

Subject: Response to letter from Mr. Pierce;

Date: Thu, 26 Dec 2002 08:19:37 -0800

From: "Ernie Crist" <ernie_crist@dnv.org>

To: "Nathalie Valdes" <Nathalie_Valdes@dnv.org>

CC: "Mayor and Council - DNV" <Council@dnv.org>, "Directors Team" <managecomm@dnv.org>, "FONVCA (E-mail)" <fonvca@fonvca.org>

Dear Mr. Pierce:

I can appreciate your frustrations concerning gas powered leaf blowers. You may be aware that I attempted to introduce a bylaw outlawing such nuisance causing and environmentally hostile gadgets. It is my belief that had my motion been adopted the industry would have responded by building gadgets that are environmentally friendly and quiet. As it is they don't have to. There is no incentive for anybody to improve such tools since they are permissible and quite frankly we are living in society where nobody appears to care very much except how to make money no matter what the consequence to health or quality of life.

My motion was designed to provide an opportunity for leadership and light a candle in a manner of speaking but our civic leaders chose not to, putting forward all kinds of red herrings. As for the point you made in regards to the idling of cars. This was brought on by one particular person in the community who, without regard to anybody started his Diesel truck at 5 am in the morning and let it run for an hour before driving it away to work. He did so much against the convenience of his neighbors who had to suffer as the fumes went into their bedrooms in the early morning hours. When he was told to stop he asked whether there was a bylaw against it and, when told there was not, he told our bylaw officers to "get lost".

The upshot was my initiative re the 3 minute limit. It stands to reason that everything we do has to be reasonable. It was never the intention to harass people if their cars run longer than 3 minutes except to convey a message that we have a collective responsibility to the environment and our fellow citizens. Living as we do in an urban environment we have to make certain concessions. I know you fully understand and support such measures provided they are reasonable and based on common sense.

I thank you for your input.

Yours truly,

Ernie Crist

