

A RESOLUTION OPPOSING SENATE BILL 76 (captioned "THE DOMESTIC ENERGY JOBS ACT")

WHEREAS, The recently introduced Senate Bill 76 would legalize the underground "injection of hydraulic fracturing fluid for the exploration or development of natural gas resources and water produced from subsurface geologic formations during the extraction of natural gas, condensate, or oil," opening North Carolina to wastewater not only from our own drilling operations, but from other states as well; and,

WHEREAS, hydraulic fracturing fluid contains chemicals, some of which may be toxic or carcinogenic; and water produced from subsurface geologic formations during the extraction of natural gas may contain brine, minerals, metals and dissolved solids; and,

WHEREAS, North Carolina law does not currently allow the underground injection of wastewater and the Department of Environment and Natural Resources' 2012 study on hydraulic fracturing specifically recommended against the practice; and,

WHEREAS, the shale formations containing North Carolina's natural gas resource underlie twelve counties in central North Carolina, and any economic benefit from the extraction of natural gas in North Carolina would accrue to that part of the state; and,

WHEREAS, the geography in the central part of the state would not be suitable for deep well injection of wastewater, while the saline aquifers in the coastal plain could absorb the wastewater from hydraulic fracturing operations conducted in the central part of the state; and,

WHEREAS, an Environmental Protection Agency assessment of industrial waste injection sites nationwide classified western North Carolina as unfavorable under all conditions and coastal North Carolina as unsuitable under most conditions; and,

WHEREAS, the underground injection of wastewater in other states has led to earth tremors, aquifer contamination, and property damage on the surface from spills and accidents; and,

WHEREAS, the economy of Coastal North Carolina is dependent on tourism, and visitors are drawn to the North Carolina coast by the beauty of our natural environment and the recreation and enjoyment that it provides.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Sunset Beach urges the North Carolina General Assembly to reject Senate Bill 76.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town of Sunset Beach calls upon all other municipal and county governing bodies located in coastal North Carolina to pass similar resolutions to this one.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution are sent to our legislative delegation and to the leadership of the North Carolina General Assembly.

This the ___ day of _____, 2013

Town of Sunset Beach

By: Mayor

ATTEST:

Town Clerk

New Business (Cont.)

Consideration of Approval of a North Carolina Domestic Violence Proclamation

COUNCILWOMAN JOSEPH MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE NORTH CAROLINA DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PROCLAMATION. COUNCILMAN WILLIAMS SECONDED THE MOTION. MAYOR CERRATO CALLED FOR A VOTE AND THE MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

Consideration of Approval of the Resolutions Opposing Senate Bill 76

COUNCILWOMAN JOSEPH MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION OPPOSING SENATE BILL 76 WHICH URGES THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO REJECT SENATE BILL 76 IN ITS ENTIRETY. COUNCILMAN WILLIAMS SECONDED THE MOTION. MAYOR CERRATO CALLED FOR A VOTE AND THE MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

Presentation of the proposed 2013/2014 Budget; Establishment of the Budget Work Session Calendar; Schedule Budget Public Hearing and Adoption Date

Gary Parker presented the proposed 2013/2014 Budget, read the budget statement and thanked Donna Rogers, Finance Director and all department heads for their hard work in preparing this proposed budget. The Council discussed Budget Work Session dates and agreed to dedicate the May 21, 2013 scheduled Work Session to the Budget and to schedule a possible 2nd Work Session for May 28, 2013. The Council briefly discussed when to schedule the budget public hearing and final budget adoption meeting and reached a consensus to make that determination at the May 28, 2013 Budget Work Session.

Public Comments

Richard Hilderman 407 37th Street – Requested Council to reconsider decision to allocate space in the park for the Veteran’s Memorial.

Gordon Coulson 7385 Balmore Drive – Advised Council that the Veteran’s Memorial Committee is a non-profit organization that is privately funded and that the park site will not be disturbed until funding to complete the project is secured.

Eugene Steadman 4009 Shoreline Drive West – Spoke in favor of fracking and requested the Council to contact experts to hear both sides.

Linda Ruddick 1008 Park Road – Spoke in favor of the Veteran’s Memorial placement in the park but voiced concerns about the size, lighting, flags, etc.

Ron Watts 421 Shoreline Drive West – Advised Council that the Merchant’s Association had it first meeting and gathered approximately 25 businesses that are interested in becoming members.

Charles Nern 647 Oyster Bay Drive – Thanked the Council for considering him for the Planning Board vacancy.

Carol Santavicca 9109 Forest Drive – Thanked the Council for the unanimous vote against the fracking bill.

Michael Pyle 7426 Balmore Drive – Spoke in favor of the Veteran’s Memorial in the park.

Anita August 279 Heather Drive – Spoke in opposition of the Veteran’s Memorial being placed in the park.

John Misiaszek 611 Oyster Bay Drive – Spoke in opposition of the Veteran’s Memorial being placed in the park.

Closed Session

COUNCILWOMAN JOSEPH MADE A MOTION TO GO INTO CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO NCGS 143-318.11 (a) (3) TO CONSULT WITH THE TOWN ATTORNEY. COUNCILMAN SHERRILL SECONDED THE MOTION. MAYOR CERRATO CALLED FOR A VOTE AND THE MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.