

TOWN OF WEBSTER
ORDINANCE 2014-07-02
A resolution opposing hydraulic fracturing

WHEREAS, the horizontal hydraulic fracturing (fracking) for natural gas involves the use of chemicals and hazardous materials during construction, drilling, hydraulic fracturing, gas production and delivery, well maintenance and workover operations; and

WHEREAS, horizontal hydraulic fracturing of underground geologic formations is often accomplished by injecting a complex mix of fluids and chemicals, including large volumes of water (millions of gallons per well), under very high pressure to create fractures in gas bearing geologic formations; and

WHEREAS, “Fracking” is being explored in North Carolina on June 4, 2014, Gov. Pat McCrory lifted the moratorium on fracking, through the Energy Modernization Act allowing permits to be issued in early 2015; and

WHEREAS, there have been documented cases of water contamination near fracking sites; and potentially lethal, toxic and carcinogenic chemicals are used in fracking detrimental to public safety; and it is illegal to disclose those chemicals, thereby rendering it nearly impossible to show that a person’s water supply has been poisoned by a fracking company; and

WHEREAS, Webster is the oldest city in the county and has a wealth of natural waterways and has a vested interest in their cleanliness and safety, and the cultural and residential uses are primarily recreational oriented and thus activities such as fracking could have a direct and identifiable impact on residents of Webster along with other parts of Jackson County; and

WHEREAS, the wise stewardship of our natural resources involves protection of water supplies and water resources for generations to come; and

WHEREAS, we, as a town believe we should have the right to pass legislation restricting fracturing in our town should we choose;

NOW, THEREFORE, WEBSTER HEREBY RESOLVES THAT:

Webster, Jackson County, North Carolina hereby goes on record to strongly urge the state to NOT explore future horizontal hydraulic fracturing in any part of the state, but specifically Webster Township and Jackson County; reissue the ban on hydraulic fracking until the safety of the processes and its related chemicals have been fully investigated and vetted through the North Carolina and U. S. Environmental Protection agencies.

Upon a roll call vote the following voted YES: 5

Upon a roll call vote the following voted NO: 0

The declared this resolution adopted at the meeting of the Township Board held on July 2, 2014.

/s/ Nick Breedlove

Nick Breedlove, Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Danell Moses

Danell Moses, Town Clerk

Date adopted: July 2, 2014