From: <u>Kieran Wells</u>

**To:** Zimny, Joanna (CI-StPaul) **Subject:** RE: 408 Snelling Ave S

**Date:** Thursday, October 15, 2020 11:21:40 AM

## Think Before You Click: This email originated outside our organization.

I own 408 Snelling Ave S. I was told this afternoon that MN Acre Farms would not be heard; I was told verbatim yesterday by multiple people from multiple council members offices that MN Acre Farms would have the chance to speak to the council. Please provide a reason--I know that covid is not it and this is simply astonishing. I just attended a business roundtable meeting this very morning with two council members as well as many other officials in attendance and there seemed to be no issues with the technology.

The problem here is that the same due process that our system afforded the people who recommended the ordinance prohibiting container storage in city limits on this property type is not being afforded to MN Acre Farms. Not only are council members prohibited from discussing this individually, but you are prohibiting them from addressing the legislative body. The intent of the ordinance was for reasons other than to prohibit the urban organic high-tech farm units. The assertion is that the situation merits special consideration as a new technology and a benefit to the community. This self contained technological innovation is not only a new technology, but has the support of the community. Both MGCC and the council cannot find the time to fit an argument in to their schedule, yet seem to think they feel fit to rule? I might add that the council usually seeks the recommendation of the district council. I used to sit as a board member on that council and back then, there was not one telephone call that went unreturned. For several weeks I have reached out and have gotten zero response. You, Ms. Zimmy, seem to be effectively telling me, several department chairs and administrators from Macalester and St. Thomas to go fly a kite. This or any other issue has very little chance of traction unless heard by the council. The nuance and granular explanation required to paint an adequate picture of the request cannot simply be summed up in a page. I have no doubt that they will draft you a brilliant and persuasive document but that simply will not be the same.

I respectfully request a prompt response, as time is of the essence. Telephone is best: 651-757-6136

I appreciate the work that you do and I personally very much like and have a good relationship with several members of the council. Please understand my position. I ask that you don't construe my correspondence as a 'hackles up' response. It simply seems that folks are using covid as an excuse not to come to work, and I have spent a tremendous amount of time attempting to communicate with the various groups in play. Thank you again.

Very sincerely yours,

Kieran Wells

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