

THE GENEVA CITY COUNCIL

ACTION MINUTES

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

JUNE 1, 2011 – 7:00 PM

9. REFRAIN FROM ENTERING INTO ANY AGREEMENT TO TREAT WASTEWATER FROM HYDRO-FRACKING

City Manager Horn presented the following resolution:

WHEREAS, since 2008, gas drilling companies have explored the Marcellus Shale, a significant rock bed that partially lies beneath New York, Pennsylvania, West Virginia and Ohio, in with the mission of securing additional natural gas resources through "Hydro-fracking,"; and

WHEREAS, Hydro-fracking utilizes surface and ground water mixed with acid, anti-bacterial agents, friction reducers, sand, additives and numerous chemicals, including such known carcinogens such as methanol, ethylene glycol, formaldehyde, naphthalene, benzene, toluene and xylene, which is then pumped into wells and blasted into rock formations to release the natural gas trapped inside the rocks; and

WHEREAS, upon fracturing, between 15 to 40 percent of the water comes back up the well as flow back fluid, which contains high levels of salinity and other chemicals that can increase costs associated with proper wastewater treatment; and

WHEREAS, throughout the northeast, energy companies operate hydro-fracking wells that generate flow back fluid or "frack water," for which these firms are seeking plants capable of treatment; and

WHEREAS, the City of Geneva operates two wastewater treatment plants that discharge treated water into Seneca Lake; and

WHEREAS, the Geneva City Council seeks to preserve the sensitive ecosystem of the Seneca Lake watershed, while also protecting assets charged with proper treatment of wastewater.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Geneva City Council, hereby and in due form, does direct the City Manager to refrain from entering into any agreement, or otherwise effectuate the treatment of wastewater from hydro-fracking or related ventures at any wastewater treatment or other facility owned or operated by the City of Geneva.

ACTION TAKEN by Clr. D'Amico; seconded by Clr. Alcock

MOVED THAT this resolution be adopted

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (9)