RESOLUTION 2015-117

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF FERNANDINA BEACH, FLORIDA OPPOSING EXTREME METHODS OF OIL AND GAS EXTRACTION, INCLUDING HYDRAULIC AND ACIDIC FRACTURING OR “FRACKING” WITHIN THE STATE OF FLORIDA AND ITS ADJACENT WATERS; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the City of Fernandina Beach is composed by a large section of waterfront property and is a low-lying coastal community at the frontline to experience the impacts of sea level rise; and

WHEREAS, the City of Fernandina Beach has various vital facilities and infrastructure that could be adversely affected by sea level rise; and

WHEREAS, climate scientist and other groups such as the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s Coastal Services Center have predicted the potential erosion of dry land and loss of waterfront property as a result of sea level rise; and

WHEREAS, Florida’s aquifer is already compromised from its overuse and polluted by continued runoff; and

WHEREAS, the limestone layer covering much of the aquifer has proven vulnerable to sinkhole activity; and

WHEREAS, hydraulic and acidic fracturing or “fracking and other extreme methods of oil and gas extraction have already raised serious questions of damage to water sources and geologic stability in other areas of the country; and

WHEREAS, the potential for damaging events to the aquifer and limestone layer could prove to be beyond the ability to mitigate no matter how great or small the risk of occurrence of such event; and

WHEREAS, such events could affect water and land far outside the confines of the area permitted for hydraulic and acidic fracturing, or “fracking” or other extreme methods of oil and gas extraction.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF FERNANDINA BEACH, that:

SECTION 1. The City Commission hereby declares its opposition to hydraulic and acidic fracturing or “fracking” or other extreme methods of oil and gas extraction anywhere within the State of Florida or in the waters adjacent to the State.

SECTION 2. The City Commission requests that no State agency issue permits for such purpose and urge the Legislators of the State of Florida to pass legislation prohibiting hydraulic and acidic fracturing or “fracking” or other extreme methods of oil and gas extraction or the disposal of related materials and by-products, anywhere within the State of Florida, or in the waters adjacent to the State, and allocate sufficient appropriations to ensure success of the legislation.

SECTION 3. The City Commission further requests the Governor of the State of Florida to sign such legislation.
ADOPTED this 18\textsuperscript{th} day of August, 2015.

CITY OF FERNANDINA BEACH

Edward E. Boner
Commissioner – Mayor

ATTEST:

Caroline Best
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM & LEGALITY:

Tammi E. Bach
City Attorney