

Telecommunications tower approved by Shelburne Council

Written By **Paula Brown**

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Shelburne Town Council has approved signing a letter of concurrence for a proposed telecommunications tower at 713 Industrial Road.

Shelburne Council during their meeting on Monday (June 28) received a report from town planner Steve Wever, with further options of varying heights and styles for the proposed telecommunication tower.

On May 10, council received a presentation from Land Squared, on behalf of Shared Tower Inc., with a proposed 50-metres lattice tri-pole style design, which council raised concerns about for both location and height of the structure.

As an independent tower, it will be available for co-location of cellular and wireless internet service providers. The tower's location looks to address the growing need for both cellular and wireless services in the eastern part of Town and the surrounding rural areas.

Wever, in his report on Monday, outlined five options for council to make including the previous 50-metre lattice tri pole, a 45-metre lattice tri-pole tower, a 40-metre tri-pole tower, a self-support tower with 40-metre height, and a monopole tower with a 40-metre height.

According to the report, option 3 (40- metre lattice tri-pole) and option 5 (40-metre monopole) had the least visual impact and also aligned with the type, height, and style located in urban areas.

Mayor Wade Mills said he found the 40-metre monopole to be the most appealing based on the visual aesthetic.

Wever noted inquiring about a flag being located at the top of the tower, as a way to disguise it but said the option was only available for the monopole style, and could not be placed on the top of the tower due to the lower height and placement of antennas.

Coun. Walter Benotto questioned the possibility of placing the flag below the antennas.

"Putting a flag below the antenna is certainly an option, it's near the top of the pole that it would not be an option because we would need the elevation in order to accommodate the antenna and the wireless internet equipment," said Dom Claros, transaction coordinator for Land Square.

With council's concern of visual impact, and the tower being located in an urban area of Shelburne, councillors supported the idea of having a flag to help disguise the tower.

"If we have to do anything in the location that it is currently in, in order to multi-use this and to get the community on board where it doesn't look like an eye sore, I think a flag attached would be our best bet," said Coun. Lindsay Wegener.

Council unanimously supported the monopole tower with a 40-metre height