

**REGION OF QUEENS MUNICIPALITY
PUBLIC HEARING
DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT TO ALLOW FOR THE
ERECTION OF A NEW TELECOMMUNICATION TOWER ON
PROPERTY LOCATED ON HIGHWAY 210 IN GREENFIELD
MONDAY, JANUARY 8, 2018
7:00 P.M.**

MEMBERS OF COUNCIL: Mayor David Dagley, Chair
Councillor Heather Kelly
Deputy Mayor Susan MacLeod
Councillor Brian Fralic
Councillor Jack Fancy
Councillor Raymond Fiske
Councillor Gilbert Johnson

MEMBERS OF STAFF: Jennifer Keating-Hubley, Interim CAO
Christine Watson, Recording / Management Secretary
Mike MacLeod, Planner

REGRETS: Councillor Kevin Muise

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Dagley called the Public Hearing to order at 7:00 p.m.

REMARKS:

Mayor Dagley reviewed that the purpose of the Public Hearing is to provide any interested person with an opportunity to present an oral or written presentation to the Council of the Region of Queens with regards to its intention to enter into a development agreement to allow for the erection of a new telecommunication tower on property located on Highway 210 in Greenfield.

Mayor Dagley reviewed the procedures for the Hearing which was provided on the agenda.

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REPORTS AND PRESENTATION BY STAFF:

Mike MacLeod, Planner, stated an application was received for a development agreement to erect a new telecommunication tower on property identified as PID #70115662 and located on Highway 210 in Greenfield former J&H Lumber. The applicant, Eastlink, intends to erect a 30 meter tower to improve internet service to residents, businesses and public safety organizations in the surrounding area. The area is presently zoned as Mixed Use Rural Residential (R5) and telecommunication towers are not presently permitted; however, Council can consider this use through the Municipal Planning Strategy by way of a development agreement and would adhere to policy criteria.

WRITTEN AND ORAL PRESENTATIONS:

1. Cathy Smith, 4746 Highway 210 – Ms. Smith stated that she cannot get internet service at her address and enquired if this project could guarantee that she would have access.
2. Dan Stevens, 984 Salmon Bay Drive – Mr. Stevens enquired about the internet speed when the new tower is installed.
3. Debbie Webber, Narrows Bay Road – Ms. Webber enquired to the distance the internet would reach.
4. Paul Connolly, 3783 Medway River Road, Bangs Falls - Mr. Connolly stated this project will increase service for local businesses only and the area requires so much more.
5. Linda Freeman, 283 Laurie Wamboldt Road – Ms. Freeman stated that she would not be reaping any benefits from erecting the new tower, and would not be able to have internet. She asked for a show of hands to those who felt the development would not help them.
6. Joan Stevens, 84 Salmon Bay Drive – Ms. Stevens stated that it is difficult to start or run a small business in the area without having internet. She enquired about studies presently being done by Bernadette Jordan.

She asked for clarification about the liability issues rumoured to be on the previous location the tower was to be erected.

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7. Pat Jones - Mr. Jones enquired if there is any information on negative effects from the location of erecting the tower.

He asked for a show of hands from the group who felt the proposal would be a benefit to the community. A majority of the group raised their hand.

8. Ted Wamboldt, Forest Point Road - Mr. Wamboldt enquired of any impacts on other towers within the area.

9. Linda Wile, 104 Morse Point Road – Ms. Wile offered her opinion that everyone is entitled to receive internet. She stated she offered to supply a pole, but has been unsuccessful in having a hookup with Eastlink. She enquired why better internet was being offered to those who already have it, when others still had none.

10. Arina Winkleman, 44 Narrows Road, LaBelle – Ms. Winkleman enquired on the distance the internet would reach associated with project.

11. Alex Ross, 44 Narrows Road, LaBelle – Mr. Ross stated that in dealing with Eastlink, he has encountered several issues, some of which include the time waiting for repairs, inadequate service, and not being able to run his business on the internet he presently has. He suggested the use of Xplornet and offered his opinions. He enquired who will manage the land and tower once purchased and erected. He further enquired if there were any other options available.

12. Toby Keans, 145 Wellington Road – Ms. Keans enquired how the school will be helped with this project.

13. Darren Richards, 884 Narrows Road, LaBelle - Mr. Richards stated that he was presently a customer of Aliant and lives 5 kms outside of town and currently has no issues with his internet. He enquired if there were other internet options available to the area, other than what was proposed. (Told that Eastlink was only proponent to respond.)

14. Paul Langille, LaBelle - Mr. Langille enquired how long into the future before improvements to the internet service could be provided stating the cost of providing fiber internet has decreased.

15. Susan Perry, 4841 Highway 210 - Ms. Perry enquired about consulting reports the RQM is doing.

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Richard Lane, Economic Development Officer, provided background to the group on the proposed project. He stated the \$75,000 for the erection of the tower is in response to a grant application through the provincial government. Greenfield was selected to participate, to provide better internet to the downtown core. Eastlink intends to purchase the property to erect the tower and will be the sole owner. They were the only internet provider to respond for this project.

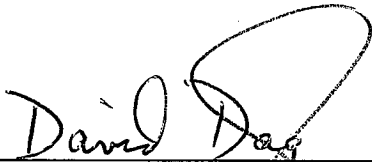
Mayor Dagley stated that there are efforts ongoing to explore ways to provide internet to all rural communities within the Region.

He further stated that he will follow-up with Eastlink on their plans to provide additional service to the area.

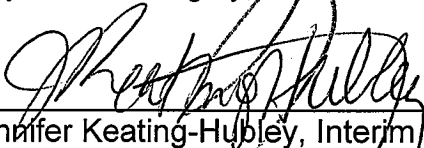
Mayor Dagley asked three times if there were any more members of the public who wished to speak on this matter; hearing none declared the meeting adjourned.

CLOSING OF PUBLIC MEETING:

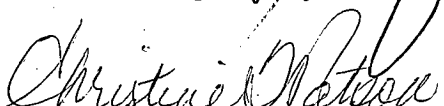
Mayor Dagley declared the Public Hearing closed at 8:15 p.m.



Mayor David Dagley, Chair



Jennifer Keating-Hubley, Interim CAO



Christine Watson, Recording / Management Secretary

Date approved:

January 23, 2018