

City of Mackinac Island  
7358 Market Street  
PO Box 455  
Mackinac Island, MI 49757

DEC 08 2025

P. Lach

To the City of Mackinac Island Council,

My name is Nicholas Kutsop. I am writing to complain about the treatment I have received in regard to my request that my family's fire pit be certified by the town's Fire Chief.

In May of 2025, I was visited by a member of the fire department and informed that all fire pits need to be certified by the Fire Chief. I was told to go to the police department and request that the Fire Chief come out and inspect our fire pit. I did so, and I also called the fire department twice. After my second call, my neighbor, who is a member of the fire department, told me to stop calling, saying the chief was aware of the request.

I waited several weeks and placed another request with the police department. After several more weeks, I placed another request. And so on. In total, I have made six or seven visits, spread over seven months, to the police department to request that my fire pit be inspected. Over these visits, I have been told by several members of the police department that they have personally reached out to the Fire Chief and that they were becoming very annoyed with him.

Around the third or fourth visit, I was asked by the police to raise the issue with the City Council. This would have been in July. When I did so, I was told by the Fire Chief that he was aware of the request and that he would get to it eventually. This, of course, never happened. I waited until November, the end of the tourist season, and asked the police department to once again ask the Fire Chief to investigate my fire pit. Still, I received no communication from the fire department, despite leaving my phone number every time I visited the police department.

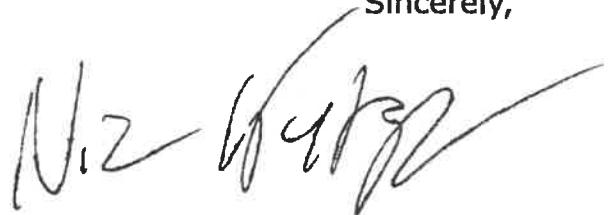
After my fourth or fifth visit, it was recommended to me by members of the police department that I write this letter. However, I was informed by a member of the fire department that if I wrote a letter complaining about the Fire Chief, then the Fire Chief would never approve the fire pit. To avoid the purported spite of the Fire Chief, I continued to make my requests through the police department. It has, however, become clear that the Fire Chief is not interested in investigating my fire pit through the normal channels. And so I write this letter. My requests are as follows:

1. I ask that the Council call upon the Fire Chief to explain why he has not investigated my fire pit despite seven months of requests.

2. Barring that, I ask that the Council use its influence to compel the Fire Chief to investigate my family's fire pit.
3. Furthermore, I ask that the Council follow up on the results of the Fire Chief's investigation. Based on hearsay I received from a member of the fire department, I worry that the Fire Chief is a spiteful person, and that he will refuse to certify our fire pit because I had the audacity to complain.

I thank the Council for taking the time to hear my complaint. I apologize for wasting your time with this nonsense. Based on a lot of circumstantial evidence, I believe that this whole thing started with a belligerent neighbor. I believe that instead of talking with my family, this neighbor chose to use their relationship with the Fire Chief to influence his decision to withhold certification. I hope that this letter will help us all to put this nonsense to rest.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nicholas Kutsop".

Nicholas Kutsop, Ph.D.  
1241 Mission St.  
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Mackinac Island, MI, 49757