

# Zoning Administrator's Report

**A. September Permits:** The following permits were issued over the last month by the Zoning Department:

1. Georgia Maguire, 5989 Jack Pine Road, for Shoreline Alteration;
2. Kimberly Bolz-Andolshek, 27546 West Twin Lake Drive, for Shoreline Alteration;
3. Bill King, 27517 County Road 107, for ATF Shoreline Alteration;
4. Robert Willette, 30285 Water Tower Drive, for an addition;
5. Brian and Kristin Larsen, 30651 Pequot Blvd., for Shoreline Alteration;
6. Alan J. Brown, 27713 Janco Lane, for an accessory structure and grading;
7. Brenny Funeral Chapel, 31283 Front Street, to reface existing signs.

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

1. September 10 letter to Lee and Joanne Moren regarding Exterior Storage and Property Maintenance issues;
2. September 11 letter to Christopher and Sarah Savino regarding Exterior Storage issues.

**C. 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.

- Robert Swenson – The City Council declared this property a public nuisance in 2017. Staff has issued 5 Administrative Citations. (6/16)
- David & Christine Kennedy – Maintenance. Staff has issued 4 Administrative Citations. (5/17)
- Lee Moren – Maintenance, Exterior Storage & Lawn. Letter One sent 9/10/20. Second violation for same offence. (8/18 & 9/20)
- Wesley T. Johnson – Maintenance. Received new complaint. (8/20)
- Timothy & Kristi Crist – Exterior Storage and Abandoned Vehicles. (4/20)
- Lloyd & Darleen McAninch – Exterior Storage. (4/20)
- Lance Schmidt – Exterior Storage and Property Maintenance. (4/20)
- Lonesome Real Estate LLC – Offsite Sign. (5/20)

- William Moen – Lawn. (6/20)
- Douglas & Arleen Steele – Property Maintenance. (6/20)
- Bill King – After-the-Fact Land Use Permit. (8/20)
- John & Sara Olson – Property Maintenance. (8/20)
- Christopher & Sarah Savino – Property Maintenance. (9/20)



September 10, 2020

Lee and Joanne Moren  
200 Buffalo Hills Lane, Apt. 34  
Brainerd, MN 56401

**RE: City of Pequot Lakes  
Potential City Code Violation  
PIN: 291070060210009 & 291070060220009  
3793 West Lake Street**

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Moren:

It has come to my attention through complaints 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 October 10, 2020):

- Remove the miscellaneous items stored on the deck and leaning against trees;
- Remove the items piled behind the vehicle;
- Remove the items piled between the vehicle and the garage;
- Remove the items piled on and against the front of the vehicle;
- Remove the abandoned vehicle or store within a structure;
- Mow the lawn and continue to maintain for remainder of season.

The City Code states in Section 17-7.4 EXTERIOR MAINTENANCE:  
Section 17-7.4 EXTERIOR MAINTENANCE

All structures shall be properly maintained in a clean and acceptable manner so as not to constitute a menace to the public health, safety, convenience, general welfare, property values, and aesthetics. All landscaping shall be properly maintained so as to preserve planting in a live state and free of noxious weeds.

1. Declaration of nuisance. Buildings, fences, and other structures that have

been so poorly maintained that their physical condition and appearance detract from the surrounding neighborhood are declared to be public nuisances because they are unsightly, decrease adjoining landowners' and occupants' enjoyment of their property and neighborhood, and adversely affect property values and neighborhood patterns.

2. Standards. A building, fence, or other structure is a public nuisance if it does not comply with any of the following requirements.
  - A. Structures with rotten, deteriorated or damaged components or peeling paint shall be repaired, replaced, removed or repainted.
  - B. All landscaping shall be properly maintained so as to preserve planting in a live state and shall be kept free of noxious weeds and debris.
  - C. Turf grass and lawns shall not grow to a height to allow such grasses to go to seed.
  - D. All constructed or manufactured landscape elements, such as but not limited to benches, retaining walls, edging, and so forth, shall be maintained so as to be free of cracking, crumbling, dilapidation or deterioration,
  - E. Rotten, deteriorated or damaged landscape elements shall be repaired, replaced, or removed.

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.
  - A. There shall be no exterior storage allowed on lots that do not contain a principle or accessory structure.
  - 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.

C. No more than two fish houses are permissible. Fish houses must be stored at least 10 feet distance from a rear property line and outside of the OHW setback.

D. Exterior storage shall be allowed as follows:

ZONING CLASSIFICATION	STANDARD
Rural Residential Transition Residential Urban Residential	A maximum of three (3) recreational vehicles, including boats, shall be allowed to be parked and/or stored outside a building on private property in the rear yard of a non-riparian lot not less than the applicable setback from any property line. (1) (2) (3)

(1) All recreational vehicles, including boats, shall display a current license or watercraft registration if required for such boat or recreational vehicle.

(2) Non-motorized watercraft nine (9) feet in length or less that do not require watercraft registration by the State of Minnesota are not considered as stored under this article, so long as applicable setbacks are maintained.

(3) For the purposes of this section, multiple recreational vehicles stored on a single trailer less than 16 feet in length shall be considered one recreational vehicle.

G. Abandoned motor vehicles shall be stored within a structure or completely screened from view from adjacent properties and right-of-way. See Chapter 3, Article 8.

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 October 10, 2020 you perform all of the actions listed above.**

Failure to comply with the City Code by October 10, 2020, 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 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 issues by the specified deadlines. If you have any questions, please contact me at 218-568-6699 or at [dbittner@pequotlakes-mn.gov](mailto:dbittner@pequotlakes-mn.gov).

Sincerely,

Dawn Bittner  
Zoning Specialist

Enclosure: Photographs

C: Planning Commission



September 11, 2020

Christopher and Sarah Savino  
31024 Pine Street  
Pequot Lakes, MN 56472

**RE: City of Pequot Lakes  
Potential City Code Violation  
PIN: 29106003006B009  
31024 Pine Street**

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Savino:

It has come to my attention through complaints that there are Exterior Storage issues that need to be addressed at the above-captioned property.

Per City Code, the following Exterior Storage issues must be addressed within the next thirty (30) days (by October 12, 2020):

- Store the recreational vehicles in the rear yard not less than the 10-foot setback;
- Store all miscellaneous equipment, materials and other objects within a structure or fully screened so as to not be visible from adjoining properties;
- Improve the overall appearance of this parcel.

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

- A. There shall be no exterior storage allowed on lots that do not contain a principle or accessory structure.
- 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.
- C. No more than two fish houses are permissible. Fish houses must be stored at least 10 feet distance from a rear property line and outside of the OHW setback.
- D. Exterior storage shall be allowed as follows:

<b>ZONING CLASSIFICATION</b>	<b>STANDARD</b>
Rural Residential Transition Residential <u>Urban Residential</u>	A maximum of three (3) recreational vehicles, including boats, shall be allowed to be parked and/or stored outside a building on private property in the rear yard of a non-riparian lot not less than the applicable setback from any property line. (1) (2) (3)

- (1) All recreational vehicles, including boats, shall display a current license or watercraft registration if required for such boat or recreational vehicle.
- (2) Non-motorized watercraft nine (9) feet in length or less that do not require watercraft registration by the State of Minnesota are not considered as stored under this article, so long as applicable setbacks are maintained.
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