

205

veteran's efforts to g

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TICONDEROGA — If Constantine Belkavich's efforts to secure a town of Ticonderoga mobile home permit were contrived, he probably couldn't have come up with a much better story.

"This guy," a town official said in a facetious yet resigned tone after an earlier Belkavich-town board encounter, "knows all the angles."

Actually, all the angles Belkavich is playing, if any, have a basis in fact. A Troy, N.Y., resident, he is a World War II veteran. He was partly disabled as a member of the 101st Airborne, parachuting into battle during the Normandy invasion.

Later he suffered another disabling injury. Today he is a short, balding man who walks slowly and with a pronounced limp.

As it unfolded at a public hearing here this week on his permit application, this is his situation:

About 18 years ago he purchased a small plot near Eagle Lake from William R. Geisel, an Eagle Lake resident. Belkavich has used the property during a series of trips here over the years, but until fairly recently didn't erect a building there.

Not a rich man, by his own indication, his chance to put a structure on the land came when a relative

died, leaving a mobile home available at an unusually low price.

Belkavich bought it and had it set up on his Eagle Lake property. That was done in violation of the town of Ticonderoga's mobile home ordinance, and it brought complaints from neighbors.

Neighbors say, in part, that the mobile home is polluting Eagle Lake, which has recently had increased algae growth. Vincent Scuderi, who owns adjacent property, says the mobile home is too close to his boundary and in violation of the ordinance.

Four letters from area residents were read at the public hearing. All listed these and various objections to placement of the mobile home.

In between, and saddled with responsibility for a decision on the Belkavich case, sit the members of the town board. "We don't want to be tough to get along with," Town Justice Fred Provoncha told Belkavich. "We're going to be wrong no matter what we do. But this violates every rule in the ordinance. If we approve the application as it stands, we might as well throw the ordinance out the window."

Belkavich is applying for a variance to the ordinance as a hardship case.

Those supporting and those objecting to issuance of the permit seemed to find more common ground



Friday night... failed to rattle opponents as it had
Lincoln spoke of who can be...
against Wichita State amid rum-

It seems to me Mr. Geisel's only interest in championing this cause is strictly financial, and if this is approved, how many more "Land Deals" will blossom throughout the area? I am afraid you will be opening a Pandora's Box, and a precedent will be set. Just about every

206

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Friday, November 29, 1974



17

as the hearing progressed, perhaps responding to Provoncha's suggestion that those concerned get together and "work this thing out."

Belkavich has neither the water supply nor sewage disposal facilities required by the ordinance, though to date he says he hasn't needed them. Lake water is available when needed. And he plans to acquire a powered toilet that eliminates the need for other sewage facilities.

He says his land has enough fill to handle what dishwater he uses.

But those objecting are concerned about the water quality in Eagle Lake, which they feel might be affected by placement of the mobile home. Letters objecting on these and other grounds were filed during the hearing from Eagle Lake Property Owners Association President Alfred Olsen, Robert Stevens, Vincent Scuderi and Graham Davis.

In addition, the mobile home lot is too small to meet ordinance requirements. Mrs. Scuderi told the board early in the meeting that the structure is so close to a building she and her husband own on the adjacent lot that it is a fire hazard. And it blocks their view in one direction.

Belkavich is in violation of ordinance set-back requirements. The town board could grant a variance to this, but apparently has no choice where sewer and water facilities are concerned. Belkavich has promised to add that information to his application, and the board ended the meeting by reserving judgment until the information is received.

Before the session closed, Belkavich also heard voiced raised in his behalf. Geisel backed him after it was pointed out he had failed to record the deed and apparently hadn't paid property taxes on the land, declaring he had sold the land to him 19 years ago.

Geisel also charged that a number of mobile homes have been placed in the Eagle Lake area without permits, one a permanent installation. "Why are they taking it out on (Belkavich) this one man?" he asked. "It doesn't make sense to me."

And Harris Young, a State Division of Veterans Affairs staffer who attended as a private citizen,

reminded the board that Belkavich has spent one-twentieth of his life serving in the armed forces, adding: "I'm not a flag waver, asking you to break every ordinance in town to satisfy Mr. Belkavich's whims. But if there is doubt in your minds, I ask you to favor this veteran."

There was also friction between Mrs. Belkavich and town attorney Gerald Lawson. Moments after a series of Lawson questions of Belkavich made several of the apparent ordinance violations clear, she said, "The lawyer seems to be getting a kick out of this."

Belkavich has also agreed to go through the town health officer in revamping his application, as the board directed. He also has to contend with Adirondack Park Agency regulations if the town grants the variance, but has opined that town approval is his major obstacle.

Near the end of the meeting, Mrs. Scuderi told the board her objection was mainly to the "closeness." There was considerable discussion over how Belkavich could re-position the mobile home to satisfy the Scuderis, but no definite solution was achieved. Rough terrain on the lot poses a problem, but perhaps not one that is insurmountable.

Francis A. Wickes represented the Eagle Lake Property Owners Association. He indicated after the meeting that pollution of the lake is his group's major concern.

Belkavich charged on one point that other properties near the lake drain effluent into it. He declared that his property, across the road from the lake, poses no such problem.

Lawson said he would recommend that any variance in this case granted by the board be a "personal" one to Belkavich and his wife, not transferrable to children or anyone who might buy the lot.

Belkavich said the expense of moving rocks on his lot might make it difficult for him to move the mobile home more than a few feet in his efforts to satisfy the Scuderis.

The board's next regular meeting is Dec. 12. A decision on a revised Belkavich permit application could come then.

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Los Angeles	19	11	.633	—	Houston Astros 6-4.
Cincinnati	17	13	.567	2	
San Francisco	14	14	.500	4	
Atlanta	15	16	.484	4 1/2	
San Diego	14	15	.483	4 1/2	
Houston	10	22	.310	—	

Friday's Results

The Expos were trailing 4-1 going into the inning when Gary Carter led off with a double. He took third

Pirates 11, Dodgers 3
Dave Parker slammed a two-run triple and a three-run homer off reliever Mike Marshall Friday night as the Pittsburgh Pirates rallied for four runs in the seventh.

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