

**RESOLUTION No. 2012-**

**RESOLUTION REGARDING THE DANGERS OF HYDRAULIC FRACTURING IN  
NEW YORK STATE**

**WHEREAS**, a recent advance in techniques for extraction of natural gas from shale rock beds called hydraulic fracturing, or “fracking” has caused environmental and safety concerns across the country; and

**WHEREAS**, widely reported negative effects of fracking include release of gas and dangerous chemicals and carcinogens into wells and other public water supplies; and

**WHEREAS**, research investigating the specific risk and benefit of hydraulic fracturing procedures is lacking, with EPA study results projected for 2012; and

**WHEREAS**, companies engaged in fracking operations remain largely unregulated by federal or state governments and exempted; and

**WHEREAS**, the recent BP Gulf oil spill indicates that unregulated industrial procedures may result in catastrophic negative environmental impacts; and

**WHEREAS**, New York State is scheduled to begin issuing permits for hydraulic fracturing operations in the near future on the Marcellus Shale; and

**WHEREAS**, Such operations may potentially cast negative environmental impacts upon the residents of the City of Niagara Falls.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** the City Council of the City of Niagara Falls hereby urges Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the State of New York to issue a Moratorium suspending hydraulic fracturing operations in New York State until such time that the Environmental Protection Agency provides specific details on the dangers and possible environmental impacts of such operations.