

April 11, 2018

TOSL Board of Supervisors meeting Public Comment:

My name is Patrick Delaney. My wife Sarah and I are residents of the Town of Spider Lake. We own a single family dwelling on one of the lakes and a single family dwelling in the woods. Our family has owned property in the Town continuously since 1940.

We continue to support your action last January enacting Ordinance 2018-1 to regulate and limit Short Term Rentals. You responded promptly to a surprise state statute enacted in September, having enacted your own compromise solution for our community in May. Your actions were timely, organized, legal and well structured. You represented the vast majority of the 900 or so property owners in our Town admirably. Thank you.

I don't mean to patronize but I'd like to emphasize for the benefit our wonderful community members who may be present that the responsibility of every local politician, community leader or Town Supervisor lies in supporting and protecting the interests of the entire community, which, in this case is inseparable from our natural resource.

While permitted to have a personal opinion, which may differ from the majority of the community, according to legal council for the Wisconsin Towns Association (WTA), supervisors are obligated to use common sense to impartially lead our community by supporting the overall interests of the community.

You, this Board, have listened respectfully to a small special interest in our community.

You have given this small special interest time to express their specific requests in the form of a draft ordinance.

Your obligation to this special interest, therefore, has been met. And now, the actions of this Board, which enacted Ordinance 2018-1 last January, should be respected.

I would like to thank the 18-30 properties owners, your supporters and your lobbyists, for your input. Those few of you who choose to rent short term in a community of 900 property owners must know that you may be viewed as "TAKING" from the natural resource. You may be viewed as "taking" from your friends, your neighbors and in certain circumstances, from your customers. You may be viewed as taking from our community rights; ALL for

your personal gain.

I would also like to thank the members of our community who sat on a committee recently to clarify the recommendations of this special interest group, but make no mistake - it should be viewed as nothing more than that.

Unfortunately, a committee of seven (7) community members, one a moderator, one in favor of regulation, two property managers and two property owners who intend to or have been renting short term, plus 1 stated supporter of short term rentals, has limited credibility overall.

The superficial regulations in the committee's draft of a proposed ordinance presented this evening provide sufficient evidence, as the regulations clearly fail to serve the interests of the vast majority of 900 property owners in this community and the interests of our shared natural resource.

To the board members, current and past, I and I suspect, the vast majority of property owners and members of our community thank you. For over 50 years you have consistently acted to protect our community rights, to protect the enjoyment of our properties; thereby creating a community where we know and respect our neighbors and where we are familiar with and respect our shared natural resource.

Having worked on this issue for over 18 months, in January, this Board, like previous boards, acted clearly, timely and decisively to protect the community and our shared natural resource by adopting Ordinance 2018-1, regulating and limiting short term rentals as clearly permitted, if not guided, by state statute in Assembly Bill 64, act 59.

The state's aggressive and overreaching, on size fits all, statute which permits all property owners to rent their single family dwellings in residentially zoned neighborhoods will be overturned.

Until then, the modest silver lining of this new state statute is that it practically directs town supervisors to protect outstanding natural resources, giving Towns with 50 years of zoning history, a clear mandate to continue to protect their communities by limiting and regulating short term rentals exactly as you have, without adding additional a financial burden and taxes.

With 80% seasonal properties in the Town of Spider Lake it would be irresponsible not to.

It's common sense.