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January 25, 2016

**VIA HAND-DELIVERY**

The Honorable John W. Holic, Mayor  
& Members of the City Council  
401 West Venice Avenue  
Venice, Florida 34285

Re: Utility Connection for Colonial House Property

Dear Mayor Holic and Council Members:

Upon reading the letter of Mr. Persson dated 1/17/14 and made part of the package filed by him for the 1/21/16 meeting, Colonial House files this letter in support of its request for an extension.

There are points to be made and questions to be answered, such as Colonial House paid monthly utility bills for every month since 2001 in the amount of \$73.72 or the amount billed.

Why is there no hook up deadlines or other deadlines on other property not yet annexed? We are annexed and have been since 2001.

We are not clear as to the status and details of other annexed and non-annexed properties. This is public record and Colonial House has the right to compare each and every property to see if Colonial House is being treated any different than the numerous other properties that have been and have not yet been annexed.

In an attempt to avoid a lawsuit, Colonial House needs time to research the law on what does it take to have a binding agreement between the City and a property owner. Did every annexation have a pre-annexation agreement? Did City Council act on every detail of every annexation?

Please note the 10/1/01 letter from Assistant City Manager Martin Black that a pre-annexation agreement will not be required of this annexation and then 11 years later it comes up that items are missing, but the City did not require a pre-annexation agreement in this annexation. How many others did not have a pre-annexation agreement between the City and a property owner? Common sense should apply here along with the facts at the time the agreement was entered

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into. Martin Black signed the documents on behalf of the City. He was serving as Assistant City Manager with the authority to do so. Mr. Black is still in the area and if the City really wants to know what happened 14 years ago, why not ask Mr. Black?

If we had known a certain city official (building official LaPorta who was fired for actions and non-actions other than the Colonial House file), would not honor the agreement reached by city officials 11 years earlier Colonial House would have done more than enter into the annexation following the instructions of various city officials including the building official at the time. Did the building official 11 years ago and to the present time sign off on all annexations? We have a right to know.

This is a matter beyond belief that LaPorta was able to override city decisions made by competent city officers many years earlier.

The correspondence of Mr. Persson on 1/17/14 ( page 2) states the monthly rediness to serve cost of a 3/ 4 x 5/8 inch meter provides 20 gallons of water per minute. A 2 inch line with 1 ½ inch meter provides five times more or 100 gallons per minute. The rediness cost per month for a 5/8 meter is \$40.11 (\$43.83 now) and the cost is \$200.54 (\$219.14 now) per month for a 1 ½ inch meter. This is just the rediness charge, then add on the actual consumed water and sewer gallons.

Can you picture an office building that is open from 8:30 am to 5:00 pm five days per week less all holidays, that has 12 employees, no showers or baths, no cooking or dish washing beyond cups, no laundry, no swimming pool or irrigation which is on a well, using 20,000 gallons per month (page 3). The average 1 ½ inch meter customer uses 50,000 gallons per month.

A commercial customer using 1,800 gallons per month would pay approximately \$835.32 per year but with a 1 ½ inch meter would pay \$2,939.04. The hydraulic engineer who designed this plan tested it for six months and found 1,800 gallons per month to be the average and the PSI was 60/70. All fixtures in the building worked at all times and at no time was every fixture in the building running at the same time. The holding tank was plenty sufficient at all times and a separate pump is used to pump the water into the building which guarantees full pressure.

So that all our money has not and in the future will not be wasted, we invite the City to install a meter on the line and hook up to a 3/ 4 x 5/8 inch line and meter and if it does not work we will remove the waterline and install a larger line and meter. There is no cost to the City to do this in that we are obligated to pay for all construction inside our property line.

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In conclusion, there should be no further argument as to whether or not there was an annexation or no pre-annexation agreement needed or that the City and Colonial House both agreed to a 3/4 x 5/8 meter.

We believe the requested extension is appropriate in order to obtain the answers to the questions listed earlier in this letter.

Thank you for consideration. We await your advice.

Kind regards.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'E. G. Boone', written in a cursive style.

E. G. Boone

EGB/jb

cc: David P. Persson, City Attorney – *Via Email*  
Edward Lavalley, City Manager - *Via Email*  
Lori Stelzer, City Clerk - *Via Email*

F:General/EGB/holic012516