

Local Law number 1 of 2011 to Prohibit the City of Cortland from Accepting Untreated Horizontal Natural Gas Drilling Waste Water for Treatment or Processing at the Leroy R. Summerson Waste Water Treatment Plant, Cortland New York

Proposed by Mayor Feiszli

September 20, 2011

Sponsored: Ken Dye

**WHEREAS**, the City of Cortland operates a wastewater treatment plant, and the issue of high-pressure hydraulic fracturing horizontal natural gas drilling (“hydro-fracking”) and its ancillary waste byproducts is anticipated to affect the municipalities in the “Marcellus Shale” region, of which the City of Cortland is a part; and

**WHEREAS**, the process for extracting natural gas from horizontal wells uses water with added chemicals and other substances in its process, and that such water picks up additional chemicals and substances in the course of its intended use and then must be properly disposed, pursuant to the regulations of the Department of Environmental Conservation and the United States Environmental Protection Agency; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Cortland has in the past accepted quantities of this waste water from horizontal natural gas drilling and found it negatively impacted its ability to properly treat domestic sewage, and as there are concerns that such water contains hazardous chemicals that may not all be removed during the process of disposal at the wastewater treatment plant, the final product is discharged into a public waterway adjacent to the wastewater treatment plant, and such wastewater may be harmful to the environment; and

**WHEREAS**, it is necessary to protect public waterways and the Department of Environmental Conservation is considering new standards for the acceptance of this type of wastewater, and there is a concern that the acceptance of wastewater from horizontal natural gas drilling may pose a threat to the environment, it is desired that the City of Cortland should forebear from accepting this byproduct from horizontal natural gas well drilling.

**NOW AND THEREFORE BE IT ENACTED AS LOCAL LAW 1 of 2011**, that the Cortland Wastewater Treatment Plant prohibits the acceptance of any untreated water produced as a byproduct from horizontal natural gas drilling.

Alderman	Ayes	Nays
1 <sup>st</sup> Ward Mr. Robert Craig, Jr.	X	
2 <sup>nd</sup> Ward Ms. Stephanie Hayes		
3 <sup>rd</sup> Ward Mr. Ken Dye	X	
4 <sup>th</sup> Ward Mr. Brian Tobin	X	
5 <sup>th</sup> Ward Mr. Daniel E. Quail	X	
6 <sup>th</sup> Ward Mr. Carlos Ferrer	X	