

Town of Barrington
July 13th, 2011
Public Hearing
Moratorium on Drilling for Natural Gas within the Marcellus or Other
Shales

Supervisor Wright called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm with the pledge of Allegiance.

Present:	Fred Wright	Supervisor
	Nate Olney	Deputy Supervisor
	Ken Christensen	Councilman
	Bruce Castner	Councilman
	Calvin Crosby	Councilman
	Steve Wheeler	Highway Superintendent
	John Griffin	Code Enforcement Officer
	Joy L. C. Perry	Town Clerk

Also Present: Sue Lange, Rob Louden, David Allardice, Charles R. & Victoria A. McClure, Barbara Allardice, Suzanne M. Royer, Jerry Lange, Sidney Mann, Phillip Cook, Arthur Kuh, Lois Kuh, Rip Ewell, Steve Coffman, Joan Winters, Philip Morehouse, Mary Morehouse, Sheila Foster, Kent Foster, Carole Conlon, Roy Priestley, John Moravec, Steve Knapp, C.W. Deneka, Nancy Rembaum, David Weaver

Wright opened the public hearing at 7:04 pm.

Sidney Mann-In Favor

Mann of the Zoning Board of Appeals stated that they make decisions based upon current and appropriate zoning code. He said that he speaks in favor of the Moratorium so that they can get a current, up to date and appropriate zoning code in place for the present time.

Art Kuh-In Favor

Kuh stated that he is in favor of the Moratorium because there is too much information regarding the drilling that isn't understood yet. He stated that they still don't have information about chemicals used during the fracking process and how they will be disposed of. He was also concerned about the traffic that will be created.

Sheila Foster-In Favor

Foster stated that she believed the gas companies are "selling it will lies". She said that they are making people believe that it will be a "save all" for our Country's economy, but it hasn't proven to so far. She was also concerned about the traffic.

Ken Foster-In Favor

Foster stated that he has concerns about the negative effects on the farms and air pollution.

John Moravec-Neutral

Moravec stated that the jobs are for real. He stated that the drilling companies go by the book and spills will happen with any industry. He further stated that you have to look at the pros and the cons of it with an open mind. New York State needs the jobs and people are leaving. However, Moravec stated that the environmental concerns do need to be addressed.

David Allardice-In Favor

Allardice asked Moravec where the Town will be when the drilling stops. Moravec stated that they are projecting jobs for thirty years.

Steve Coffman-In Favor

Coffman is from the Committee to Preserve the Finger Lakes and stated that they have been studying this for two years. He stated that he does agree that there will be a lot of jobs and thirty years is the extended period that is being looked at by the DEC regulations; however there is a graph that shows that sixty percent of the jobs in the industry are coming from Texas, ten percent are coming from Louisiana, ten percent from Oklahoma. The remaining jobs are going to be coming from all over the United States including this area, but the high paying jobs are mainly coming from Texas and Oklahoma.

Coffman pointed out that we need to look at what we have and what is at risk. He pointed out many good qualities of the area. He stated that they have studied it and much would be affected negatively. He pointed out that although many small businesses would bring in money the majority of the money will end up with Exxon Mobil, Shell and other big companies and not only aren't they using the money domestically, but they are already making deals to export this gas. Coffman stated that these companies are into the national market and it doesn't have anything to do with helping our country. Coffman said "I seriously congratulate the Board for considering this Moratorium".

Steve Knapp-In Favor

Knapp stated that the Town needs time to prepare for this sort of drilling. He stated that they need to prepare for the worst and hope for the best.

Carole Conlon-In Favor

Conlon stated that she agrees with Coffman and is very concerned about what the drilling will do to our area.

Sue Royer-In Favor

Royer read from the Baltimore Paper regarding a law suit on a drilling company for not abiding by anti-pollution laws. She also read about the need to take more time to gain information on this drilling. She pointed out that there are many gaps in over-sight regulations.

Royer stated that her family has come to this area for the beauty of Keuka Lake and has for many generations. She further stated that she would like to continue to do so but is concerned what the fracking will do to the Lake.

Dr. Charles McClure-In Favor

McClure stated that the areas that he is a Professor and Researcher in are the management of government information. He has worked with federal government and state agencies. He stated that he is really concerned that the Town has their zoning laws in order. He said "The best hope, I believe, for us is to control our own destiny... is for us to make sure the zoning laws, regulations...the things that we can control in this Town... we do control". He also stated that he believes that everyone agrees that we don't have all the information we need. He wonders who is going to do the enforcing, the permitting and make sure that the information and regulations are adequately made, known and enforced. He stated that minimally the Town needs a year to work on their zoning. He said that he doesn't believe that this drilling can be done safely "end of story".

Joan Winters-In Favor

Winters stated that she would like to see the Town do everything possible to preserve the beauty of the Town.

Philip Cook-Neutral

Cook stated that he is very disgusted about some of the meetings that he has attended because they are very one-sided. He would like to see both sides before he makes a determination. He stated that as far as the law is concerned there is a mistake on section 2, scope of controls, line 8. It should say "been used" not "misused". He also stated that under "hardships" you may be opening up a lawsuit.

Supervisor Wright asked if there was anyone else that would like to be heard. There wasn't. Wright closed the hearing at 7:35 pm.

Wright explained that the Moratorium is not designed to stop gas drilling in its entirety.

Resolution 2011-108 to accept the Local Law imposing a One-Year Moratorium on Drilling for Natural Gas Within the Marcellus or Other Shales which is a Type II classification which does not require to undertake any SEQR review was made by Olney and seconded by Christensen.

Roll Call Vote: Calvin Crosby Aye
Ken Christensen Aye
Fred Wright Aye
Bruce Castner Aye
Nate Olney Aye

0-Noes

Rob Loudon let everyone know that there will be a balanced representational meeting on this type of slick water gas drilling on July 26th at 7pm to 9pm at the Keuka College Library.

A motion to adjourn at 7:40 pm was made by Christensen and seconded by Olney.

5-Ayes (Castner, Christensen, Crosby, Olney, Wright) 0-Noes

Respectfully Submitted,

Joy L. C. Perry, Town Clerk