



zoning hayestownshipmi <zoninghayestownshipmi@gmail.com>

Seasonal display

1 message

Mon, Jan 20, 2025 at 1:31 PM

Mark McCool <mark@dewittmarine.com>

To: zoning@hayestownshipmi.gov

Good morning,

I have received your letter advising about the seasonal display for our inventory located along US 31, across from the golf course. At the time of this letter, I was currently out of the country, however I did make a phone call back and discussed with your secretary about the misunderstanding.

I did advise in the zoning meeting and agreed that these display pads would be used for "seasonal display". However, I do not recall any dates that were set as the definition of a season and the time frame it exists in and when boats were not allowed to be there. It was also not explained to me that Hayes township's "seasonally" refers to the summer season only. This would be the first I am hearing what your definition of a season would be. There may have been an interpretation on your end as to a season being just the summer on my end because I am in the marine industry, but my business has several seasons in it. For example, we displayed boats during the summer months, which is our "selling season". Then we removed them in the fall and they remained empty for a short period of time. Later in the year, we brought four boats back that were shrink wrapped. That is because as a marina, we have a "storage and shrink wrap season". Soon in February, our "boat show season" begins and then the summer selling season resumes again. This is what I meant when saying the display pads will only be used seasonally. I am sorry that I didn't explain to you that "seasonally" to me, is expanded beyond just summer use.

Another point I would like to discuss is I also thought that I was not in violation, for I was approved for boat storage there. These shrink wrapped boats are boats in storage for us too. To my understanding, it wasn't discussed in the meeting that I could not store boats for storage purposes on those pads during our boat storage season. Our boat storage season typically goes from late November, to the end of March.

My first and main goal is to be respectful and compliant of all agreed upon rules. I do not like to be in the practice of doing now and asking for forgiveness later and I am extremely thankful to you guys and the efforts you put forth on assisting me through these processes and learning curves I've encountered. If I truly am in violation of the agreed upon discussions in our meeting, I will certainly make it right. However, with this communication and explanation of our operation, the pads not being used year round, but just during these seasons, along with our lessee and MDOT not having an issue, can we continue to conduct business as we have been doing thus far? I am now back in the country and available to meet if this would be more helpful. I can be flexible to your schedule if you would like to discuss this further. Please let me know what it is you would like me to do.

Regards,

Mark McCool



Dewitt Marine Inc.
6509 Crystal Springs Road
Bellaire, MI 49615
231.377.6611

Ask me about becoming a member of Boat Club!

LIKE US!
Facebook



OFFICE OF ZONING ADMINISTRATOR
09195 MAJOR DOUGLAS SLOAN ROAD
CHARLEVOIX, MICHIGAN 49720
231.547.6961
WWW.HAYESTOWNSHIPMI.GOV

January 8th, 2025

Mark McCool
Dewitt Marine
6509 Crystal Springs road
Bellaire, MI 49615
Parcel # 007-118-015-50 & 007-118-015-60

It has come to our attention that watercraft has been relocated back to the display pads along US 31. In your presentation to the Planning Commission for Special Use Permit on May 6th, 2024, you indicated the request was to display the boats seasonally. Typically, in this area, and in our zoning ordinance, seasonally refers to the summer season.

Later in the meeting, the Zoning Administrator ask specifically if the request was for year around. Your response was that the request was for seasonal display.

This was the information the Planning Commission based their decision on approving the Special Use Permit.

Having the boats on display during non-seasonal periods violates the terms of the Special Use Permit.

To address this violation we request that you re-locate all watercraft in the off season.

Please call or email a response to this letter within 10 days of this letter date and If you have any questions please call 231-547-6961 or email zoning@hayestownshipmi.gov.

Best Regards ,

April Hilton
Hayes Township Zoning Administrator Assistant

Request to Amend

It has been previously approved for Dewitt Marine to use the display pads along the road frontage of US 31, for "seasonal purposes" to display boats. Dewitt Marine is in the business of selling not only new and used boats, but also many services we offer, such as storage and shrink wrap. The move to this second location (Charlevoix) is to expand the business opportunities and these display pads greatly increase that and allow us advertising opportunities during certain times of the year/seasons. We did not understand that the Hayes Township "season" meant that it was approved for only summer time months, but understood it as any part of the four seasons that our part of the state experiences, which to us, falls into the description of "seasonal use".

The winter season is our season for shrink wrap and storage. It makes up a very large part of our business. The Charlevoix location plan that we presented, included future storage facilities and a small service area for things such as shrink wrap services. This also would be a business location that we keep open year round once it is fully developed. It would be imperative to us to be able to use these road front display pads, to display the services we offer, during certain parts of certain seasons..

It is our request that the zoning officials please amend the special use permit in place, to allow us to use the display pads during the winter time season for the advertisement of our storage and shrink wrapped services.

REQUESTED SPECIAL USE

DESCRIBE THE PROPOSED SPECIAL USE BEING USED: SEE ATTACHED

NOTE WITH DESCRIPTION

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I AUTHORIZE HAYES TOWNSHIP (STAFF, APPOINTED BOARD AND/OR COMMISSIONS, OR COMMISSION MEMBERS) TO ENTER UPON THE SUBJECT PROPERTY FOR PURPOSES OF MAKING INSPECTIONS RELATED TO THIS APPLICATION. SUCH INSPECTIONS OR SITE WALKS SHALL BE CONDUCTED AT RESONABLE HOURS AND TIMES.

I certify that all of the above information is accurate to my fullest knowledge.

Owner's Signature: _____

Signature of Applicant, if different from owner: _____

Date: MARCH 5, 2025

Township Use Only

Date Application Completed: _____

Zoning District: _____

Newspaper Publication Date: _____

Hearing Date: _____

Planning Commission Review Date: _____

Planning Commission Action: _____