

WHEREAS, there is satisfactory proof that no payment will be made for conducting the games or assisting therein and that the prizes are of the nature and amount allowed;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that two Raffle Licenses be granted to the Monmouth Beach Fire Company, pending final approval from the Legalized Games of Chance Control Commission.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The James J. Howard Marine Sciences Laboratory at Sandy Hook, known as Marine Labs, has been in operation since 1961; and

WHEREAS, Marine Labs was the first federal scientific laboratory in the United States devoted to researching marine recreational species, and now has an international reputation in the scientific community; and

WHEREAS, Marine Labs has been instrumental in successful efforts over the past several decades to clean up the ocean waters in a critical region extending from Long Island south to Cape May, including the New York Bight and coastal Monmouth County; and

WHEREAS, the current federal administration proposes to close Marine Labs and reassign its staff to other National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration facilities located in other states; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Monmouth Beach recognizes that Marine Labs is important to the intellectual, economic and oceanic health and well-being of the region, and believes that the proposed closure is detrimental and unnecessary; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Monmouth Beach further recognizes that Marine Labs is important to the education of the region's students, including those from Monmouth Beach and others attending the Marine Academy of Science and Technology, a premier Monmouth County high school whose campus neighbors Marine Labs and benefits from the facility and its scientist's expertise; and

WHEREAS, Marine Labs was recently rebuilt following a devastating fire, and subsequently improved at great expense to include multiple state of the art laboratories and a massive salt water aquarium;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Commissioners of the Borough of Monmouth Beach respectfully urges the current administration to reconsider the proposed closure, saving it from the fate suffered by Fort Monmouth felt throughout the region, and to instead preserve the revered institution for the benefit of generations to come.

RESOLUTION OF OPPOSITION TO OFFSHORE LNG PORT FACILITIES IN THE NJ/NY CLEAN OCEAN ZONE

WHEREAS, we define the New Jersey/New York Clean Ocean Zone (COZ) as the waters from Montauk Point, NY, to Cape May, NJ, offshore to the outer edge of the Continental Shelf (out to 100 miles), consisting of over 19,000 square miles of the Atlantic Ocean; and

WHEREAS, the physical, hydrodynamic, and biological characteristics of the COZ are unique in the world as more than 300 species of fish, nearly 350 species of birds, 5 species of sea turtles, and many marine mammals such as 20 species of whales and dolphins, 1 species of porpoise, and 4 species of seals frequent this region. Nine endangered species, four of which are whales, can be found in these ocean waters. The COZ also serves as an essential pathway for many migratory species; and

WHEREAS, the ecological richness and economic viability of this region depends on a clean marine environment; and

WHEREAS, the COZ is the target location for industrial liquefied natural gas (LNG) port facilities; and

WHEREAS, New York and Connecticut rejected an LNG proposal in Long Island Sound due to environmental, safety, security, and aesthetic concerns, and a proposed LNG facility similar to that rejected in Long Island Sound was vetoed in California due to significant potential impacts to marine life and air quality; and

WHEREAS, LNG is a bad choice for our ocean. LNG facilities will devastate important fish habitat, impact endangered, threatened, and protected species, damage seafloor habitat, destroy vast quantities of marine life by refilling huge emptied tankers with billions of gallons of seawater to replace LNG cargos, and will be exposed to stronger and more frequent hurricanes, nor'easters, and wind and wave risks because of climate changes; and

WHEREAS, LNG is an unsafe and risky business. The proposed facilities will straddle shipping lanes in the NY/NJ Harbor—the busiest port on the east coast, and third busiest in the United States, dramatically affecting shipping traffic patterns when tankers approach the facility. LNG tankers leaving and entering shipping lanes amidst port traffic raise the risk of accidents with all vessels (i.e., cargo, oil tankers); and

WHEREAS, LNG is a polluting, climate-changing foreign fossil fuel. The additional lifecycle stages of liquefaction, transportation, and gasification emit harmful greenhouse gases (GHG) above and beyond the GHG levels produced by using domestic “conventional” natural gas; indeed, LNG produces 20%-40% *more* greenhouse gases (GHG) than domestic natural gas; and

WHEREAS, we do not need LNG ports in this region. Currently, over 98% of the natural gas used in the United States is from North America, 85% from the U.S., and our domestic production levels are increasing. LNG is the most expensive form of natural gas and is going to remain so. A global commodity, LNG is sold from Japan to Europe, and is frequently subject to price wars. Existing U.S. LNG ports are significantly under-utilized, operating at only 11% capacity, and can more than meet our region’s current, and future, energy needs; and

WHEREAS, LNG is not domestic and over two-thirds of the world’s natural gas reserves are in Russia and the Middle East. Proposed LNG facilities in the COZ will obtain their gas from Tunisia, Libya, and Trinidad, three nations where political, social, and environmental turmoil are commonplace. Further, environmental laws and controls are often less stringent in these regions. These LNG schemes will increase the burning of polluting, GHG-emitting fossil fuels, and increase our use and dependence on unstable foreign energy sources; and
(over)

WHEREAS, the ever-increasing amounts of GHG from burning fossil fuels is changing the chemistry of the sea by increasing its acidity, and thereby diminishing the ocean’s ability to serve the free and vital role as the Earth’s largest and most effective absorber of climate fluxes, as well as making the sea itself harmful to marine life; and

WHEREAS, LNG projects will permanently exclude the public from portions of the ocean, a publicly held resource. Vast areas of ocean will be off-limits to public access, including access for boating, fishing, and renewable energy development; and

WHEREAS, Sonde Resources, a company based in Alberta, Canada, has incorporated a subsidiary corporation “Liberty Natural Gas” in the State of Delaware, and recently submitted its application to build a 2.4 billion-cubic-foot-per-day LNG deepwater port offshore of Asbury Park, NJ, running a 36-inch, high-pressure pipeline 42 miles underwater along coastal NJ and 9.2 miles onshore through densely populated Perth Amboy, Woodbridge, Carteret, and Linden, NJ neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, this application’s proposed pipeline corridor cuts through communities that have recently experienced devastating explosions of natural gas pipelines and should not be exposed to such risks again, especially given the size and proposed route of the Liberty Natural Gas Pipeline; and

WHEREAS, other more community and environmentally friendly solutions are available in the form of energy efficiency, energy conservation, and renewable energy technologies. For example, in NJ, eight to twelve medium-sized power plants-worth of energy could be saved if state residents fully incorporated energy efficiency measures into their homes and businesses. By focusing efforts on efficiency, conservation, and renewables, our NJ/NY region can create a win-win situation of reduced GHG emissions and long-term, stable, job creation.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that, on this date, March 13, 2012, the Board of Commissioners of the Borough of Monmouth Beach hereby opposes the building of industrial fossil fuel facilities, such as those for importing Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG), off the NJ/NY coast.

Resolution Calling for a Ban on Hydraulic Fracking

WHEREAS, the hydraulic fracturing (fracking) for natural gas involves the use of chemicals and hazardous materials during construction, drilling, hydraulic fracturing, gas production and delivery, well maintenance, and workover operations; and

WHEREAS, hydraulic fracturing of underground geologic formations is often accomplished by injecting a complex mix of fluids and chemicals, including large volumes of water, on average 4.5 million gallons per well, under very high pressure to create fractures in gas bearing geologic formations; and

WHEREAS, many of the chemical constituents injected during hydraulic fracturing have documented adverse health effects and/or adverse environmental impacts; and

WHEREAS, there have been more than 1,000 documented cases of water contamination near fracking sites; some people who live near these sites can now light their drinking water on fire; and

WHEREAS, wastewater from fracking may contain radioactive elements and other toxic components and has been discharged into rivers that supply drinking water for millions; and

WHEREAS, use of these hydraulic fracturing mixes exposed air, aquifers and adjacent land and surface waters to the risk of contamination through spills and accidents, open pit storage, truck transport on roadways, and activities during well development; and

WHEREAS, Former President George W. Bush's EPA point person on water now admits fracking should never have been exempted from regulation; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey's Legislature and Governor have enacted a one-year moratorium on fracking set to expire in January of 2013; and

WHEREAS, since the New Jersey Legislature originally acted to ban fracking, the case for a ban on fracking is strengthened by a US EPA report of fracking fluids in an aquifer in Pavilion Wyoming, and separate incidents involving earthquakes in Ohio linked to fracking waste disposal using injection wells; and

WHEREAS, wastewater, wastewater solids or sludge, drill cuttings and/or other byproducts from the fracking process are known to contain toxic levels of contaminants, including unknown quantities of undisclosed chemical additives used in hydraulic fracturing fluid, as well as contaminants from sources underground; Benzene, naphthalene, formaldehyde, cadmium, mercury, arsenic, total dissolved solids, and radioactive material, such as radium, are among the known contaminants; and

WHEREAS, methods of treatment and disposal for fracking waste do not eliminate the risks that hydraulic fracturing wastewater, wastewater solids or sludge, drill cuttings and/or other byproducts pose to human health and the environment; and

WHEREAS, S246/A567 is currently pending before the NJ Legislature, and would prohibit hydraulic fracturing in New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, A575/S253 is currently pending before the NJ Legislature, and would prohibit treatment, discharge, disposal, or storage of waste from hydraulic fracturing in New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, the Fracturing Responsibility and Awareness of Chemicals Act (“FRAC Act”), which is currently pending in Congress, would repeal the fracking exemption to the Safe Drinking Water Act and require disclosure of chemicals used in fracking; and

WHEREAS, the BREATHE Act (Bringing Reductions to Energy’s Airborne Toxic Health Effects Act) is currently pending before Congress and would close two gas and oil drilling exemptions which currently exist in the Clean Air Act for fracking; and

WHEREAS, the New Alternative Transportation to Give Americans Solutions (“NAT GAS Act”) Act is currently pending before Congress and would create artificial demand for gas by providing billions of dollars in subsidies to the gas industry, further promoting fracking; and

WHEREAS, at least three pipelines, which will transport fracked gas, are expanding into NJ, passing through densely populated communities like Jersey City and environmentally sensitive areas in the NJ Highlands, encompassing protected land paid for and owned by the people of New Jersey to be preserved as open space to protect water resources; and

WHEREAS, historically 100% of US produced gas has been used domestically, and now 12% of US produced gas is being exported to international markets via liquefied natural gas (LNG) terminals; and

WHEREAS, previous decisions to halt the construction of LNG facilities in New Jersey and off our coast could be reversed to profit gas companies who can charge four times as much for gas in Europe as they can in the US; and

WHEREAS, the wise stewardship of our natural resources involves protection of Monmouth Beach’s air, water supplies and water resources for generations to come; and

WHEREAS, protection of Monmouth Beach’s air, water supplies and resources is better accomplished by prevention of contamination and environmental degradation, rather than attempting to cleaning up contamination and restoring degraded environments after the fact;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that on the 13th day of March, 2012, Monmouth Beach supports a statewide and national ban on hydraulic fracturing for natural gas, banning the treatment, disposal and transport of dangerous fracking waste in New Jersey and preventing our drinking water supplies from being used for fracking;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that (name of town) opposes the NATGAS Act;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that (name of town) supports the FRAC Act;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that (name of town) supports the BREATHE Act;

AND BE IF FURTHER RESOLVED that (name of town) opposes LNG facilities in New Jersey and off our coast; and

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Monmouth Beach will send a letter to our Congressional Representative and US Senators alerting them to our concerns with fracking and urging them to support a federal ban on fracking and co-sponsor the FRAC and BREATHE Acts and oppose the NATGAS Act;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Monmouth Beach will send a letter to our NJ Assembly and Senate members alerting them to our concerns with fracking and urging them to co-sponsor S246/A567 to prohibit hydraulic fracturing in New Jersey and A575/S253 to prohibit the treatment, discharge, disposal or storage of hydraulic fracturing waste in New Jersey;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, that hydraulic fracturing for natural gas is prohibited within the Borough of Monmouth Beach.

INTRODUCTION OF THE 2012 MUNICIPAL BUDGET

BE IT RESOLVED that the following statements of revenues and appropriations shall constitute the Municipal Budget for the year 2012:

Appropriations within “CAPS” Municipal Purposes	\$ 5,082,495.00
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