

## **RUSH CONSERVATION BOARD**

February 2, 2012

PRESENT: David Watson, Chairman  
Patricia Kraus  
Julia Lederman  
Daniel Woolaver, Councilman Liaison

OTHERS: Carol Barnett, Resident                      Beth Hoak, Resident  
MaryAnn Rizzo, Resident                      Pamela Bucci, Town Clerk

EXCUSED: Jerry Tallo

### CORRESPONDENCE

None for review.

Chair Watson stated that hydrofracking information has been distributed to all members of each board of the town and Supervisor Anderson has asked each board and or individual members to review the information presented and provide their opinion regarding presenting a public hearing of the granting of a hydrofracking moratorium in Rush.

The Rush Citizens Concerned about Hydrofracking (RCCH) requested an informal presentation to the Conservation Board members. Chair Watson then introduced Carol Barnett and asked that she make her presentation.

### INFORMAL PRESENTATION

Resident Carol Barnett, member of the RCCH spoke about the committee's concerns about hydrofracking. Previously, the RCCH sponsored a forum with speakers Jordan Kleiman, Rush resident, and David Slotchie, Esq. on the concerns and legalities of hydrofracking. Mr. Kleiman also appeared before and spoke at the January Town Board meeting.

Residents Carol Barnett, MaryAnn Rizzo and Beth Hoak spoke collectively about the topic of hydrofracking. They stated that hydrofracking not been done for an extended length of time, roughly 5 years. It is very important for the Town of Rush to seek additional time before making a decision about allowing hydrofracking.

The group talked about the Hinman Straub (attorneys at law) documentation recently received by the Town. A response memo was also presented to the Conservation Board. They believe the document to be irrelevant and erroneous. Of concern is horizontal drilling, the mix of many chemicals, use of millions of gallons of water, damage to the environment, mining rights and leases, and hazardous waste being trucked to unknown location. It was reported in recent

news that a small town in Pennsylvania which has hydrofracking no longer resembles its past. An urgency to place a moratorium on hydrofracking was discussed. Because water is such an important resource, water wells should be pre and post tested. Seven percent of the fresh water in the world is in NYS. The RCCH are concerned that the NYSDEC is researching hydrofracking sites with not only a small workforce but by one site at a time versus the entire operation. NYS' response is that there are not enough funds to do a full scale study.

A DRAFT fact sheet on Fracking Moratorium for Rush was presented to the Conservation Board.

The RCCH believes that the following areas would have a negative effect if hydrofracking occurred in the Town of Rush: (1) water; (2) water sheds; (3) Fire Department & Ambulance handling possible major emergencies; (4) chemical storage and disposal thereof; (5) disappearance and damage to lakes; (6) possible earthquakes; (7) high volume of traffic effecting roads; (8) earthquakes, (9) loss of property value; (10) possible violation of homeowners' insurance.

Member Kraus stated that because of all the hydrofracking information forthcoming, time to review it carefully and thoughtfully is required.

Member Lederman read in its entirety a response that she had prepared on behalf of the Conservation Board.

Member Lederman moved to submit the letter in support of a proposed moratorium for the Town of Rush. Member Kraus seconded the support. All members present agreed to its content and placed their signature upon it.

Member Lederman stated that it is very important to hear the pros and cons of hydrofracking in order to make an intelligent and researched decision for the town.

#### REVIEW OF APPLICATIONS

There were no applications for review.

With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela J. Bucci  
Town Clerk/Collector  
(Recording Secretary at this meeting)