

CITY OF OBERLIN, OHIO

RESOLUTION No. R12-14 CMS

A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THAT GOVERNOR JOHN R. KASICH AND THE OHIO STATE LEGISLATURE MOVE SWIFTLY TO REPEAL ALL STATE LAWS WHICH PRE-EMPTS LOCAL CONTROL OVER OIL AND NATURAL GAS EXTRACTION, AND BEGIN AN OPEN, TRANSPARENT PROCESS OF DISCUSSION WITH THE CITIZENS OF OHIO RELATIVE TO THE POTENTIAL RISKS AND DANGERS POSED BY HORIZONTAL HYDRAULIC FRACTURING AND BRINE INJECTION WELLS IN THE STATE OF OHIO AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, we believe that there are clear and present dangers inherent to oil and natural gas extraction and related industrial activity; and

WHEREAS, the process of hydraulic fracturing requires, among other things, the use of thousands of gallons of toxic chemicals which may threaten human health and the environment; may require the removal of large quantities of water from streams and lakes; and may result in increased heavy tanker traffic, threatening toxic spills and infrastructure damage; and

WHEREAS, the process known as “deep injection” used to deposit brine/toxic frack waste under extreme pressure in wells several thousands of feet in the earth is considered the safest disposal method, yet may pollute water aquifers and trigger earthquake activity; and

WHEREAS, Oberlin City Council recognizes that clean water and air are essential for the life, prosperity, sustainability and health of the community, and that damage to water resources and air thereby causes tangible loss to health, property and life of individuals, communities and ecosystems.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Oberlin, County of Lorain, State of Ohio, five-sevenths (5/7ths) of all members elected thereto concurring:

SECTION 1. That the Council of the City of Oberlin hereby finds that the Ohio General Assembly has enacted laws that allow an potentially disruptive and dangerous industry in rural

and residential areas, such resulting in detriment to the overall health, welfare, and safety of the residents of the City of Oberlin.

SECTION 2. That the Council of the City of Oberlin hereby conveys to the Ohio Governor and Ohio General Assembly its concerns with this present state of affairs, and calls upon the Governor and the Ohio General Assembly to look to the interests of our greater community rather than the interests of a single industry by repealing any and all laws which pre-empts local control over oil and natural gas extraction and associated risky industrial activity; and, further, that the General Assembly begin anew, in an open, transparent process, a public discussion with the citizens of Ohio relative to the risks and potential dangers posed by horizontal hydraulic fracturing and brine injection wells.

SECTION 3. That it is hereby found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning or relating to the adoption of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Council and that all deliberations of this Council and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action, were in meetings open to the public in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

SECTION 4. That this Resolution is hereby declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety of the citizens of the City of Oberlin, or to provide for the usual daily operation of a municipal department, to wit:

“to authorize a resolution indicating the opinion of Oberlin City Council on a matter of great importance to the citizens of the municipality in a timely manner”,
and shall take effect immediately upon passage.

PASSED: 1st Reading – December 3, 2012
2nd Reading – December 17, 2012 (A)
3rd Reading – January 7, 2013 (A, E)

ATTEST:



BELINDA B. ANDERSON, CMC
CLERK OF COUNCIL

POSTED: 01/08/2013



SCOTT BROADWELL
PRESIDENT PRO TEM

EFFECTIVE DATE: 01/07/2013