in April or May as members are available. It was noted the goal is two Fire Committee and four Community Centre meetings per year but that additional meetings could also be called as needed.

ADJOURN

39-25 Scarlett, Ivens

THAT we give 1st, 2nd, 3rd and final reading to Confirming By-Law and that we adjourn until our Regular meeting scheduled for Mon, Mar 24, 2025. CARRIED

Mayor Lynda Carleton

Clerk Administrator Angela Loney