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February 18, 2026

Project/File: 193805493

City of Oronoco

Melissa Griggs
115 2nd Street NW PO Box 195
Oronoco, MN 55960

Good morning Melissa Griggs,

Reference: Sign Petition for 230 Minnesota Avenue North

Planning staff have reviewed the sign petition received on 2/13/2026 for Water Works Plumbing, located at 230 Minnesota Avenue North (parcel ID 840833028716). The petition included a request for two signs: one a 6' x 3' illuminated wall sign to be placed on the front (west) façade, and a 10' x 10' sign to be mounted on the north façade.

The sign to be placed on the north façade is the old 'oronoco girl' sign, and does not include any sort of advertising or references to the applicant's business. [Section 111.004](#) of city code defines a sign as: "Any symbol, lettering, pictorial representation, or combination thereof attached to fixed property, buildings, or structures readily visible from public property and used for informational, identification, or directional purposes or to sell or advertise products, services, activities, or events."

Based on the above definition, it is my interpretation that the 'oronoco girl' sign does not meet the city's definition of a sign, and therefore does not require a sign permit in order to be erected on the property.

The applicant's other sign does meet the definition of a sign, and will require a permit. Prior to the city issuing a permit, the Planning and Zoning Commission will have to approve of the sign, due to the property's location in the 'Historic City Center Sign District' as outlined in Section 111.057 of city code. The proposed 6' x 3' sign meets applicable requirements for a wall sign located in the B-1 zoning district (as outlined in Section 111.056 of city code).

Section 111.057(B) states that the Planning and Zoning Commission shall consider the following for signs in the 'Historic City Center Sign District': "The plans submitted must show the special approval request is architecturally designed in a manner sensitive to the features of the subject site. The special approval request shall be designed to exhibit extraordinary architectural or landscaping embellishment or mimic and compliment the historic nature of the subject site and that the special approval request is consistent with the size regulations of this chapter and is of compatible scale and character to the subject site."

If there are any questions, please let me know.

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Sincerely,

Stantec Consulting Services Inc.



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c. Jason Baker, City Administrator