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February 25, 2025

## VIA E-MAIL ONLY

City of Mackinac Island c/o Erin K. Evashevski, Esq. City Attorney EVASHEVSKI LAW OFFICE 838 N. State Street, PO Box 373 St. Ignace, MI 49781 Fredericksburg, VA 22403 erinevashevskilaw@gmail.com

> Re: Shepler's Ferry's and Arnold Transit's Parking Services – Response to Your Letter Dated February 24, 2025

Dear Ms. Evashevski,

The undersigned and Eckland & Blando LLP represent Shepler's Ferry and Starline Mackinac Island Passenger Service d/b/a Arnold Transport Company. This letter responds to yours addressed to Hoffmann Marine dated February 24, 2025, and it constitutes my clients' response and position regarding your "formal notice of the city council's decision and demand."

The city council has no legal authority over my clients' respective parking business and thus its vote on February 19, 2025 has no legal effect. Both Shepler's Ferry and Arnold Transport are private companies and have the right to operate their parking businesses without your client's intrusion. In turn, please know that my clients will not "remove all reference to the unapproved parking rates from their websites, other distributions, and advertisements," nor will they "send the council the parking rates used ... for the 2023 and 2024 seasons with lot locations and capacities."

As I stated during the recent meeting, Shepler's Ferry and Arnold Transport remain committed to working with the city council related to ferry services, thus allowing them to continue providing the most efficient and safest services possible. But our clients' relationship also has firm limits. One limitation is that the City of Mackinac Island has no jurisdiction or authority over my clients' property and business in Mackinaw City and St. Ignace. The city council's repeated and very public statements regarding an alleged "monopoly" are also both unhelpful and untrue.

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We understand that you have a different legal position related to your client's notice and demand. In the interest of resolving all issues, please provide us with that position by the close of business on February 27, 2025.

Kindest regards,

Vince C. Reuter

cc: Michael E. Cavanaugh, Esq. Amy Cline, Esq.