VILLAGE OF AMESVILLE, OHIO
RESOLUTION 14-11

Supporting a Moratorium on the Practice of Hydraulic Fracturing
Until Such Practice is Deemed Safe by the Ohio and United States Environmental Protection Agencies

Whereas, the hydraulic fracturing, aka “fracking” of underground shale (Utica) is being utilized to commercially extract natural gas and oil in Ohio and is being contemplated and/or implemented in Athens County; and

Whereas, according to credible news sources (Food and Water Watch) and anecdotal evidence, widespread environmental and human health impacts have resulted from documented spills, blowouts, leaking wells, and other environmental accidents due to the practice of hydraulic fracturing; and

Whereas, large mining apparatus with increased related traffic are necessary to fracking, as is the transport, high-pressure use and collection of large amounts of toxic chemicals which also pose a risk of air land and water pollution; and

Whereas, numerous political subdivisions, other state authorities and medical associations are calling for moratorium on fracking in their respective areas to protect their watersheds; and

Whereas, the Village of Amesville recognizes that water is essential for the life, prosperity, sustainability and health of the community and that damage to water sources thereby causes tangible loss to individuals, communities and ecosystems; and

Whereas, The Village of Amesville is charged with protecting the health, safety and welfare of its residents and water customers via its police powers and constitutional home rule authority under Ohio law; and

Whereas, the USEPA is currently conducting a study of the safety of hydraulic fracturing with regard to drinking water, public health and the environment, to be completed in 2012,

NOW, THEREFORE, THE COUNCIL FOR THE VILLAGE OF AMESVILLE, OHIO HEREBY RESOLVES THAT:

Section 1. We, Members of the Village Council of Amesville, Ohio hereby go on record strongly urging our Ohio General Assembly and Governor’s Administration to place a moratorium on the future hydraulic fracturing of shale for the commercial extraction of natural gas until the safety of the processes and its related chemicals have been fully investigated and vetted through the Ohio and U.S. Environmental Protection agencies. This Council collectively fears the adverse effects and possible irreversible damage to our water systems and supplies that pose a threat to our health, safety and welfare and that of our future generations.
Section 2. The Clerk of Council is to forward certified copies of this Resolution to the Governor’s office, the Leadership of the Ohio House and Senate, and the Senator and Representatives serving the Village of Amesville in the Ohio General Assembly.

Signed:__________________________________________
Mayor, Frank Hare
Council President, Gary Goosman

Passed: 12/14/2011 (third reading)

Attest:____________________
Clerk of Council