

From: Cognito Forms <notifications@cognitofrms.com> on behalf of Cognito Forms
Sent: Friday, December 31, 2021 1:08 PM
To: oleson@hometownplanning.com
Subject: SUBMIT YOUR COMMENTS - Larry LaBounty

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Entry Details

TO WHICH AGENDA ITEM DOES YOUR COMMENT RELATE? Adel A. Chamoun Hearing -- January 6, 2022 @ 6pm

COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS

RE: Thorpe Township Board of Adjustment/Planning Commission's Notice of Public Hearing scheduled for 6:00pm on Thursday, January 6th, 2022.

To Whom It May Concern:

As the owners of the property at 28264 Jewel Trail since 1980, we have a vested interest in our property and the surrounding properties on Big Mantrap Lake. Over the last 40+ years, we've seen owners come and go with some parcels changing hands several times. We've welcomed these changes and have enjoyed sharing this region of Minnesota's lake country with folks from all over the US.

While the people have changed, the scenery has largely remained consistent, thanks to the strict ordinances of our lake/township. While sometimes frustrating, these restrictions have kept Mantrap pristine and less commercialized than many of Minnesota's beautiful lakes, and for this we are grateful.

Among these ordinances is the 100-foot setback, which we observe and respect, as do our neighbors. We explicitly object to Mr. Chamoun's request for exception to this rule and encourage the Board to deny his request. His proposed plans would provide precedence for future residents to also deviate from the restrictions that have helped us maintain Mantrap's natural beauty. The building he proposes adding would be an additional eye sore viewable from the lake to all passersby. The proposed septic plans are especially disturbing to us as we had to

pay thousands of dollars to move our septic to comply with this very same ordinance. This required us to move the septic to State land and secure a 99-year lease for the new septic placement – a cost we incur in perpetuity. To allow Mr. Chamoun an exception that wasn't afforded to us would not only be unfair but unethical.

Observing Mr. Chamoun's own actions for the last ~20 years provides further evidence that a variance would be ill-advised. Before he was the owner of the property in question, he adamantly opposed similar variances when proposed by the previous owner. His hypocrisy and/or sudden change of heart should not warrant a change to decades old rules.

In closing, we appreciate the Board's Notice on this matter and strongly encourage you to maintain the status quo with regard to the 100-foot setback and any other restrictions in question. With this in mind, we respectfully request that the Board deny Mr. Chamoun's request.

Respectfully,

Larry & Chris LaBounty

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