

January 31, 2016

County of St. Paul

Dear County Council;

We had purchased the lake lot next to our residential lot in 2000. It is an undeveloped lot. At the time we purchased it there was an outhouse, shed and a shelter beside the fire pit. A couple of years ago we purchased a travel trailer and store it on that lot. At that time we built a shelter for it to stop damages from falling trees (basically 4 poles with a tin roof)

A while ago we received a letter from the County stating that we needed to purchase a permit for the structure that we had built. Our apologies we thought that if something could be moved we didn't need a permit but have learned that that is not the case. We have no problem paying for a permit which will cost us \$104.50.

However, we were told that we were also required to pay an additional development fee of \$200. This would bring the total cost of building our shelter to \$304.50. The reasons as per the County, was they would have to take out an ad in the local paper to give our neighbors the opportunity to object with the building of such a structure. Also, that this bylaw only affects Lot owners where there is no principle structure. This is where we have a real problem with the fee that was quoted to us.

1. The fee discriminates. If a person has a cottage on their lake lot they would pay \$104.50 If you choose instead to have a trailer on your lot you pay \$304.50, How is this fair?
2. Why would you have to advertise in the paper? Since we live right beside the lot in question we ARE the neighbor. Our only other neighbor on the other side of the lot would not have a problem. As a matter of fact they have the same structures protecting their trailers. We could obtain a letter from them if required.
3. Our taxes that were paid on the lot in 2015 were \$329.00. The County wants us to pay \$304.50 for a shelter. This does not make sense to us.
4. And why now are these structures required to have permits. Other lot owners at Lake Bellevue have had these structures protecting their trailers for years and years but are only now receiving letters from the County to purchase permits. Is it a new bylaw?
5. We had added on to the garage in June 2014 and paid \$130 for permits. Again, \$304.50 to build a shelter seems un-reasonable to us.

We are more than happy (well, not so much) to pay the \$104.50 but we are asking Council to waive the additional development fee of \$200.

We would also like to attend your March 8, 2016 Council meeting and would like to be added to your agenda. If we could be contacted with confirmation of this it would be appreciated.

Sincerely,

Bill & Ann Yakimec

Lac Bellevue