



LAW OFFICES
BOONE, BOONE, BOONE, KODA & FROOK, P.A.

P. O. BOX 1596
VENICE, FLORIDA 34284

ESTABLISHED 1956

E.G. (DAN) BOONE
JEFFERY A. BOONE
STEPHEN K. BOONE
JOHN S. KODA
MARGARET (PEGGY) S. FROOK
CAROLINE M. BOONE

JAMES T. COLLINS, LAND PLANNER
(NOT A MEMBER OF THE FLORIDA BAR)

May 30, 2014

STREET ADDRESS:
1001 AVENIDA DEL CIRCO 34285
TELEPHONE (941) 488-6716
FAX (941) 488-7079
e-mail: adm@boone-law.com

VIA HAND DELIVERY

Edward F. Lavallee
City Manager
City of Venice
401 W. Venice Avenue
Venice, Florida 34285

Re: City Refusal to Allow Utility Connection

Dear Ed:

We are in receipt of your letter of May 16, 2014, which we received on May 20th. Please accept this letter as our reply.

First, and foremost, and contrary to what some have mistakenly been led to believe, we are not one of the City property owners who have refused to connect to City water and sewer. To the contrary, our contractor applied for a permit to connect our building to City utilities pursuant to the terms of, and at the time specified in, our agreement with the City.

Much to our astonishment, the City Building Official refused to issue the permit, and we were therefore prevented from connecting to City Utilities. You, of course, are aware of all of this, and you are also aware that we have continued to be ready, willing and able to connect to City utilities, pursuant to our agreement with the City, as soon as the Building Official will allow us to do so.

We continue to be frustrated by the fact that the Building Official is using the fact that the files in his Department are incomplete as a basis for his refusal to allow us to connect. His failure to keep his Department's files in proper order is totally beyond our control, yet it is being held against us in this situation. It is also very difficult for us to understand that with all of the concerns in the community about the Building Department and its leadership, the Building Official is creating this issue as one in which we are caught in the middle, despite our good faith efforts to live up to the agreement we entered into with the City 13 years ago.

It has been suggested to us that our connection issue is being perpetuated by the Building Official as an attempt to distract other City Officials from the on-going problems with the

Edward LaVallee
May 30, 2014
Page 2

Building Department leadership. Frankly, we do not want to be caught up in any such issue, but if it there is any truth to this, it makes our situation even more egregious.

With that much said, we do appreciate very much your continued efforts to work with us to attempt to resolve the issues which have prevented us from being able to connect to City utilities, despite our attempts to do so. Following our most recent meeting with you, we have continued to work on the matters we discussed, and we are also moving forward in accordance with your suggestions on how we could proceed at this juncture. Unfortunately, and despite our best efforts to do so, we are not in a position to be able to fully respond to you by today (May 30, 2014), but will do so as soon as possible.

In the interim, we want to reiterate that we stand ready, willing and able to connect our building to City utilities pursuant to the terms of our agreement with the City. If at any point the City is willing to allow us to connect, please let us know and we will move forward immediately.

Best regards,

Very truly yours,

Jeffery A. Boone

JAB/jab

cc: E.G. Boone

F:\Gen\EGBN\LaVallee053014