

Zoning Administrator's Report

A. November & December Permits: The following permits were issued over the last month by the Zoning Department:

1. Lakes Area Habitat for Humanity, Paul Circle, lot line adjustment;
2. Adam Bitzer, County Road 16, for a pole building;
3. Virgil Dahl, 3952 County Road 17, a permit extension;
4. Jon Norlin, 3558 Rickard Road, for an accessory structure.

B. Correspondence: Your Staff sent the following correspondence since the last meeting:

1. November 9 letter to Steven and Barbara Best regarding maintenance issues;
2. November 9 letter to William and Catherine King regarding grading and vegetation removal;
3. December 3 letter to Anton Dabbs regarding his After-the-Fact Permit;
4. December 3 letter to Virgil Dahl regarding his permit extension;
5. December 4 letter to Daniel and Lauri Helbling regarding rezone request;
6. December 5 letter to A. Scott and Susan Pederson regarding exterior storage;
7. December 5 letter to John and Barbara Derksen regarding exterior storage;
8. December 6 letter to William and Catherine King regarding grading and vegetation removal;
9. December 6 letter to Lee and Joanne Moren regarding clean-up efforts;
10. December 8 letter from Steven and Barb Best regarding repair plans;
11. December 7 letter to Robert Rickard regarding expansion of the Offsite Sign Overlay District;
12. December 10 letter to Wesley Johnson regarding maintenance issue;
13. December 10 letter to Timothy and Kristi Crist regarding exterior storage;
14. December 10 letter from Scott Pederson regarding exterior storage;
15. December 14 letter from John Derksen regarding exterior storage;
16. December 18 letter to Castoffs Secondhand regarding signs in right-of-way.

C. Council Meeting Notes:

The January Council meeting was moved to January 8 due to the New Years holiday. The Minutes were not available when this report was drafted.

D. Potential Violations/Enforcement Actions: The City Staff is currently working on the following potential violations/enforcement actions. We will report on each of these each month until they are resolved to the satisfaction of the Planning Commission.

- John and Barbara Derksen – Exterior storage. Mr. Derksen has brought this property into compliance except for the snowmobiles. Staff has requested he reduce his Recreational Vehicles to 3. (5/13)
- Diane Koval – Exterior storage. Staff issued an Administrative Citation. (4/16)
- Robert Swenson – The City Council declared this property a public nuisance in 2017. Staff has issued 2 Administrative Citations. (6/16)
- Timothy & Kristi Crist – Exterior Storage and Lawn. On May 31, 2018 Mr. Christ invited Staff onto his property on Pine Street and explained his plans to remove the exterior storage. Staff will continue to monitor and meet with Mr. Crist. (4/17)
- David & Christine Kennedy – Maintenance. Staff has issued 2 Administrative Citations. (5/17)
- Gary Galle – Stormwater and Incomplete Construction. Mr. Galle's permit was extended 6 months. Landscaping has been stabilized with straw blanket. Part of the north side and the west side siding needs to be completed. (6/18)
- Lee Moren – Maintenance, Exterior Storage & Lawn. Property owner is making progress and requested additional time to comply. (8/18)
- Scott Pederson – Exterior Storage. Property owner has removed some items and claims to be compliant. Storage is not visible from public right-of-way. (6/18)
- Nathan Walberg – Violate CUP Conditions. Vehicles parked in areas not approved. (9/18)
- Wesley T. Johnson – Maintenance. Piles of storm debris remain from last summer and need to be removed or burned. (9/18)



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November 9, 2018

Steven and Barbara Best
1305 Sun Valley Drive
Brainerd, MN 56401

**RE: PIN: 29106003001A009
4185 West Sibley Street**

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Best:

It was recently brought to my attention that you purchased the above-captioned property. As a courtesy, I am enclosing the City's most recent correspondence with the previous property owners, Jan Lee and Brian and Kirsten Larsen. There have been ongoing property maintenance issues with this parcel for several years.

Please provide the City your written plan for this parcel by December 9, 2018. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 218-568-6699 or at dbittner@pequotlakes-mn.gov.

Sincerely,

Dawn Bittner
Zoning Specialist

Enc.

C: Planning Commission



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November 9, 2018

William P. and Catherine M. King
1373 E. Pointe Drive
East Gull Lake, MN 56401

**RE: City of Pequot Lakes
Potential City Code Violation
PIN: 29117000005A009**

Dear Mr. and Mrs. King:

It has come to my attention through a complaint that there has been extensive unpermitted grading and vegetation removal that needs to be addressed at the above-captioned property.

Per City Code, the following issues must be addressed within the next fifteen (15) days (by November 26, 2018):

- Immediately cease and desist all further grading and vegetation removal activities;
- Stabilize all disturbed areas with mulch, bio-logs, and/or silt fence;
- Submit an after-the-fact dirt moving permit application detailing the amount and location of material that has been moved;
- Submit a plan to revegetate the Shore Impact Zone in accordance with Section 17-7.9 below.

The City Code states in Section 17-7.9 VEGETATION REMOVAL:
Section 17-7.9 VEGETATION REMOVAL

1. Removal or alteration of vegetation, except for agricultural and forest management uses as regulated in Articles 5 and 6, is allowed subject to the following standards:

- A. No vegetation shall be removed along the shoreline, within shore impact zones, on steep slopes, and within bluff impact zones, except in conjunction with an approved site preparation or land alteration permit to accommodate the placement of stairways, landings, access paths, or authorized shoreland alterations.
- B. Except within bluff impact zones and steep slopes, between the shore impact zone and the building setback line, the removal of twenty-five percent (25%) of trees and one hundred percent (100%) of shrubs is allowed. Pruning and limbing of trees is allowed to provide a view to the water from the principal dwelling site and to accommodate the placement of stairways, landings, or access paths.
- C. All vegetative alterations are subject to the following conditions:
 - (1) The cutting is not done in any contiguous strip or row over twelve (12) feet wide from the OHW to the structure setback;
 - (2) The screening of structures, vehicles, or other facilities as viewed from the water, assuming summer, leaf-on conditions, is not substantially reduced;
 - (3) Along rivers, existing shading of water surfaces is preserved,
 - (4) All cutting is done by hand, without the use of heavy machinery, and topsoil is not disturbed; and
 - (5) Erosion and stormwater control plans must be approved by the Crow Wing Soil & Water Conservation District. A silt fence or other sediment control measures meeting SWCD standards must be properly installed between the project area and the lake or river before any construction begins and must remain in place until all permanent erosion control measures are in place.
- D. Diseased or dead trees that pose a hazard shall be removed immediately and disposed of and replaced with native tree species.
- E. Intensive vegetative clearing is allowed behind the structure setback.

The City Code states in Section 17-7.13 GRADING:
Section 17-7.13 GRADING

1. General. The following activities must be authorized by permit, except for

excavation for permitted structure, drives, sewer systems and parking areas:

- A. Grading and filling in the shore or bluff impact zone,
- B. Grading and filling of wetlands,
- C. Grading in the bed of public waters,
- D. Any alterations of the natural topography when the slope of the land is toward a public water or watercourse involving the movement of more than 10 cubic yards of material in a bluff or shore impact zone or more than 50 cubic yards of material anywhere else within a shoreland area.
- E. Any alteration outside of the shoreland area where the amount of grading exceeds 500 cubic yards.

2. Conditions. The following conditions shall apply:

- A. The smallest amount of bare ground is exposed for as short a time as feasible.
- B. Four inches of topsoil is placed, temporary ground cover such as mulch is used and permanent ground cover such as sod is planted.
- C. Methods to prevent erosion and trap sediment are employed.
- D. Fill is stabilized to acceptable engineering standards and must not create an unstable slope.
- E. Plans to place fill or excavated material on steep slopes must be reviewed by a qualified professional for continued slope stability and must not create finished slopes of 30% or greater.
- F. Fill or excavated material must not be placed in bluff impact zones.
- G. Fill placed in a public water below the ordinary high water line requires a DNR Waters Permit and a Corps of Engineers Permit.
- H. Excavation in the bed of public waters requires a DNR Waters Permit and a Corps of Engineers Permit.
- I. Only clean fill consisting of sand, gravel or rock will be allowed where contact with water is anticipated. Mineral soil may be allowed elsewhere.
- J. Alterations to topography must only be allowed if they are accessory

to permitted or conditional uses and do not adversely affect adjacent or nearby properties.

As opposed to initiating formal enforcement action against you for a violation of the City Code, we would like the opportunity to work with you to correct the situation. **We are requesting that by no later than November 26, 2018, 2018 you perform all of the actions listed above.**

Failure to comply with the City Code by November 26, 2018, will prompt us to initiate enforcement action up to and including criminal prosecution or other civil legal action to remedy the above-described violations. Alternatively, the City may initiate administrative action to achieve voluntary compliance with the above-referenced City Code provisions without resorting to prosecution or other legal action, which administrative action would include citation(s) and administrative penalties in the amount of \$100.00 per day for each day the violation continues.

We would appreciate your assistance at remedying the above issued by the specified deadlines. If you have any questions, please contact me at 218-568-6699 or at dbittner@pequotlakes-mn.gov.

Sincerely,

Dawn Bittner
Zoning Specialist

Enclosure: Photographs
Land Use Permit Application

C: Planning Commission



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December 3, 2018

Anton Dabbs
28083 Norway Ridge
Pequot Lakes, MN 56472

Dear Mr. Dabbs:

At their November 15, 2018 regular meeting, the Pequot Lakes Planning Commission established the After-the-Fact permit fee for your accessory structure at \$300. I have prepared the After-the-Fact Land Use Permit and you may pick up same at City Hall and pay the \$300 fee.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions at 218-568-6699 or at dbittner@pequotlakes-mn.gov.

Sincerely,

Dawn Bittner
Zoning Specialist

C: Planning Commission



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December 3, 2018

Virgil Dahl
3952 County Road 17
Pequot Lakes, MN 56472

Dear Mr. Dahl:

At their November 15, 2018 regular Planning Commission meeting, the Planning Commission approved extending Land Use Permit 17-70 to September 30, 2019. I have enclosed a new Land Use Permit #18-94 indicating the new extension date. The Planning Commission also advised you that should you need another extension you will need to apply for a new permit.

As you requested, I am enclosing a copy of the draft Minutes of your portion of the November 15, 2018 Planning Commission meeting.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 218-568-6699.

Sincerely,

Dawn Bittner
Zoning Specialist



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December 4, 2018

Daniel and Lauri Helbling
& Helbling Land, LLP
PO Box 488
Pequot Lakes, MN 56472

RE: Rezone to Rural Residential Classification
PIN: 290252100AZA009

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Helbling:

Please be advised that on October 2, 2018, the City Council approved your request to rezone the above-captioned parcel to Rural Residential, based on the following findings of fact:

1. The applicant is proposing to rezone 27.02 acres from "Recreational" to "Rural Residential."
2. The subject property contains approximately 2 acres of wetlands. This natural sensitive area will be protected by the Wetland Conservation Act standards and structure setbacks included in the zoning ordinance.
3. The subject property is privately owned. The property owner has not indicated any plans for future development.
4. The subject property is not within the Shoreland Area and no Shoreland soil types have been identified.
5. The subject property contains some lowland area. It also contains a significant amount of buildable land.
6. The vegetative cover of the subject property consists of trees and grasses.
7. The subject property is not adjacent to a public water body. "In-water physical characteristics" and recreational use of surface water do not apply.
8. The subject property has approximately 900 feet of frontage adjacent to Little Walnut Lane.
9. The proposed rezoning does not increase the socio-economic development needs of the public.

10. The public sewer and water utilities are not available in the vicinity of the subject property. There are no plans to extend the public utilities to the area of the subject property.
11. The subject property does not contain any known significant historical or ecological value.
12. The subject property is adjacent to property zoned "Rural Residential" and "Recreational". The proposed reclassification is not considered "spot zoning."
13. The proposed rezoning is in conformance with the City of Pequot Lakes Comprehensive Plan.
14. The future land use map identifies the subject property as "Rural Residential." Rezoning the subject property to "Rural Residential" is compatible with that classification.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Dawn Bittner
Zoning Specialist

CC: Planning Commission



December 5, 2018

Via US Mail

A. Scott and Susan Pederson
3823 County Road 17
Pequot Lakes, MN 56472

**RE: City of Pequot Lakes
Potential City Code Violation
PIN: 291440010160009 and 291440010150009**

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Pederson:

It has come to my attention through a complaint that there are Exterior Storage and Property Maintenance issues that need to be addressed at the above-captioned property.

Per City Code, the following Exterior Storage and Property Maintenance issues must be addressed within the next thirty (30) days (by January 5, 2019):

- Remove and dispose of the broken and useless items;
- Provide photographs indicating that the "deck" on the water oriented accessory structure has been reduced by 50% and the steps have been completed. This work was to be completed as directed by the City Planner during the 2018 construction season.

The City Code states in Section 17-7.5 EXTERIOR STORAGE:
Section 17-7.5 EXTERIOR STORAGE

1. Declaration of Nuisance. Excess outdoor storage of materials, equipment and other objects is declared to be a public nuisance because it is unsightly, decreases adjoining landowners' and occupants' enjoyment of their property and neighborhood, adversely affects property values and neighborhood patterns and poses a threat to the public health and safety when such objects are visible and accessible to passersby.
2. Standards. Objects stored outside that are visible from public rights of way or neighboring properties are a public nuisance if they are not stored in

compliance with the following requirements.

- B. Where there is a principle or accessory structure, all materials, equipment and other objects shall be stored within a building or fully screened so as not to be visible from adjoining properties, except for the following: laundry drying, recreational equipment, construction landscaping materials and equipment currently being used for construction of the premises, woodpiles, agricultural equipment and materials if these are used or intended for use on the premises, off-street parking except as otherwise regulated herein.

The City Code states in Section 17-7.6 VISUAL STANDARDS:
Section 17-7.6 VISUAL STANDARDS – SCREENING

1. **General.** No use shall create, maintain or continue any activity or structure which has a strong negative visual impact or offends the morals or violates the standards of the City.

The City Code states in Section 17-7.7 SOLID WASTE:

1. All solid waste shall be disposed of in accordance with the standards of Crow Wing County.

As opposed to initiating formal enforcement action against you for a violation of the City Code, we would like the opportunity to work with you to correct the situation. **We are requesting that by no later than January 5, 2019 you perform all of the actions listed above.**

Failure to comply with the City Code by January 5, 2019, will prompt us to initiate enforcement action up to and including criminal prosecution or other civil legal action to remedy the above-described violations. Alternatively, the City may initiate administrative action to achieve voluntary compliance with the above-referenced City Code provisions without resorting to prosecution or other legal action, which administrative action would include citation(s) and administrative penalties in the amount of \$100.00 per day for each day the violation continues.

Having exterior storage and solid waste is not only a blight to the rest of the community, it is a health and safety issue that we take very seriously. Please understand our seriousness and commitment to uphold the City Code. We hope you will take this opportunity to work with us and resolve this matter without further enforcement action becoming necessary.

We would appreciate your assistance at remedying the above issued by the specified deadlines. If you have any questions, please contact me at 218-568-6699 or at dbittner@pequotlakes-mn.gov.

Sincerely,

Dawn Bittner
Zoning Specialist

C: Planning Commission



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December 5, 2018

John R. and Barbara J. Derksen
31116 Ash Street
Pequot Lakes, MN 56472

**RE: City of Pequot Lakes
Potential City Code Violation
PIN: 291050040230009 and 291050040240009
31116 Ash Street**

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Derksen:

I contacted you September 5, 2018 regarding the Exterior Storage issues that needed to be addressed at the above-captioned property. I visited your property today and took the enclosed photographs which indicate no attempt has been made to address these issues.

Per City Code, the following Exterior Storage issues must be addressed within the next fifteen (15) days (by December 20, 2018):

- Remove the snowmobile parked along West Sibley Street and place it in the rear yard with the other two snowmobiles;
- Remove the snowmobiles parked along Ash Street and place in the rear yard with the other snowmobiles;
- Reduce the total number of Recreational Vehicles (travel trailer and/or snowmobiles) to 3.

The City Code states in Section 17-3.2 DEFINITIONS:

Section 17-3.2. DEFINITIONS

192. **Recreational Equipment.** Play apparatus such as swing sets and slides, sandboxes, poles for nets, boats and trailers not exceeding twenty (20) feet in length, picnic tables, lawn chairs, barbeque stands/grills, and similar equipment or structures but excluding tree houses, swimming

pools, play houses exceeding twenty-five (25) square feet of floor area, or sheds utilized for storage equipment.

193. **Recreational Vehicle.** A motorized vehicle designed and used for recreational purposes and enjoyment and non-motorized vehicles or equipment designed to attach thereto and be drawn or propelled thereby, including, but not limited to, snowmobiles, all-terrain vehicles, boats exceeding twenty (20) feet in length, boat trailers, travel trailers, truck campers, camping trailers, and self-propelled motor homes, and other recreational motor vehicles as defined by Minnesota Statutes, Section 84.90.

The City Code states in Section 17-7.5 EXTERIOR STORAGE:
Section 17-7.5 EXTERIOR STORAGE

1. Declaration of Nuisance. Excess outdoor storage of materials, equipment and other objects is declared to be a public nuisance because it is unsightly, decreases adjoining landowners' and occupants' enjoyment of their property and neighborhood, adversely affects property values and neighborhood patterns and poses a threat to the public health and safety when such objects are visible and accessible to passersby.
2. Standards. Objects stored outside that are visible from public rights of way or neighboring properties are a public nuisance if they are not stored in compliance with the following requirements.
 - B. Where there is a principle or accessory structure, all materials, equipment and other objects shall be stored within a building or fully screened so as not to be visible from adjoining properties, except for the following: laundry drying, recreational equipment, construction landscaping materials and equipment currently being used for construction of the premises, woodpiles, agricultural equipment and materials if these are used or intended for use on the premises, off-street parking except as otherwise regulated herein.

The City Code states in Section 17-7.6 VISUAL STANDARDS:
Section 17-7.6 VISUAL STANDARDS – SCREENING

1. General. No use shall create, maintain or continue any activity or structure which has a strong negative visual impact or offends the morals or violates the standards of the City.

As opposed to initiating formal enforcement action against you for a violation of the City Code, we would like the opportunity to work with you to correct the situation. **We are requesting that by no later than December 20, 2018 you perform the actions listed above.**

Failure to comply with the City Code by December 20, 2018, will prompt us to initiate enforcement action up to and including criminal prosecution or other civil legal action to remedy the above-described violations. Alternatively, the City may initiate administrative action to achieve voluntary compliance with the above-referenced City Code provisions without resorting to prosecution or other legal action, which administrative action would include citation(s) and administrative penalties in the amount of \$100.00 per day for each day the violation continues. You will also be responsible to reimburse the City for any expenses incurred in remedying this violation. This would include any consultant fees or other professional services that City Staff determines is necessary, including but not limited to the City Planner, the City Engineer or the City Attorney, as well as any abatement costs. Any expenses or costs will be assessed against your property.

Please understand our seriousness and commitment to uphold the City Code. We hope you will take this opportunity to work with us and resolve this matter without further enforcement action becoming necessary.

We would appreciate your assistance at remedying the above issues by the specified deadline. If you have any questions, please contact me at 218-568-6699 or at dbittner@pequotlakes-mn.gov.

Sincerely,

Dawn Bittner
Zoning Specialist

Enclosures: Photographs

C: Planning Commission



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December 6, 2018

William P. and Catherine M. King
1373 E. Pointe Drive
East Gull Lake, MN 56401

**RE: City of Pequot Lakes
Potential City Code Violation
PIN: 29117000005A009**

Dear Mr. and Mrs. King:

Thank you for promptly providing me with photographs of the stabilization efforts of the disturbed areas at the above-captioned parcel. I would like to remind you that you still need to provide the following within the next fifteen (15) days (by December 31, 2018):

- Submit an after-the-fact dirt moving permit application detailing the amount and location of material that has been moved. I am enclosing the Land Use Permit Application for your convenience;
- Submit a plan to revegetate the Shore Impact Zone in accordance with Section 17-7.9 below.

The City Code states in Section 17-7.9 VEGETATION REMOVAL:

Section 17-7.9 VEGETATION REMOVAL

1. Removal or alteration of vegetation, except for agricultural and forest management uses as regulated in Articles 5 and 6, is allowed subject to the following standards:
 - A. No vegetation shall be removed along the shoreline, within shore impact zones, on steep slopes, and within bluff impact zones, except in conjunction with an approved site preparation or land alteration permit to accommodate the placement of stairways, landings, access paths, or authorized shoreland alterations.

- B. Except within bluff impact zones and steep slopes, between the shore impact zone and the building setback line, the removal of twenty-five percent (25%) of trees and one hundred percent (100%) of shrubs is allowed. Pruning and limbing of trees is allowed to provide a view to the water from the principal dwelling site and to accommodate the placement of stairways, landings, or access paths.
- C. All vegetative alterations are subject to the following conditions:
 - (1) The cutting is not done in any contiguous strip or row over twelve (12) feet wide from the OHW to the structure setback;
 - (2) The screening of structures, vehicles, or other facilities as viewed from the water, assuming summer, leaf-on conditions, is not substantially reduced;
 - (3) Along rivers, existing shading of water surfaces is preserved,
 - (4) All cutting is done by hand, without the use of heavy machinery, and topsoil is not disturbed; and
 - (5) Erosion and stormwater control plans must be approved by the Crow Wing Soil & Water Conservation District. A silt fence or other sediment control measures meeting SWCD standards must be properly installed between the project area and the lake or river before any construction begins and must remain in place until all permanent erosion control measures are in place.
- D. Diseased or dead trees that pose a hazard shall be removed immediately and disposed of and replaced with native tree species.
- E. Intensive vegetative clearing is allowed behind the structure setback.

The City Code states in Section 17-7.13 GRADING:
Section 17-7.13 GRADING

- 1. General. The following activities must be authorized by permit, except for excavation for permitted structure, drives, sewer systems and parking areas:
 - A. Grading and filling in the shore or bluff impact zone,
 - B. Grading and filling of wetlands,

- C. Grading in the bed of public waters,
 - D. Any alterations of the natural topography when the slope of the land is toward a public water or watercourse involving the movement of more than 10 cubic yards of material in a bluff or shore impact zone or more than 50 cubic yards of material anywhere else within a shoreland area.
 - E. Any alteration outside of the shoreland area where the amount of grading exceeds 500 cubic yards.
2. Conditions. The following conditions shall apply:
- A. The smallest amount of bare ground is exposed for as short a time as feasible.
 - B. Four inches of topsoil is placed, temporary ground cover such as mulch is used and permanent ground cover such as sod is planted.
 - C. Methods to prevent erosion and trap sediment are employed.
 - D. Fill is stabilized to acceptable engineering standards and must not create an unstable slope.
 - E. Plans to place fill or excavated material on steep slopes must be reviewed by a qualified professional for continued slope stability and must not create finished slopes of 30% or greater.
 - F. Fill or excavated material must not be placed in bluff impact zones.
 - G. Fill placed in a public water below the ordinary high water line requires a DNR Waters Permit and a Corps of Engineers Permit.
 - H. Excavation in the bed of public waters requires a DNR Waters Permit and a Corps of Engineers Permit.
 - I. Only clean fill consisting of sand, gravel or rock will be allowed where contact with water is anticipated. Mineral soil may be allowed elsewhere.
 - J. Alterations to topography must only be allowed if they are accessory to permitted or conditional uses and do not adversely affect adjacent or nearby properties.

As opposed to initiating formal enforcement action against you for a violation of the City Code, we would like the opportunity to work with you to correct the situation. **We are**

requesting that by no later than December 31, 2018, 2018 you perform all of the actions listed above.

Failure to comply with the City Code by December 31, 2018, will prompt us to initiate enforcement action up to and including criminal prosecution or other civil legal action to remedy the above-described violations. Alternatively, the City may initiate administrative action to achieve voluntary compliance with the above-referenced City Code provisions without resorting to prosecution or other legal action, which administrative action would include citation(s) and administrative penalties in the amount of \$100.00 per day for each day the violation continues.

We would appreciate your assistance at remedying the above issued by the specified deadlines. If you have any questions, please contact me at 218-568-6699 or at dbittner@pequotlakes-mn.gov.

Sincerely,

Dawn Bittner
Zoning Specialist

Enclosure: Land Use Permit Application

C: Planning Commission



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December 6, 2018

Lee and Joanne Moren
4418 Robin Lane NW
Hackensack, MN 56452

**RE: City of Pequot Lakes
Potential City Code Violation
PIN: 291070030210009 and 291070030220009
3793 West Lake Street**

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Moren:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your clean-up efforts at the above-captioned property. Yesterday I documented that the exterior painting appears to be complete. In the spring we can address any further action items that may need to take place regarding the yard and exterior storage.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns at 218-568-6699 or at dbittner@pequotlakes-mn.gov.

Sincerely,

Dawn Bittner
Zoning Specialist

C: Planning Commission

December 8, 2018



Dawn Bittner
City of Pequot Lakes
4638 Main Street
Pequot Lakes, MN 56472

RE: PIN 29106003001A009
4185 West Sibley Street

Dear Ms. Bittner:

This letter is to provide you with our plans for the above-captioned property.
We intend to remodel all buildings on the property and make ^{The house} ~~them~~ into liveable dwellings. The yard will also be cleaned up and all excess brush and garbage removed. *SLP*

As you can see, we have already gotten a good start on the house. As of right now, the house has all new windows and work on the interior is coming along very nicely.

It is our intent to have the house on the market for sale by April 2019.

You are welcome to stop by the property if you wish. We are very excited at our progress with the house and would be happy to show you.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact Steven at 320-250-6160 or stop by the property as he is there most days working on the house.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Steven & Barb Best
Steven and Barb Best



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December 7, 2018

Robert Rickard
Stellar Properties LLC
PO Box 7
Pequot Lakes, MN 56472

Dear Mr. Rickard:

At their December 4, 2018 Council Meeting, the Pequot Lakes City Council adopted Ordinance 18-14 expanding the Offsite Sign Overlay District to include your parcel along State Highway 371.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 218-568-6699 or at dbittner@pequotlakes-mn.gov.

Sincerely,

Dawn Bittner
Zoning Specialist



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December 10, 2018

Westley T. Johnson
3894 Ramsey Street
Pequot Lakes, MN 56472

**RE: City of Pequot Lakes
Potential City Code Violation
PIN: 291070030410009 and 291070030420009
3894 Ramsey Street**

Dear Mr. Johnson:

This letter is to remind you that the piles of branches need to be disposed of or burned within the next fifteen (15) days (by December 26, 2018). As my previous correspondence has outlined, failure to do so will prompt us to initiate enforcement action.

Sincerely,

Dawn Bittner
Zoning Specialist

C: Planning Commission



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December 10, 2018

Timothy & Kristi Crist
30660 Rae Avenue
Pequot Lakes, MN 56472

**RE: City of Pequot Lakes
Potential City Code Violation
PIN: 291050040030009 – 291050010040009 - 291050010070009
31215 Pine Street**

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Crist:

The last update I have regarding the cleanup at the above-captioned property was October 30, 2018. Please provide an update regarding the exterior storage and hazardous waste disposal to me no later than December 31, 2018.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 218-568-6699 or at dbittner@pequotlakes-mn.gov. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Dawn Bittner
Zoning Specialist

C: Planning Commission



Dawn Bittner:

Concerning Exterior Storage issues:

Attached you will find photos of the area where we discussed the removal of old tables etc. This past fall I removed the tables and debris from this area. I also planted 2 large bushes and 2 small ones and cultivated about 20 small (1 to 2 ft tall) pine trees to encourage their continued growth.

Stored outside is water recreation equipment: one pontoon boat, one 14' row boat, one raft, and canoe. Obviously for open water recreation.

Also stored outside the garage is a tractor and implements for use on my property. Including a box blade, landscape rake, disk, and forks.

There are also 2 snowmobiles and pull behind sleighs for winter use that will sit outside in the winter. And there's a wood pile or two that gets added to and taken from.

This fall construction began on the porch addition I received a permit for. There will be construction materials visible as the project continues.

I would make a complaint that the recent complaint that was brought to your attention is unwarranted as the items we talked about on your visit last fall had been taken care of last fall. Did you visit the property after this last complaint to determine if it was accurate?

My lot is not visible from a public road. The exterior storage listed above is not on the lake side of the buildings and cannot be seen from the lake.

Unless I hear from you otherwise, I consider this issue a non-issue with the city as I feel I am compliant to the commercial property standards of the city code.

Scott Pederson



14 December 2018

City of Pequot Lakes
4638 Main Street
Pequot Lakes, MN 56472

**RE: FORMAL DISPUTATION of
Potential City Code Violation
PIN #291050040230009/291050040240009
Dated 5 December 2018**

Dear City of Pequot Lakes:

I am hereby **DISPUTING** any and all of your letter of 5 December 2018 on any and all grounds.

- I. A few short months ago, when we were forced to hire attorneys to ward off your attacks, you were instructed to refrain from communicating with me and instead direct your communications with my attorney, Mr. Porter. Mr. Porter and Attorney Mr. Scott have had many conversations and communications on this matter. Now, you decide to circumvent the legal process with unwanted direct communication?
- II. You stated that "no attempt has been made to address these issues." Yet **ANYONE** can see in looking at both sets of photographs that the snowmobiles beside the garage have been removed. The boat that was an issue has been removed. In fact, your photos from 5 December 2018 show your focus has shifted to the front yard where ANYONE doing a thorough investigation will NOT find "snowmobiles parked along Ash Street," but in fact will find a Holiday Light Display that has been assembled every year for many, many years. And, as always, it will be disassembled and put back to storage a couple of weeks after the First of the year, weather permitting.
- III. The "snowmobile on West Sibley Street" as described in the 5 December 2018 letter, which has been discussed many times before, has been totally dismantled, will **NEVER** run again, and is currently a piece of ART being turned into a FLOWER PLANTER. It has been a planter for well over two years.
- IV. If this city is serious about enforcing this travesty (reduce the total number of Recreational Vehicles... to 3) they had better hire more enforcement people because this would cover 40% to 50% (if not more) of Pequot's population. The city needs to be extremely careful when writing ordinances that appear to be aimed at one person, when they have no intention of enforcing it on the entire population.

I know it bothers you to no end, but I am a collector of VINTAGE and ANTIQUE SNOWMOBILES, a small but REAL piece of Pequot's History and Culture.

The contents of the front yard will remain and be broken down, as previously stated, after the New Year. The ART DISPLAY/FLOWER PLANTER will remain indefinitely.

I will repeat what my attorney Mr. Porter said in his 29 January 2018 e-mail to Attorney Mr. Scott, "Let me know if there are any questions or concerns. Otherwise, I trust that this will satisfy the City's inexplicably unappeasable fixation on Mr. Derksen's yard."

Sincerely,



John R. Derksen

Cc: Councilman Jerry Akerson, Council Person/Elect Cheri Seils, Mayor/Elect James Tayloe



December 18, 2018

Castoffs Secondhand
Dana and Kimberly Firkus
4242 Jokela Drive
Pequot Lakes, MN 56472

**RE: City of Pequot Lakes
Potential City Code Violation
PIN: 29101001001Z009**

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Firkus:

It has come to my attention through a complaint that you have placed advertising signs within the right-of-way of Patriot Avenue.

Per City Code, the following must be addressed within the next thirty (30) days (by January 18, 2019):

- All Castoffs Secondhand signs shall be permanently removed from the public right-of-way of any City of Pequot Lakes street.

The City Code states in Section 17-7.1 SIGNS:

Section 17-7.1 SIGNS

1. **Purpose.** The purpose of these standards is to protect the general welfare and safety of the City by providing a policy of aesthetic development to prevent signs from intruding on the rural and residential character of the City; to provide adequate signs for direction and property identification purposes; and to provide adequate and effective signs for commercial use.

- A. That the regulation of offsite signs within the city is required in the interests of the economic prosperity, civic pride, quality of life and general welfare of the people;

- B. That it is desirable to preserve and perpetuate uncluttered and natural views for the enjoyment and environmental enrichment of the citizens of the community and visitors hereto;
 - C. That the regulation of offsite signs will foster civic pride in the beauty of the city, will enhance the aesthetic values of the city and its economic vitality, will protect property values, will protect and enhance the city's attraction to tourists and visitors;
 - D. That the regulation of offsite signs will strengthen and preserve the municipality's unique environmental heritage and enhance the quality of life of its citizens; and
 - E. That the regulation of offsite signs within the city is necessary for the promotion of safety upon the streets and highways in the City.
4. General.
- F. No signs, except for official traffic signs, shall be placed on or overhang public property, except where specific permission is granted by the Planning Commission.
6. Offsite Signs – General.
- A. Off-site signs are prohibited, except as allowed pursuant to Subsection 6.B.

The City Code states in Section 17-7.6 VISUAL STANDARDS:
 Section 17-7.6 VISUAL STANDARDS – SCREENING

- 1. General. No use shall create, maintain or continue any activity or structure which has a strong negative visual impact or offends the morals or violates the standards of the City.

As opposed to initiating formal enforcement action against you for a violation of the City Code, we would like the opportunity to work with you to correct the situation. **We are requesting that by no later than January 18, 2019 you perform all of the actions listed above.**

Failure to comply with the City Code by January 18, 2019, will prompt us to initiate enforcement action up to and including criminal prosecution or other civil legal action to remedy the above-described violations. Alternatively, the City may initiate administrative action to achieve voluntary compliance with the above-referenced City Code provisions without resorting to prosecution or other legal action, which administrative action would include citation(s) and administrative penalties in the amount of \$100.00 per day for each day the violation continues.

Having advertising signs as depicted in these pictures is not only a blight to the rest of the community, it is a health and safety issue that we take very seriously. Please understand our seriousness and commitment to uphold the City Code. We hope you will take this opportunity to work with us and resolve this matter without further enforcement action becoming necessary.

We would appreciate your assistance at remedying the above issued by the specified deadlines. If you have any questions, please contact me at 218-568-6699 or at dbittner@pequotlakes-mn.gov.

Sincerely,

Dawn Bittner
Zoning Specialist

Enclosure: Photographs

C: Planning Commission