

MINUTES  
TOWN OF PITTSBORO  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MEETING  
MONDAY, MARCH 12, 2012  
7:00 PM

Mayor Randy Voller called the meeting to order and called for a brief moment of silence.

ATTENDANCE

Members present: Mayor Randolph Voller, Commissioners Pamela Baldwin, Michael Fiocco, Jay Farrell, Bett Foley, and Beth Turner.

Staff present: Manager Bill Terry, Clerk Alice F. Lloyd, Attorney Paul S. Messick, Jr., Planner Stuart Bass, and Traffic Enforcement Officer Staff Sergeant Kevin Dodson.

**REGULAR MEETING AGENDA**

Mayor Voller asked Mr. Terry if there are any changes or modifications to the agenda that we need to know of at this time. Manager Terry said there was a change on New Business, No. 2, actually it listed yourself as the Voller Realty representative and he recently learned that that property has transferred to Greater Pittsboro CDC Inc. and is no longer a property of Voller Realty. Mayor Voller said correct. Manager Terry said also, Mr. Horne added an FYI late today that was put on the Board's desk about updates on the Main Street Program; a copy was put at each of your work stations. Going forward with that, the Main Street update will happen at the second meeting of each month, the reason we are going to do that is there are some months where the second Tuesday comes before the second Monday so the Board meeting will be before the Main Street meeting so it is just more consistent to just do it on the second meeting. Mayor Voller said everyone should have a copy of this on your desk. Other than that, are there any questions on the minutes before I ask for an approval of the agenda and the Consent Agenda?

**CONSENT AGENDA**

1. Approve minutes of the February 13, 2012 regular meeting.
2. Approve minutes of the February 27, 2012 regular meeting.
3. Authorizing the Town Clerk to determine sufficiency of the application and scheduled public hearing for March 26, 2012, for the Proposed Annexation of Northwood High School.

Commissioner Fiocco said I have some comments on the minutes and these are from the February 13, 2012 meeting. Page 47, the second paragraph, fourth line, sentence states, "Commissioner Fiocco asks if there were any implications." Commissioner Fiocco said I believe I was asking if there were any cost implications with the final round of NCDOT discussions. And the second line from the bottom of the same paragraph reads, "some of the flow to flow things" and what it should say is flowable fill, not flow

to flow. That's all I had for the February 13, 2012. Mayor Voller asked for any other changes. Commissioner Fiocco said on the February 27, 2012 minutes, page 21, last paragraph on the page, "Commissioner Fiocco asked Mr. Terry if one of the deliverables is a data base of practices and install BMPs." This should read "installed." Mayor Voller said I think this speaks to something Commissioner Turner brought up about tense issues. Commissioner Fiocco said this was important there because I was referring to the fact that I thought we only had to track the one's that would be installed, not the one's that are already in place and nor would we be installing them. Commissioner Turner said right.

Mayor Voller asked if there are any other changes. If not, I'll ask for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda with the changes set forth by Commissioner Fiocco. Motion moved by Commissioner Fiocco. Motion seconded by Commissioner Baldwin.

Vote Aye-5 Nay-0

Mayor Voller asked do we have an approval for the Regular Meeting Agenda; are there any changes other than the one that Mr. Terry set forth in Item 2? Mayor Voller said if not I'll ask for a motion to approve the agenda. Motion moved by Commissioner Fiocco. Motion seconded by Commissioner Turner.

Vote Aye-5 Nay-0

Mayor Voller asked the people in the back, can you hear us. A member of the audience said no, not even in the front. The audience member said it looks like you are talking to yourselves up there. Mayor Voller said well we are. This was brought to me after the last couple of public hearings where we had a full house so I want the Commissioners to hear this. It might be time for us to invest in microphones, because the people sitting at a certain point, even in the second row, can't hear us and I heard a lot from that over the public hearings we had in the three months that they just couldn't hear us at all. As we go into the budget season, Bill, I think we should look into this because if they are not hearing what we are saying it is not a good thing.

## **REGULAR MEETING AGENDA**

### **Citizens Matters**

Mayor Voller said nobody is signed up, although if somebody wants to say something as a public expression speaker that is not on the agenda now is your time to give your name and address for the record and speak out. Mayor Voller asked a member of the audience if they wanted to say something about anything that is not on the agenda.

Elaine Chiosso, said I am the Haw River Keeper, 1076 Rock Rest Road, Pittsboro, NC. I just want to say that 30 years ago in March, 1982, the Haw River Assembly was founded right here in Pittsboro. This building didn't exist yet but we convened our meeting over at the Agricultural Building Auditorium, which was basically the biggest room in town at that time, and people that had actually fought the building of Jordan Lake, hating to see a river dammed, had lost that fight and decided it was time to start an organization to protect the Haw River and the new Jordan Lake forever and put out the word to the public and about 300 people showed up saying we think this is a great idea and we have gone on since then. So just wanted to let you know that it was Pittsboro where we started.

Mayor Voller said Elaine, can I ask you a question. Go back up to the other microphone. Not everybody who didn't grow up here knows what the Haw River used to look like. Maybe if you could say a few words about what it looked like because now people think it has always been like this. Ms. Chiosso said well the Haw River was once a very beautiful river but industrial practices of the 1800's and 1900's just treated the Haw River as an open sewer, basically, and that included waste water from towns. The first big change to the Haw River was the Federal Clean Water Act of 1972 that stopped those practices. But it was up to each state to implement them and it was quickly found that without strong citizenship, which was provided for in the Clean Water Act, these rivers would not really get better, so that was a big impetus to the founding of the Haw River Assembly and other river groups at that time and we have seen tremendous progress, but it is always with the urging of concerned citizens that these better regulations and practices come into being.

Mayor Voller said I once heard from Commissioner Cotten and Commissioner Brooks up here that soap suds used to flow over the bridge and that the river would flow green sometimes because of the dyes that were put in it. Commissioner Foley said there used to be big mounds of foam...you wouldn't dare swim in it. Ms. Chiosso said we think it is pretty safe to swim in Chatham County, there are still parts that I would not so much suggest because there is still more waste water that enters right there. It is a pretty nice river these days. There is more to be done but it is in pretty good shape. Mayor Voller said thank you.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

##### **Payroll Adjustment Amendment to the Fiscal Year 2011/2012 Budget**

Manager Terry said this is sort of a housekeeping item - your Finance Officer's last official act before going on maternity leave. This implements the 3% raise that the Board enacted at your last Board meeting. Mayor Voller asked for any questions from Board members. Mayor Voller said we took action on this last meeting and this is just the budget ordinance change. Commissioner Fiocco said I make a motion that we adopt the attached budget ordinance. Motion seconded by Commissioner Foley.

Vote Aye-5 Nay-0

##### **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE FY 2011-2012 OPERATING BUDGET IS RECORDED IN THE BOOK OF RESOLUTIONS NUMBER ONE, PAGE 4-5**

Budget Ordinance Amendment:

##### **ORDINANCE AMENDING THE TOWN OF PITTSBORO 2011-2012 OPERATING BUDGET**

Be It Ordained by the Board of Commissioners of the Town of Pittsboro in regular session assembled on the 12<sup>nd</sup> day of March, 2012.

**For mid-year salary adjustments effective January 7, 2012**

Section 1. That the following **WATER FUND REVENUE ITEM** be increased by the amount indicated:

303990010	FUND BALANCE APPROPRIATED	\$12,305.00
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$12,305.00</b>

Section 2. That the following **WATER FUND EXPENDITURE ITEMS** be increased by the amount indicated:

307200020	SALARIES	\$1,695.00
307200050	FICA	130.00
307200070	RETIREMENT	120.00
307200071	SPECIAL RETIREMENT-401K	85.00
308100020	SALARIES	3,465.00
308100050	FICA	265.00
308100070	RETIREMENT	245.00
308100071	SPECIAL RETIREMENT-401K	175.00
308200020	SALARIES	2,400.00
308200050	FICA	185.00
308200070	RETIREMENT	170.00
308200071	SPECIAL RETIREMENT-401K	120.00
308300020	SALARIES	2,715.00
308300050	FICA	210.00
308300070	RETIREMENT	190.00
308300071	SPECIAL RETIREMENT-401K	135.00
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$12,305.00</b>

Section 3. That the following **GENERAL FUND REVENUE ITEM** be increased by the amount indicated:

10399010	FUND BALANCE APPROPRIATED	\$18,745.00
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$18,745.00</b>

Section 4. That the following **GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURE ITEMS** be increased by the amount indicated:

104200020	SALARIES	\$ 3,560.00
104200050	FICA	275.00
104200070	RETIREMENT	250.00
104200071	SPECIAL RETIREMENT-401K	175.00
104900020	SALARIES	1800.00
104900050	FICA	140.00
104900070	RETIREMENT	125.00
104900071	SPECIAL RETIREMENT-401K	90.00
105100020	SALARIES	8670.00
105100050	FICA	665.00
105100070	RETIREMENT	610.00

105100071	SPECIAL RETIREMENT-401K	435.00
105500020	SALARIES	590.00
105500050	FICA	45.00
105500070	RETIREMENT	40.00
105500071	SPECIAL RETIREMENT-401K	30.00
105600020	SALARIES	575.00
105600050	FICA	45.00
105600070	RETIREMENT	40.00
105600071	SPECIAL RETIREMENT-401K	30.00
105700020	SALARIES	460.00
105700050	FICA	35.00
105700070	RETIREMENT	35.00
105700071	SPECIAL RETIREMENT-401K	25.00
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$18,745.00</b>

**GRAND TOTAL            \$31,050.00**

**Update on the Citizen's Grants Committee.**

Manager Terry said the Board asked us to advertise for citizens interested in helping us reconstitute the Citizen's Grants Committee and we have done that and also put it on the website. To date, we only have two applications; one from Mr. Steve Snyder. Mayor Voller asked if Mr. Snyder is here tonight. Manager Terry said and one from Melissa Delbridge. The Board, I think, has several options tonight: you could consider the applications of those two individuals and appoint them to the Grants Committee, you can defer until later and direct Alice and I to continue to recruit. You may want to give us some guidance on the charge to prepare for the committee once it is reestablished. So I think this is primarily a discussion item, the Board needs to decide how you want to proceed with the reconstitution of this Grants Committee, whether these two are enough to get started or you would rather continue your recruitment efforts and see if we can interest some other citizens to participate. Mayor Voller said so if we are breathing new life into this are we taking away the restrictions we put last time so this would be a more permanent advisory board, is that the thinking? Manager Terry said it was up to the Board. Mayor Voller said everyone has received the information about it. When we set it up originally we put a time frame on it to see if it worked. Commissioner Fiocco, Commissioner Harrington and I were the liaisons; actually Commissioner Turner was on that Board with a few others. It reviewed and helped submit some grants and it kind of fell apart because, of course, it wasn't permanent. But now we want to reconstitute that, have them review grants, recommend to the Board what we should pursue, perhaps even help with some. Mr. Snyder is retired and is now the President of the HOA in Potterstone Village. Ms. Delbridge is a writer. Mayor Voller asked if Ms. Delbridge is here tonight. Both would be great candidates and I think we would want at least five on the board, plus a liaison or two from this Board that would go to meetings. I know that Commissioner Turner is one that would volunteer and we would seek other volunteers from the Board.

Commissioner Turner said I would like to start with two and just have other people who would jump in, because I think we will get more people once we get started and there are definitely some things ready to go that they could help with if they wanted to. Commissioner Farrell said I agree, it looks like these two

candidates are well qualified. Commissioner Foley said we are very fortunate to have people with grant writing experience right here in the community. But I agree with Mayor Voller that I think five is a good number to have on that board, at least five. Commissioner Turner said I have spoken with both of these people and not only are they qualified, they are really eager to help so since there is that momentum I think we should let them know that we are ready to get started. Commissioner Farrell said that anybody that takes time to fill out the application is definitely a plus for us. Mayor Voller said as what has happened with the Building Reuse application, I think the Board knows that we got the grant for the Rural Center, but that happened because some people then working with the applicant company freed it and now we are going to get the \$120,000 grant. This committee will pay off quite a bit by getting people involved in doing this. Commissioner Baldwin said I think we just need to go and start with them and continue to advertise. Mayor Voller said I think Bill is looking for a motion to approve the applicants and continue to advertise. Do you need any guidance about how we set up the committee? Manager Terry said last time we had a memorandum that sort of outlined the charge for them and directed them to concentrate their efforts on the priorities that the Board had set at their most recent retreat, which is not the one you just did but two years ago. If the Board wants to use that same charge we could do that or if the Board wants to appoint a subcommittee of its members to work on a charge or direct the staff to work on a charge, since we only have two members I think we have time to develop the charge later. If you want to reconstitute the committee tonight and appoint these two members, I think that would be fine.

Mayor Voller said okay so we will take the first motion – you have the motion to approve the two. Commissioner Baldwin made a motion to approve the said two as the Citizens’ Grant Committee in the beginning and continue to advertise. Motion seconded by Commissioner Farrell.

Vote      Aye-5   Nay-0

Mayor Voller said so the first thing, Bill, is these two are appointed and continue to advertise. Now, does the Board want to consider some people off line working on what the charge of this committee is going to be based and modifying what we did in the past or do you want staff to do it, or do you want to meet with these two. Commissioner Fiocco said he likes the idea of getting a subcommittee of the Board of Commissioners to develop the charge and meet with the members of the committee to work up a charge. I think it’s a great idea. Commissioner Fiocco made a motion that we appoint a subcommittee of the Board of Commissioners to develop the charge and the charter. Motion seconded by Commissioner Foley. Mayor Voller asked do we want to name who is going to be on that committee. So first we will vote on it. All in favor of setting this up and meeting with the two.

Vote      Aye-5   Nay-0

Mayor Voller said so now we need to set up who wants to get together and do this, obviously you can’t have more than two meet without it being a public meeting. Commissioner Fiocco said well I’ve been the liaison to the board. Mr. Messick said the committee will be a public body so you are going to have a public meeting regardless. Mayor Voller said so no matter what, if you have a subcommittee meeting it is a public body? Mr. Messick responded sure. Mayor Voller asked even if one person meets? Mr. Messick said you have a committee of one. Mayor Voller said Paul, I am just asking the question. Mr. Messick said if you are going to meet with this advisory committee that is a public body as well. Mayor Voller

said right, so last time we had me and two Board members as the liaison but if Mike wants to set up a committee this Board appoints it is going to have to be publicly advertised. Manager Terry said he thinks the attorney is telling you there is no need to restrict yourself to two members because it is going to be a public meeting whether you do that or not. Mayor Voller asked how many members want to be on said subcommittee. Commissioner Fiocco said he would be happy to be on it. Commissioner Foley said she would be happy to help but how many do we need? Mayor Voller said as many as want to do it. You are all welcome to do it. We have three folks that say they will serve and everyone else is welcomed to come if they want to do it. Manager Terry said so Commissioners Fiocco, Baldwin and Turner are the subcommittee. Mayor Voller said yes and I guess you need to get in touch with these two appointees and let's get going and decide when you want to meet, but as we found out last time you lose momentum if you don't meet often and get a charge directed and go at it.

## NEW BUSINESS

### **Update on Police Department Traffic Enforcement Program (Staff Sergeant Dodson).**

Mayor Voller said we missed you last meeting but we have a full house this meeting. Staff Sergeant Dodson said the last time I missed my Dad was in the hospital and then he had to go in the hospital again this past Saturday night, so when we leave here tonight my wife and I are going to see him but he is doing much, much better. He had a planned surgery about a month ago and he is doing a lot better. My name is Kevin Dodson and I am glad to see everyone, we have a full house. Some of the information I am going to be passing on to you is probably going to be a little bit repetitive in that those of you obviously who were here last time have heard this before, however, I've got a little bit of new info. To the new members of the council who don't know me, this will be new to you. I will go through this fairly quickly. My name is Kevin Dodson, I am married, my wife Lori Ann, we have five children – we have got four boys and one girl. All of them are grown and out of the house except we have two who are out of the house but we have two in college – one is at UNCG and the other one is at Lee University. I came here in September, 2009, I came here from Siler City PD. I am still sworn at Siler City Police Department so I am a reserve sergeant there as well. I still have a good working relationship with them, I teach them firearms as I am a firearms instructor. And some you may possibly know me as the guy who drives the silver Mustang. I do more than drive the silver Mustang but it is a pretty cool car to drive, it gets a little cramped sometimes when you drive around in it for 12 hours.

I have been in law enforcement about 10 years. I am 51 years old. Prior to getting in law enforcement I worked with my family, my Dad did a little bit of everything – retail, real estate, and storage warehouses. Most of my adult life was a business background but I had always been interested in law enforcement, had good friends of mine in law enforcement, so my Dad ended up getting rid of just about everything and went into the ministry. Needless to say I am the Sunday school teacher at his church. But at 41 years old I went to basic law enforcement training and it has been everything I have expected it to be and then some. I love it just as much today as I did when I started. I guess if I had gotten into it when I was 21 I would about be able to retire now.

I came here under a grant. For those of you who don't know, I came here under a grant of the Governor's Highway Safety Programs. I also have the privilege of being the Governor's Highway Safety County

Coordinator. I was asked to do that job when I came here. Troy Roberson did that before me and most of you know he is the Community Police Officer so I am proud I am representing Chatham County. What I do basically as Governor's Highway Safety Coordinator we present our numbers every month when we do driver's license checkpoints, things like that. You have Click-It/Ticket, Booze It/Lose It, No Need to Speed, things like that. I ensure that the sheriff's office as well as Siler City Police Department reports their numbers as well. We try to keep all that so at the end of the year all these stats are put together and we are able to report something for the state.

I came in here as a sergeant, I left as a sergeant with Siler City and came in here as a sergeant and it was probably about a year ago I was promoted to a staff sergeant. New duties in addition to what I already do are to assist Lt. Lesia McCullough with patrol duties and administrative duties. I work closely with Lesia. Also recently I have been asked to supervise our K-9 program. Corporal Brian Overman is our new K-9 officer and he literally started today. He is going to handler school which is probably going to last about 5 weeks. He is pumped up about that. We are really looking forward to him getting certified and looking forward to utilizing the dog. Obviously on an enforcement basis but as well as half of what Kilo will be doing will be doing demonstrations and so forth at community events, etc. She is not certified as a bite dog, we don't want her to be a bite dog, but she is sweet and a good dog but she knows when it is time to work and when it is time to play.

Just to give you a brief background on myself as far as what you are getting in me. I have received some specialized training. I am the departments only specialized firearms instructor. I also instruct at Siler City PD when we have our yearly qualification. I also teach the North Carolina Conceal Carry Handgun course, I do that on the side and enjoy doing that. I have probably taught 1,700 students to date, a lot of them from Chatham County. I have been through basic, advanced and I am also a certified accident reconstructionist in that God forbid, if we had a fatality and they could not find fault they would ask me to come in and take the evidence you have and put it all together to try to determine who would be at fault in a situation like that. Sometimes it is not all that easy to tell. I am also a DRE, which is a drug recognition expert. About 1% of law enforcement officers in North Carolina are DREs, and basically our job is when someone is arrested for DWI, let's say they blow maybe a .04 and you know the law is .08. Let's say they blow .04 but they fail the field sobriety test and it is not consistent with the level of alcohol they have consumed then they will call me. I will run some tests on them and after about an hour with them, taking their blood pressure, temperature, some other things that go into that I would determine not necessarily the specific drug they are under but the category of drug that they are under, for instance, maybe a central nervous system stimulant or a central nervous system depressant. You have to recertify on that every two years so once you get it you have to stay current and stay up to date on things. I have to go to in-service training every year with that. I am a standardized field sobriety instructor that means that I teach other officers how to perform field sobriety tests. I am a SCAT instructor (subject control and arrest techniques) that is just a fancy name for defensive tactics instructor and a BLET instructor, which means I teach new recruits coming in to law enforcement, which I teach through the community college. I really enjoy doing that. I am really passionate about teaching period. I enjoy teaching. I am proud to say that after coming here at the end of 2009 - I have been here since September, trying to get all the other guys motivated on enforcement, not just speeding but DWI and a lot of other things. We had 28 arrests at the end of 2009 by the department. By the end of 2010, we had 64. That was an increase of 115%. We actually had a good

year this past year so it is not all me doing all that, it is the other officers as well. I remember mentioning this last time, I don't want you folks to think there are a lot of drunks riding around here in Pittsboro. No, the overwhelming majority of them are folks coming through Pittsboro – not that many of them were our own citizens, I'm happy to say.

The mission statement of the Governor's Highway Safety Program is it is a program to promote highway safety awareness and reduce the number of traffic crashes and fatalities in the State of North Carolina through the planning and execution of safety programs. I have a planning safety program planning calendar and this is part of us keeping up with the grant and, by the way, our grant is hard to believe this September I will be here 3 years. Our grant was for 3 years and hopefully you will be able to find a use for me after the grant because I do enjoy working here. This is our planning calendar and basically this is all the programs you have heard on TV: Click-It/Ticket, Booze It/Lose It, and Child Passenger Safety Week. By the way, I am going to a week-long class in May to be certified in Child Passenger Restraint Program, I will be able to install all these seats. You wouldn't believe all that goes into just learning how to install baby and child seats. There are so many different kinds out there it is easier said than done. So I'm going to get certified on that in May, but this is our calendar that we go by and I am proud to say that we have 100% reporting since I've been doing this. I have never missed a deadline, I've never missed a time that I had to report. Then just to give you a quick idea, this was a 2011 holiday Booze It/Lose It and, by the way, any of you guys can go and get this same information. You go on the web to Governor's Highway Safety Program all this information is available to you. The 2011 holiday Booze It/Lose it, which ran from December 3, 2011 to January 2, 2012 this is all 100 counties reporting, they had 1,941 check points that they set up. The total DWI arrests were 3,627 DWI arrests. That is not how many get through these check points or get away that is 3,627 that were arrested. I am pretty passionate about DWI enforcement. I have nothing against folks that want to drink, obviously, just don't get behind the wheel of a 3,600 pound missile and drive around and endanger other people's lives. If you ever get to go to a thing they have every December, it is called "The Tree of Life" in Raleigh, they do it at the Capitol Building, they have a victim of DWI and last year they had some parents whose daughter was a victim of DWI where the suspect was fleeing from the police and they ended up colliding with their daughter and killed their daughter. It is very painful to hear that kind of stuff. DWI doesn't only affect the person that hit the person and the other person, it affects everybody. It affects the families of the victim and the families of the offender, so we are pretty passionate about DWI enforcement.

One other thing in regard to the Mustang, this is an old calendar but in 2011 we submitted our picture to be put in the Governor's Highway Safety Program calendar and we actually made it. We made it. That is up there at Powell Place so when we got the letter that we had been accepted and would be in the calendar we were pretty excited about that. That's a pretty car right there and it made it.

Another thing that just recently happened, there was an article that was put in The Chatham News about that we have just started a county-wide DWI task force in that our agency as well as Siler City PD and the Chatham County Sheriff's Office participate in what we call "DWI Task Force." All that means is that in order to do this we have to perform 12 checkpoints a year and we get to go all around the county so we get to get out of the city for awhile. We might go down to Bennett and set up a checkpoint where Pittsboro PD, Siler City PD, the sheriff's office and the NC Highway Patrol will participate. We will host about 3 of those a year and the other agencies will host about 3 so we have a total of 12.

As far as some new things, I don't just go out there and write speeding tickets and find drunks, but I also participate in the "Fatal Vision Events" that we conduct at the high schools and these kids wear goggles that simulate impairment and that impairment might be from a .07 all the way up to a .24 and they go out and do field sobriety tests, walking a straight line, one leg standing, etc. And I tell them this is just simulation, can you imagine getting behind the wheel of a vehicle and driving a vehicle like this and they are like no, absolutely no way. And of course these high school kids the tolerance is 0 tolerance, they are not supposed to be caught driving and drinking enough to register a .01. Obviously we are trying to hammer the message you don't get behind the wheel of a vehicle while you are consuming alcohol. We also go to Jordan Matthews. Officer Troy Roberson helps me with that as well. He is our community police officer.

I am going to be going into the elementary schools this year conducting bicycle safety and helmet safety and try to get it across to these kids they should wear helmets and introduce a program to reinforce that to try to get these kids to be safe on their bikes. Also, we have had numerous complaints, especially over at Potterstone, about folks driving through there speeding, careless and reckless driving. Of course I can't be everywhere at the same time. It is a good feeling when I go into these neighborhoods and I set up and run radar and have citizens walk out to my patrol car and tell me I appreciate what you are doing. Of course, I pass this on to my other guys as well, I'm not the only one that can do this. You guys go out and do this as well and create the awareness. But I want to create a program where we interact with the citizens in these neighborhoods in Potterstone, Powell Place and Chatham Forest, to where we can stop this. You can't eliminate this all together but hopefully you can reduce it. Obviously, my worst nightmare would be a child being run over in one of these neighborhoods and nobody wants that to happen.

In 2009, there were 1,346 deaths on our roads in North Carolina and out of those 394 were alcohol related. That is almost 30% which is way too much. Occasionally I will stop a car and folks will tell me you should be out there finding those drug dealers, prostitutes, etc. That is on our agenda too but today speed enforcement is on the agenda. I want to share with you, Chief Michael Haggler from Locust Police Department, interesting enough Theodore "Ted" Bundy was arrested August 16, 1975, for driving without a headlight, trying to elude police and he was investigated due to his vehicle matching the description of one of those used in a kidnapping, which resulted in a conviction for kidnapping. He was stopped for driving without his headlights on. This led to his capture. David Berkowitz, Son of Sam, happened back in '77, he was taken down by a parking ticket issue, where he killed one of his victims. That was just from an officer doing his regular everyday job in traffic enforcement. Timothy McVeigh was stopped for not having a license plate on his vehicle. I think if I were going to be driving around and had done all that he did I think I would at least have a license plate on the back of my vehicle, if even a stolen one. But this idiot didn't have one on the back, of course not all criminals are smart.

I know I have talked kind of fast but I just wanted to hit the meat and potatoes of all this folks and especially to all of you who don't know me or have never met me before. I wanted to open it up for any questions about anything I've presented to you in the way of traffic enforcement or the grant or anything else I've talked about. I know I've talked pretty fast. Mayor Voller said well you drive a fast car. Staff Sergeant Dodson said well I guess that transcends over to me. A question from the audience, due to the power outage on the west side of town, both stop lights were out and the police cars were already there but nobody was directing traffic so the traffic was just sort of on its own. Sergeant Dodson said he had

been off today and he came here to do the presentation, so I am not aware of that but I can tell you if I was on duty of course we would be getting more officers and that might not mean just us. Of course, we all work well together. I would probably call the Sheriff's office, maybe the Highway Patrol and get them to assist as well. There obviously should be someone out there directing traffic. Hopefully they have restored the power.

Another question from the audience, I do see you there at the speed traps stopping people which is good, Sergeant Dodson said we don't have speed traps. The audience member said well there are people sitting out there with radar. My question is my experience in Pittsboro and I've lived here a long time, the most dangerous place in Pittsboro is the circle. People drive through that probably 2 to 3 times the speed limit and it is almost like a slingshot because everybody is trying to beat everybody in there but yet I've never seen anyone get a ticket or ever see an officer sitting there to try to slow that down. The other thing is that, as a police officer, would you be in favor of having raised crosswalks at every school. Sgt. Dodson said he would not have a problem with that, I think they would work. The audience member said but do you have any ideas about how we can slow that traffic down in the circle? Sgt. Dodson said I just came from a Governor's Highway Safety Summit and we talked about that, we were brainstorming on some things and I'll tell you one thing we are going to do, here I am giving our secrets away, we are going to have an officer stand out there and he will be in uniform and, you know what we are looking for, we are looking for seat belt enforcement. I have to tell you that if you have an officer standing out there at the traffic circle you will have people slow down. They are going to get the message. But it is like everything else, I can go over and sit in Potterstone and run radar for awhile and it will slow people down for a month or so, but it is like anything else you get away from it and eventually it continues. Sgt. Dodson said since I came over here to Pittsboro I have been surprised that there have not been more accidents in the traffic circle so obviously, the point being there is that there are not that many traffic bump-ups. And usually when they happen they stop at the traffic circle to yield and what they will do the person behind them is not paying attention and they will bump into them. Actually, the traffic circle is quite efficient, and the one at the community college is very efficient as well.

Mayor Voller asked Sgt. Dodson if he has enjoyed working in Pittsboro. Sgt. Dodson responded absolutely. Mayor Voller said you have told me many times so tell us how safe you think it is in town from what you have done. You have been here 3 years you came here on a grant, either from a traffic or criminal standpoint. Sgt. Dodson responded I live in Sanford. I love Chatham County, I've worked in Chatham County for about 10 years and I would have no problem moving. In fact, a couple of years ago I put my house up on the market but you know how the market has been, it just didn't sell. I will probably put it on again. In fact, I think I shared with you at Virlie's one night about trying to move. And I would move to Pittsboro in a minute because this has got to be one of the safest towns in North Carolina. Our call volume in Siler City was 3 times as high as it is in Pittsboro. This has got to be one of the last few towns left where you could probably walk downtown at 1 or 2 o'clock in the morning and still feel safe. The biggest thing as far as traffic is there are just a lot more people who speed. Once again, it is not Pittsboro but the transients coming through. Mayor Voller said obviously everybody complains about everyone else who speeds, because none of us speed, but we want it enforced but no one likes to get pulled over, but speak real quickly about the folks that come through town, I've heard you've caught some people doing 90 mph. down Hillsboro past midnight. Just tell us about a couple of crazy ones and

what you really deal with. Sgt. Dodson said Officer Travis Thomas caught an individual at 90 mph. coming through Pittsboro right by where the old Chevrolet place is, late probably 2 in the morning. Just last week, you all know where Pittsboro Body Shop is, I was sitting there with radar about 3 in the morning. I was going to be getting off pretty soon and I thought I'd just sit there a little longer. This car comes through in the 35 going 82 mph. Needless to say, you have to put yourself in my shoes, when I'm stopping somebody who is going 82 mph. in a 35, and they aren't just speeding folks. For all I know, they have just robbed a convenience store, maybe they have killed somebody, and I don't know what they have done. So when I approached the car, I asked the young lady, who was about 18 years old, what in the world are you doing going 82 in a 35. She said because of him, and I look in the back seat and I see this guy and of course he just shrugs his shoulders and it was her boyfriend because she had another girl in the front seat and they had just gotten into an argument. They were from out of town and I don't know what it is but these people fly coming into town, through town, and out of town. Mayor Voller said we will take these last two questions and unless the Board has a question we will receive the report.

A question from the audience, you didn't show as much enthusiasm for the canine as all the other topics. I didn't hear you, you said it's not a bite dog. Sgt. Dodson said I am passionate about DWI enforcement, because I have seen all the damage it does and I am extremely excited about the K-9 program.

Another question from the audience, if and when you consider the traffic bumps, please do some research because there is more than one kind. Sgt. Dodson said it was not his decision. Audience member said there is the kind where the car just goes like that and in new developments I've seen where they do the job but they don't cause you to jump on your feet.

Mayor Voller said everybody this is Sgt. Dodson, this is the man. The fancy car, the Mustang that put Pittsboro on the calendar for the whole state. Commissioner Baldwin said you say Pittsboro is a safe place. Sgt. Dodson responded in my opinion. Commissioner Baldwin said mine too, and I congratulate you all for making it a safe place for us, we really do appreciate it.

**Brick Capital Request for Rezoning of Four Parcels on Small Street Ext. from R-12M to R-10  
Establish date for Public Hearing  
(Kate Rumley, Brick Capital)**

Mayor Voller said Brick Capital request for rezoning of four parcels on North Small Street, it is a request to set a rezoning Public Hearing on the March 26, 2012, and Kate Rumley is here if you would like to address the Board.

Good evening. I told you all I would be back so here I am. I'm Kate Rumley. I am from Brick Capital Community Development Corporation in Sanford, NC, but I'm here tonight because Brick Capital is partnering with two community development corporations in Chatham County to develop 12 units of supported housing. In order to do that, we need to change the zoning from R-12M to R-10. With that R-10 we can develop several duplexes and also a building that we call a six-plex and the people with disabilities and then we in partnership with local CDC would manage those units. We have a total of 28 units that we have developed currently. Some of them in Sanford and we have 5 in Pittsboro and we had one annexed into the city (Mayor Voller - annexed over on Old Graham Road). So the reason I'm here tonight is to request a public hearing at the next council meeting. Mayor Voller said and you are intending

to partner with the Chatham County Community Development Corporation, Carl Thompson, Greater Pittsboro Community Corporation and their representative is Arturo Velasquez, correct, so that is the request. Commissioner Fiocco made a motion that we set the public hearing for March 26, 2012. Motion seconded by Commissioner Foley.

Vote Aye-5 Nay-0

Mayor Voller said okay, we will see you back on the March 26, 2012. Mr. Hoyle is going to set a Planning Board meeting and you will be over meeting with the Planning Board next week, thank you very much. Commissioner Farrell said he road through the property this morning, isn't there a creek or wetland on the low end? Mayor Voller said you won't be able to build down at the low end but they are probably going to build at the high end, you can't really build something at that low end. Commissioner Farrell said it looks like that waterway goes all the way up through there. Mayor Voller said he is asking about the area that you want to keep green. Ms. Rumley said there are several lots that we are planning to rezone. The first 3 will probably not be built on at all those will be for kind of a park and walkway and we might be able to put some little foot bridges over those for people to walk around in that green area. Mayor Voller said I think the property was owned by Mr. Riddle and Mr. Petty at one time a long time ago, that house too, on the very corner. It is on the north side. Mr. Hoyle said we will have a special Planning Board meeting for Tuesday night, March 20, 2012 at 7:00 pm. Ms. Rumley said she would be there.

#### **Draft Anti-Fracking Resolution. (Mayor Voller)**

Mayor Voller asked if everyone got the draft of the fracking resolution. I think we have some people here who would like to speak to the Board about it.

Gary Simpson, 82 Cynthia Lane, Pittsboro. I am representing myself tonight and also Chatham Citizens for Effective Communities. We are a citizen action group with the purpose of equipping citizens to enhance the life and quality of life in our communities and our county. I have submitted written copies tonight of a statement that I have. I am not going to take the time to read all of that before you because there are other people who would like to talk and because of time constraints. But I will ask that each of you Board members please read that in its entirety. In essence, what it is saying is that the current quality of life that we enjoy here in Chatham County and in Pittsboro, I think is one of the greater assets that we have. You really can't put a price on the quality of life that we have here. We live in a place that is really deep in a rural heritage surrounded by sustainable farms and traditional farms that feed healthy lifestyles, that feed the local economy, that really honor the land and the people who are stewards of that land. It is a place that is tremendously richly blessed with natural resources and environmental resources: our fields and our forests and our rivers and our lakes. All those things attract people to this land of bounty that we have and yet it is a finite resource that we have also. And we also live as people who have a common vision. It is a vision that was established over a decade ago by the county government and municipal governments all of them within the county. It is a vision that says Chatham County will be a place that cooperatively controls its own destiny to assure the state of well being desired by all of our people while proudly preserving the natural and cultural heritages of the county's rural character. That sounds great to me. But I am also here tonight to tell you beyond what I've said that we do have some powerful forces out

on our eastern border, in those hallowed halls of Raleigh, that have an agenda. An agenda that will change things dramatically. An agenda that, if it is passed, is going to turn our fields and our forests and our rivers and our lakes into a kind of a war zone of a fracking frenzy. There goes that vision of people who can control their own destiny and maintain that quality of life that is such a magnificent asset for them. And that is why I come before you as a citizen tonight asking you as our elected officials to join with the rest of us as citizens to protect and to preserve this vision and this quality of life that means so much to all of us. We shouldn't have to endure the kind of collateral damage that every frack community in over 30 states has endured. And why have they had to endure this? Because it is an industry that is moving too fast. It is too little regulation, too little monitoring, too little enforcement, and quite honestly too little concern for the common good. Lawmakers, too, have been moving too quickly in all states, much too hastily with the thought of dollar signs. When people move too quickly, what happens? Accidents happen. Don't let this accident happen, not yet, not now. Don't let our vision be obliterated. Don't let our quality of life be destroyed. Get behind this petition right now. We have a small envelope of time. Get behind it right now and leave a legacy of being peace makers, of being town criers, who call forth for patience and for prudence. Please do that. And I thank you for your time. Mayor Voller asked for any questions for Mr. Simpson.

Mayor Voller asked the next speaker to please state their name and address for the record. Jeff Starkweather, 590 Old Goldston Road. I am speaking tonight as a resident of the Pittsboro area. I actually live right across the line in the ETJ so I am affected by your plans. I am also a member of Chatham County Economic Development Corporation, as is the Mayor, and a member of the Triangle South Workforce Development Board, so although I am not representing them officially I wanted to talk about the economics of fracking and why this issue is important. While the principle concern of fracking is certainly water quality and air, I want to raise some questions about what has been considered one of the prime benefits of fracking, which are economic benefits and jobs. Before I get into that, I would point out that right now fracking is, of course, illegal in North Carolina but there is an attempt at the state level to push fracking and regulate it in a certain fashion. Currently, of course, anything that would do with fracking would be controlled by your land use regulations, you could control it. But as we have seen in other areas in the state the legislature is not averse to a whole new writing of local control. You saw that with the extension of all the land use permits that got extended once, twice, that overruled local land use regulations. The second thing is I want to address and I'll get to this at the end is why this resolution is important for Pittsboro to make relative to economic development. Why it is important now beyond just making a statement. As to the economic implications, I want to talk about 4 things: jobs, short term economic impact, what is called the resource curse of the boom/bust economy of gas or any kind of extraction, and finally how it relates to our own economic strategy in this county and whether it would be in conflict with that.

As far as jobs, most of the research shows there are not a whole lot of local jobs come out of gas extraction. Most of the workers who are driving trucks, who are on the construction sites, tend to be travelling wildcat workers who travel all over the United States doing this. They bring in their own workers. And most of the secondary jobs that they would create in terms of more retail sales and that sort of thing would not be living wage jobs.

The second thing I want to talk about is the short term economic impact. Now, it is clear there would be some gains in terms of sales of goods, automobiles, servicing, that sort of thing that comes from a lot more workers and activity going on. However, places that have had these massive booms in fracking have seen costs that often exceed those gains. Such as infrastructure costs, these massive amount of trucks that have to go across and deliver water and extract the gasoline often tear up roads and it costs local governments to repair those roads. More policing when you are having a lot of young men coming and staying in communities temporarily there tends to be an addition of wild behavior, you might say. Emergency response increases, arrests, accidents, and of course how many local governments are prepared for environmental accidents which happen on these places. New service demands. New demands on your local government. Obviously dust, noise and some of the other big impacts are of course the physical look of the landscape. Some of the types of infrastructures that this drilling often brings trailer parks for these people to live in, equipment depots, staging areas, water extraction sites, injection wells, gas storage, wastewater storage places so there is a lot of potential negative impact of this type of industry in the short term.

Third is what we call the boom and bust cycle. We heard originally that the Marcellus, which is this whole area of Pennsylvania and New York, was going to have a 50-year – they had enough gas to cover all United States use of natural gas for 50 years. Recent studies have found that the industry probably over estimated by 300% and it could be somewhere between 6 and 12 years so you can imagine all this activity that would come in and disrupt your community and be gone in anywhere from 6 to 12 years. A more important part is that across the United States when economists have looked at what we call extraction economies what they have found is what is called the curse of natural resources. They looked at counties across the United States that had extraction economies, particularly rural ones, compared to ones that didn't. What they found was clear evidence that resource-dependent counties exhibit more anemic economic growth after controlling for state specific effects social demographic differences, initial incomes, and spatial correction. So specific things they found was less economic diversity, lower levels of educational attainment, and less ability to attract investment. And I will give you one example that you might say we have here. We had a construction boom in the Triangle area and we had a construction bust. Now who went to work on those construction sites? Young men, hopefully, who didn't get any type of extra education beyond high school, that didn't go to CCCC and get technical training. When that industry went bust what kind of transferable skills did any of those workers have? How sustainable is that training? That is the kind of thing that you would end up with.

Finally, the issue of whether fracking conflicts with existing industries. Economists look at whether they drive out or crowd out other or better growth-point economic projects, industries or social supplies. For example, tourism, high-end retirement communities, sustainable agriculture and wineries, arts havens, university communities. All of these existing and standing economic development assets are things that Chatham County has and that would be in conflict with. I believe that fracking could be, in this county, would pose long-term damage to our economic development prospects in Chatham County. Our community's assets are based on natural resource amenities – hiking, biking, canoe, swimming, riding in or on our lakes, rivers, mountains, woods and our location near the internationally recognized creative industry capital of Research Triangle Park. Our agreed upon economic development strategy that we've worked on for several years is based on upon quality of life or what is called play-space economic

development. We are already attracting highly educated and well off retirees who would likely find the impact of shell gas extraction industry as a negative job location. Our economic development strategy is not just based on community preferences, it is actually based on detailed analysis looking at strengths and weaknesses, and supportive economic statistics from UNC Chapel Hill. As I said, research shows that the most economic robust rural communities rely on amenities and play space quality of life strategies. And I would point out our Main Street Program is geared towards that. The Chatham Park Partners whole strategy, which would be a tremendous boom for our economy, is based on that and this would be in direct conflict with that. So why is this important then now to be doing this? Because and if you saw the movie of Chatham Park Partners, what is that geared for? It is geared to attract industries outside this area and what do they base it on? The rural character and beauty of our land. As president of our EDC has often said, and he is a long-time industry locator, when an industry is looking to an area they are looking for what kind of a direction, what kind of strategy that community has. And I don't think the kind of industry we are trying to attract would want to see that gas extraction as the direction we are going. Thank you. Mayor Voller asked for questions. Mr. Starkweather said he has a letter he wrote to DENR that he will give the Board, which covers this. Commissioner Turner said she understands some of the landowners have already started signing agreements and I wonder if anyone addressed who is responsible for cleanup if something like that was to happen. I understand that sometimes the landowner is responsible for actual cleanup. Mr. Starkweather said most of the leases have been in Lee County so far, I don't know that there are too many in Chatham County. We have seen, and RAFI here in Pittsboro and the Ag. Extension have done some training on this issue but it is an extremely complicated thing and what they said is if you don't have a lawyer who is a resource mineral rights expert, and I'm a lawyer but certainly not knowledgeable in this area, that you are going to be at an extreme disadvantage as a property owner and often times they put all of those burdens on to the property owner. So if a neighboring property were ruined environmentally you might be sued as the property owner. So, yes, that is a real problem and one of the concerns that a lot of us have is that the state in my opinion actually needs to regulate that so it regulates these leases so that an individual property owner is not exploited by these leases. But we are a long way from having that kind of protection in North Carolina. By the way, since we don't have extraction, there are no training orders in extraction.

Elaine Chiosso, 1076 Rock Rest Road, the Haw River Keeper with the Haw River Assembly. I am going to just briefly touch on the waters issues about fracking, which is a major concern across the country where fracking is taking place. You probably have enough knowledge about what we call fracking to know that the process injects very high pressure millions of gallons of water, and a whole mixture of chemicals they use to help slippage in many other parts of the drilling process. Many of them are toxic chemicals and many of them have been proprietary secrets of the fracking industry. The EPA is trying to change that but we still don't really know what all of the chemicals are. Millions of gallons are needed to frack just one site. Pennsylvania is now approaching over 100,000 of frack sites but we are talking about in fairly small areas a large array of these drilling rigs going and each using millions of gallons to frack. You can reuse the frack water. What happens to that frack that is going down, the pressure is breaking the shale rock, giving access to the shale gas trapped in pockets in the rock, horizontal drilling going out capturing it, coming back up. This water and, of course, the natural gas is separated off but this water is now contaminated. So not only were there fracking chemicals but with some of the petroleum products and whatever was down in the ground and has been safely staying under the ground. In Pennsylvania this

is including heavy metals as well some radioactive elements. So we have a problem of where all this water is coming from, how will we get this water? If we have a drought is it going to be a problem? I would say yes. I would say the droughts we've seen, the way they have affected the Hay River and Jordan Lake. Adding this usage would be a tremendous pull of water. Once that waste water comes out and they are done with it, what do you do with it? Well, people have tried a lot of different things in different parts of the country. Out west in the arid climate, where they are fracking out in Texas and areas like that, they have tried evaporation pools. So kind of similar to what happens with hog lagoons in North Carolina. Where the point is to evaporate some of those chemicals off. Well, then you are causing local air pollution, some of which can be quite severe. So that's not so good. Just like hog lagoons, these sometimes break during storms and then you are ending up with fracking waters actually getting into surface water. There are parts of the country where they allow them to reinject this dirty frack water deep underground. This is the sort of thing that has been associated with seismic activity probably because of the slippage that's provided by those chemicals and perhaps someone else will talk more about the link to earthquakes. But we don't allow that in North Carolina. You can't put anything underground except water. You can inject it but you have to just do water. That is one of the things that is preventing fracking in North Carolina to start with. I would hope we wouldn't change that law. People have tried to put it in wastewater treatment plants. That has resulted in the micros being poisoned in wastewater treatment plants and shutting down the plant or you have some chemicals coming straight through the other side. In the early days in Pennsylvania they were actually dumping frack water right in the rivers. The City of Pittsburgh had to close their wastewater treatment plant down because of radioactive elements coming down stream. So these are all bad situations. There is no option right now that actually works. There are scientists out there trying to develop ways to extract all the toxins and poisons and petrochemicals out of frack water but that is going to cost a lot of money. So what makes fracking possible is that it is exempt from all federal environmental laws, Clean Water Act, Clean Air Act, State Drinking Water Act and the ground water rules. So if it had to obey all those regulations I don't think we would even be seeing fracking because you can do it without having to take all these precautions. These precautions are protecting us who are, of course, water users. I guess the last thing to say about water, there are many more things to say about water supply, let me just say that the area in North Carolina where fracking would take place, it is pretty much the same as the Triassic Basin, at least where we are and that is where the gases got trapped a long time ago, but when you look at the Triassic Basin you are talking the main water supplies of North Carolina, you are talking about the Cape Fear River and the Neuse River. So anything that happens here in the Haw River watershed and the Neuse River Watershed could affect over 2 million people in North Carolina's drinking water supply. And lastly, I just wanted to mention of course we have people in the ETJ of Pittsboro that are still on private wells and that has been a tremendous problem with fracking is that as you drill down the casings break sometimes or perhaps rock is fractured that lets water enter from one underground stream to another and people's wells have been contaminated particularly with methane, which is what the Duke University study shows. A lot of problems and of course we are just one of the very few states that are so lucky that way back in the 1940's laws were passed to prevent injection of anything else into the ground, very high pressure injections, and horizontal drilling. Not to do with this kind of fracking but other things that came up at that time so we have these laws on the books that would prevent fracking. What we are urging you tonight to look at the therefore, the resolution itself, keep these laws until the time it is actually demonstrated that all these problems can be solved and we are a long way from that in the United States. The one last little piece that makes us

special here in North Carolina is that this shale basin is very shallow. In other parts of the country it may be a mile deep. Here it is 1,000, 300 feet deep, maybe even up to the surface and we are talking about really being right in the same rock fractures as people's water.

Mayor Voller asked how shallow would you estimate on your knowledge it is. Ms. Chiosso said if you look at the maps of it, the geologic maps, it is kind of tilted, so there are places where it actually comes almost right up the surface. Unknown speaker from audience said a lot of people in Lee County right at the Deep River their wells are like 300 in the shale. Mayor Voller said so that is the biggest issue I don't think we should not be exploring it here in the first place, because of the separation, if you read the testimony from Chesapeake Energy they say you need 6,000 feet and we had a guy come up from the Gas Institute of America to Advance Energy and he said 1,000 feet but I know that under Jordan Lake you couldn't get a separation of 1,000 feet so it is very risky. Ms. Chiosso said shale gas could be under Jordan Lake and we certainly wouldn't want to see that being drilled. Commissioner Turner said you talked about seismic activity, and we are also talking about an area that is pretty close to Shearon Harris. Mayor Voller said that was an issue that Commissioner Brooks brought up, the Jonesboro Fault Line, that we have a plant built near the fault line anyway and to cause anymore risk to it would be foolhardy. Ms. Chiosso said there is a definite association between seismic activity and when they reinject fracking water into earth, so there are now some studies that have shown, what's the most recent one, either Oklahoma or Ohio. Anyway it seems to actually be associated with the fracking itself and not when they go back and reinject all that frack water. Ms. Chiosso said she was not going to say she knows all about this but it is clear the more you study is how little really is known and what bad consequences we're already seeing. Mayor Voller said Jordan Treacle came here and gave a presentation to our previous Board I think last May. He talked about the land leases and talked about the risk factors, the pros and cons. Ms. Chiosso said and although we don't have lawyers that know about fracking we are so lucky that we have Rural Advancement, right here in Pittsboro, that took this on early to go educate farmers and land owners and they have done an excellent job. We hope to catch some landowners with unsigned leases but it sure isn't going to protect someone who lives next door to a site that's been leased because you will have no rights and we get into some environmental justice issues with this. If you drive around the part of Lee and Chatham Counties, you see a lot of lower income people that only own a house, they don't have land that Chesapeake wants them to sign a contract for, so whatever harm is going to come to their well or their property, they are not even making any money off of it.

Colleen Kendrick, 2107 Old Graham Road. I wrote this whole long thing and I decided that I'm not going to speak to those issues that some people have already gone over. I am going to tell you a little bit about myself and why I care about this issue. I am an outdoors girl. I would much rather be digging in the dirt than coming to a town hall meeting. This is who I am. So when I first found out about this. I am a North Carolina resident for 42 years. I've been in Chatham since 2003. I grew up in Durham. I went back to school later in life to get an associate's in sustainable ag. This is where I first heard about this fracking issue. It got me so up in arms and afraid for what could come to Chatham in specific that I started a small group called the Deep River Clean Water Society with a bunch of other students at CCCC and what I'm more comfortable with is, I have been researching this issue almost exclusively for over a year now and I have almost like a master's degree worth of education in the depth of where I've gone to find out about this. What everyone is saying here is that the issue is so complex it reaches into every area of our lives

and that is one reason why people are saying slow down, there is no way that by May North Carolina should be able to have all the answers that the legislature has to have a structure for regulations for this industry in the state. It is way too complex. Coming back to Chatham, Debbie Roos, one of our really esteemed agriculture extension agents, has said that Chatham County especially is one of the only counties that the number of farms is continuing to grow and we have this really wonderful local food system, we have more farmers' markets opening every year. Robin Kohanowich, the program coordinator for the sustainable ag. program, I think it was either the summer or the fall, told me that she had received a letter from an organic farmer up in Pennsylvania and the letter was like we want to move to North Carolina but we have found out that you guys have shale. We can't consciously sell our produce anymore under organic certification or want to consciously sell it from a gas development area and all the chemicals that could be in this produce. We want to move to North Carolina but we're worried about what is going to happen and we want to wait until the shale issue is resolved. I don't blame them. My thing is like she is, forget the sustainable ag. This could affect people's health to such a degree that I would be willing to move to Maine or Oregon where they don't have shale at this point, that's how strongly I feel about this. Nothing has ever got me to come to a town hall meeting before, let me tell you. People talk about the rural character of Pittsboro. I grew up in the western part of Durham where it was quite close to Hillsborough and Duke Forest and I skipped school in Duke Forest. I'd much rather be outside than in a classroom. And I just can't imagine losing what we have here just to become an industrial wasteland. I don't think anybody wants that. What I would ask, following one of the things that Jeffrey talked about, North Carolina and Pittsboro in particular by taking a stand on this resolution and saying, let's just wait and go slow and not make any total decisions till the EPA is due for a study on this issue in 2014. We could actually encourage more economic growth opportunity by being one of the few places that doesn't allow fracking and one of the EIA Energy in Action websites they have a picture of all the gas drills that are happening now in the lower 48 and there are very few. I think there were 30 states that now allow shale gas extraction and coal bed methane extraction. If we could still be one of those havens I think that North Carolina and Pittsboro could really benefit from that. That's what I have to say about that. If you want to find out about the evil things that can happen, we have a Facebook site with all kinds of articles and journal articles that we upload and we are working on a website. I just don't want to sit up here and talk about the bad things I want people to remember why we came here if you came to Pittsboro from outside or what are some of the things that you love about Pittsboro. You can't fish, you can't hunt deer and eat fish and deer that they are going to be drinking out of these ponds – I love fishing but I'm not going to eat this stuff. We won't be able to live so really seriously think about this. Colleen if you want to submit your written comments you can submit them to Alice. She will type them up and email them.

An unknown audience member ask Colleen to repeat the name of her organization. She said it was Deep Water Clean Water Society. A question from the audience, from your research Colleen did these sites run 24/7, 365 with their noise and light pollution. Colleen said she said it depends on what stage of the drilling process. I think Pro-Publica has a really great graphic of all the different stages. Once they begin to drill the noise and everything is 24/7 because they are pounding that earth and they have it lit up like a stadium so the problem is with the gas leases they decide where they are going to put that because they go around and do seismic test for the best place to drill on your land and you can't necessarily say I want this setback but they decide where they will drill, and that could be 100 feet from your back door. Mayor

Voller said isn't that an issue that came up on the lighting issue in Pennsylvania and New York, these towns didn't realize if they approved it they'd be violating their lighting ordinance or they had no way of controlling the lighting on these rigs. Colleen said yes that was one of many huge issues not to mention the law that Pennsylvania just passed that allows the gas companies domain over the property rights of all private citizens. If they want to drill they can just take your land now up there. It has gotten really crazy. We want to take a stance and claim our own personal citizen's rights here while we still can.

Commissioner Fiocco asked a question about the water, you say millions of gallons are used to pump into the ground and there are two methods of disposing of the material, one through evaporation, one through injecting it back into the ground. What other methods are utilized in the industry? Colleen said she has heard that there is new one but this hydro-geologist has not gotten back and responded to my emails.

There was a gentleman at one of the Chatham board meetings that said that there was a new way but he won't answer me, so I don't know of a third way. Unknown audience member said Poseidon Concept, a company, instead of lime pits in storage field tanks above ground they use above ground lime spraying and they say they are inexpensive and environmentally sound but no one has documented how. Mayor Voller ask them to stand up and tell their name for the record. Myra Hartman. Ms. Hartman said she just happened to be reading about this recently that there is another way. Ohio has some 200 underground tests, 177 of them are used where they reinject their gas or the waste product back into the ground. Just last week Ohio's Department of Natural Resources, which governs the gas and oil drilling, found that a lot of the earthquakes that had been happening, late last year up there, were because of the drilling and so they are looking for new legislation up there but they one of the states where it is in the ground and other states are trying to move away from putting it back in the ground and this Poseidon Concept Company is one that has said they have a third way to do it that is more safe but that's not been covered.

Commissioner Fiocco asked over what kind of time period would you use a million or two million gallons of water? Colleen said so when they frack a well at first they would drill the well and then they would go horizontally to frack it and each time they frack they use an average between, and it depends on the formation, the geology, that specific area and use an average from 3.5 to 7 million gallons so that kind of a large per frack and a well can be fracked up to 17-20 times in its lifetime so that is a lot if you do the math, say an average of 5 million gallons times 20, and where is that coming from, when we don't have that for ourselves as it is. Ms. Harman said one of the arguments they are using that we would have to use is that they are saying some electric generation uses 150 million gallons a day. Colleen said yes but that goes back into the water cycle and this can't because of the contaminates and the hydrocarbons and the naturally occurring radioactive material so it can't go back in that water cycle. Commissioner Fiocco asked if this material could be processed at a water treatment plant? As Elaine was saying it cannot for a number of reasons. Number one because of the non-disclosure proprietary secret chemicals. If you don't have a chemical catalog number there is no way that a treatment plant can know what they need to have on hand to treat that. Plus depends on the shale and what's down underneath and each geologic formation we don't know if we have naturally occurring radioactive material and what are the drilling additives. Strongium is a drilling mud, well that is a heavy metal. There's arsenic and lead and all kind of stuff way down deep in the earth as well. It is highly unlikely that it will be able to be handled by a normal treatment plant.

Question from the audience, a personal question, out of curiosity seven years ago a few of my friends and I would go fishing out at Jordan Lake and I had nothing to do with this, but one of the fishing buddies, his

coworker, again I had nothing to do with this, but fish out of Jordan Lake we didn't want to clean it so we would give it to his coworker and she would eat a mess of fish like every week and I was just wondering if this might have been a health hazard to this co-worker. Ms. Chiosso said, unfortunately, all the surface waters in North Carolina are impaired with too much mercury. Coming from the big coal-fired plants in the mid-west basically it rains on us so it is getting worse as time goes on. So Jordan Lake is one of many lakes that you can only eat so much fish. If you want to find out, and of course a pregnant woman that would be like the very worst scenario, small children, people who are at risk in other ways. You can eat a little bit but the fish advisory site that the state has will tell you what fish are safe and how much and basically eating the top predators, like Stripers, are the worst because they are eating all the other fish. You can eat a lot of cat fish. You can look at this fish advisory website and see what the actual recommendations are, so many pounds of fish per month depending on who you are (man, woman, child). If she has any problems she might want to get tested for mercury.

My name is John Wagner, I live at 210 Jessamine Lane, Pittsboro, and I'll keep this very brief but I raised a family here. My children went through the Pittsboro school system from beginning to end and I chose Chatham and this area because of the quality of life. The woods, the people, the rivers and all of that is at risk and I am really concerned, not the short term but long term what the effects would be on my kids, their generation and generations to come. He said our area is going to be contaminated and we have a choice whether we can keep this in place for generations to come to get the same quality that we've had or whether we are going to pass them a toxic mess. So I encourage you all to sign this resolution and not just sign this resolution but to do everything you can to keep fracking out of our state. It is a total disaster and it will contaminate it.

Mayor Voller recognized Liz Cullington. She said she just has a simple question. I hope I'm not the only one that doesn't understand this. I don't understand the level of action, is it going to be allowed or disallowed across the state or allowed in parts of the state and not in others, which has a whole other set of questions. Mr. Wagner said right now it is illegal in North Carolina (Elaine went into depth on that). If it gets passed it would be for the state but the whole state doesn't have shale, there is a band through the piedmont and there is a little pocket over by Pilot Mountain and they may find others but it would affect this stripe right down the middle through Lee County particularly, part of Chatham, part of Durham, part of Orange and so, if it is passed, Lee County will be the place that will be hit first. They have already leased thousands of acres there and it would just spread. Mayor Voller added western Wake, parts of Granville. But the key thing is that map that I think you provided or I got a copy from your organization, it doesn't show that North Carolina is a player in this, according to the national industry. But the map that Triangle J put out shows the Triassic Basin you are referring to, and this is a question at the meetings I've had at the state, where some people are talking about this isn't going to come here why are we even having this discussion because there is not enough gas for it to be that interesting. But then others are pushing for this. Ms. Chiosso said the natural gas industry has spent a lot of money to try and crack North Carolina, that's all we know. Mayor Voller said but the gentleman who is head of the energy office now for Department of Commerce said that he didn't see why this was being pushed because it wasn't enough money. Ms. Chiosso noted an article in Rolling Stone magazine that just came out this week. Mayor Voller said he distributed it to everyone here. Ms. Chiosso said this is a whole different look at where the money is. Maybe it is not the actual shale gas itself, maybe it is to flip leases in the same way that we saw

with the housing industry. Mayor Voller said the one issue that RAFI brought up was that the money being paid for people here on leases was minuscule compared to Oklahoma, Texas, Arkansas and Pennsylvania so even if this was something that would be a good idea, North Carolinians were already getting screwed. Because they were paying like pennies on the dollar for these leases because nobody here has any experience in dealing with this type of extraction industry so therefore they were willing to sign something and get those checks in the mail and didn't know anything. An unknown audience member said he thought that was part of it. He thinks they see North Carolina as an easy state. It is being fought hard in Pennsylvania and in New York and Texas and Colorado. Here they think they can get in and do it and they are not going to meet that kind of resistance because we have no experience with it.

Jeff Starkweather asked if he could address the issue of whether it is going to affect the whole state. Promka Energy, which is the guy who came here and presented it to the county, his company is really an investment company. So part of what those people are doing are selling investment things, just like Wall Street, so the more houses, select the most toxic houses you had to sell, the more you could sell on Wall Street. So whether there is legitimate gas here or not if they can sell us cause it is permitted. I would take the other big reason why it is happening in North Carolina is ideological. The Republican strategy when they have gone after Obama is the "drill baby drill" strategy and so they are trying to make the argument that the reason our economy is not going along and gas prices are high is because we are not drilling everywhere. So whether it is realistic that would have any impact on gas prices, which it wouldn't, that is part of a political strategy. But as far as whether it would cover the whole state or not is going to be dependent on whether the state General Assembly essentially preempts local laws, local regulations, and when Tim Tillis, who is the Speaker of the House, was here I asked him that very question. Would you allow local control, other words would you allow each jurisdiction to decide whether they did it or not. He kind of just evaded the question. But one of the legal strategies, and I don't know if this would work or not, would be for local governments to actually themselves pass their own bans, their own prohibitions, based on health, safety and welfare and then if the state eventually allows it whether you could defend that on your inherent right to protect the health, safety and welfare of your (citizens). It would be a constitutional test but it might delay things. Ms. Chiosso said that is what the Town of Creedmoor has done. Mayor Voller said Creedmoor passed that. Ms. Chiosso said they passed an ordinance banning fracking in their jurisdiction. Mr. Starkweather said the more jurisdictions that do this, of course that's also a political message. Commissioner Farrell asked how does the county stand on this? Have we heard anything from the county? How does the county stand on fracking? Mr. Starkweather said, unfortunately, we have 3 Republicans that seem to tie in with Mr. Tillis and so forth. I suspect that they would not want to do anything that they thought would politically put them at odds with what is happening in the General Assembly. So they have not taken a position. We had a resolution that failed 3 to 2. It was sort of similar to this. Ms. Chiosso said their response to our resolution was to ask Mr. Tomkins from the gas industry in Pennsylvania come speak. Mayor Voller said one thing to be clear to this Board if you look at the maps on shale gas the Town of Pittsboro and our ETJ doesn't have any. We would only suffer adverse effects if this was a great idea, even and it was done because we wouldn't have anybody that would make money off of leases in Pittsboro's ETJ. If you look at Chatham County, all of that potential shale gas is down by the Deep River and Gulf. Ms. Chiosso said there was some in your very eastern part, you are in the Triassic Basin on the east side. Mayor Voller said I guess you would have to look at that map as it goes over by Jordan Lake. But my point is that people in our town limits would not get any benefit from any

leases and when I looked at it, Elaine, not even in our ETJ so the only thing we would get is negative effects. Commissioner Farrell asked where did Mayor Voller get that map? Mayor Voller responded Triangle J Council of Governments actually produced that map. This is the map. Mr. Starkweather said you can see here that it is a little bit on this side of the lake. Commissioner Turner said it is unfortunate that it has become a partisan issue. Mayor Voller said actually I have heard people from across both sides that are either for or against this. Commissioner Foley said it could affect the quality of life and therefore the property values, the value of real estate. Mayor Voller said that is my point. My point is that if there was a benefit it would be for people that were close to the line and to Elaine's point, according to that map, it is mostly under Jordan Lake and I don't know why anybody would want anybody fracking under our water supply. So that's whole other risk factor. Commissioner Baldwin said she appreciates all that you all have said tonight. That is wonderful information but have you all submitted all that information to your legislators? The crowd responded yes. Commissioner Baldwin said that basically from what the meetings I've attended so far it appears that they are going to pass it so it is very important that everyone continues to put pressure on their representatives so that they will know where you stand and let your neighbors all know that too.

Unknown female from audience asked Commissioner Baldwin when you say pass it are you speaking to Senate Bill 709 as an override or are you talking about a different. Commissioner Baldwin said I am talking about passing the actual bill which allows fracking, which legalizes fracking in the State of North Carolina, regardless of whether it affects a certain area or not, whether you have shale or not, it will affect the entire state. So that is why if anyone is against fracking and has their opinions and the information to back up what they are saying they need to submit all of that, call them, send them emails and if you are in Raleigh visit them and let them know that you are not in favor of this which may hurt our environment. Unknown female from audience said it should be, of course, a bipartisan issue because we are all dependent on water for life. Commissioner Baldwin said she won't say if it is bipartisan or not but I think everyone needs to talk to their legislator – send them an email, visit them, send them letters. If you are against it let them know that because they are your representatives. Mayor Voller said that would be the point, Pam, if you go to the therefore be it resolved. I mean there are a lot of whereas' but the real meat of the matter is that the Town of Pittsboro would urge North Carolina General Assembly to maintain current laws in North Carolina that prevent hydraulic fracturing and horizontal drilling in the state and take no action that would weaken these laws before it is fully demonstrated that North Carolina public health, waters, land, air, economy and quality of life can fully be protected from impacts of allowing shale gas development in the State. So that one statement kind of boils it down that we would be taking a position that would be telling the General Assembly don't do anything until you can demonstrate that this is safe. It is not saying that for or against it is just saying look, we know that you have a study bill in S709, we know that Governor Purdue vetoed it, we know that they are spending a miniscule amount, \$100,000 was allocated for this for something that could potentially ruin the water. Commissioner Baldwin said the resolution is great but I still think still as individuals ... Ms. Chiosso said please understand that Carrboro just passed a resolution, Durham is taking one up, Chapel Hill will be taking one up. Creedmoor was way out front. Apex is looking at one, Cary is looking at one. We have citizens in all these towns and cities I think we are all going to be taking one up, so collectively as elected representatives your voice is really more meaningful to the General Assembly than us, in a lot of ways. If you can get the League of Municipalities involved... Commissioner Baldwin said the League of

Municipalities is involved. I deal with them also. But it still means you hear that from the cities but you all are the voters. Mayor Voller said I think the main reason that you are getting interest from these other municipalities is because of what this map shows, the Jordan Lake watershed and the MOU for all of us using Jordan Lake. If you look at the counties in there, it has Lee, Chatham, Orange, Durham and Wake and four of those counties are affected by this shale gas when you look. Ms. Chiosso said as is Falls Lake. Mayor Voller said that is why they are interested because the concern is for drinking water and obviously for Shearon Harris. I guess, Jay, to answer one of the questions that you posed, the irony of this whole debate is most of the state legislators that might vote for this would suffer zero effect negatively and whatever positive would accrue but the people that live here that would suffer potentially negative effects are getting out voted. If you look at the people around who are looking at this they are mainly asking take your time and make sure that whatever you do makes sense because you can only ruin the lake one time and then it is over. If I lived somewhere else where it didn't matter I might feel differently, I might think it is about jobs. But I will tell you that when they wanted to talk about putting windmills on the coast and I was at a meeting they went through an awful lot of debate on allowing windmills on the coast of North Carolina much more so than we are getting on this. And windmills, they were talking about would it ruin the scenic view when you are sitting on the beach and they commissioned a study for that. More than \$100,000, okay?

I am Barb Tesla, my address is 1788 Mitchell Chapel Road, and I have been here in Chatham County since 2005. I just wanted to briefly share with everyone that water does get contaminated, it happened to me. My family drank just one of the chemicals that is used in fracking fluid and we all have permanent neurological damage. So it can happen and it does happen. Mayor Voller said it happened to a contaminated well in another state, Maryland. Ms. Tusso said there were thousands of dollars involved in a study, the EPA was involved, and the Maryland Department of the Environment was involved. It does happen and you can't make a human life full again either, when it's your children. Commissioner Fiocco asked if this was the well for your home. Ms. Tusso said our well, yes that serviced our home. Commissioner Fiocco asked how close was the fracking operation? Ms. Tusso said it wasn't a fracking operation, it was an industrial park, but it can happen. It gets into the aquifers and it can happen, especially in this area, my well here is 360 feet deep. Mayor Voller said so what you are testifying is if you have a well and it gets contaminated you can have results that are therefore irreversible and yours was near an industrial site. Ms. Tusso said it does happen and that was just one of the chemicals used in fracking, just one of the 800 or so chemicals.

A male audience member said just a comment on that. Quite a few of the chemicals banadyne, teludyne, ethyl benzene, zylene and about 500 additional chemicals that are known and a lot that they don't know, out of those there are known carcinogens, neurotoxins are quite common, and endocrine disruptors that affect reproduction and have just massive effects on organs so she is talking about one neurotoxin and we are talking dozens and dozens. Colleen Kendrick said two dairy farmers that came down to talk with our group Clean Water for North Carolina came to talk to people this fall, they want to move to North Carolina too but they are also waiting and they have families who are sick in Pennsylvania and Pennsylvania now has a gag order that doctors who see people for fracking injuries and things are bound to confidentiality.

Mayor Voller said so has everybody had an opportunity to say something. This wasn't a public hearing but I knew you all came and wanted to say something about it. An unknown member of the audience said she would like to mention one thing. Disruption Exchange set out to figure out what the chemical cocktails used to drill wells and frack. She and her team found 649 different chemicals, more than half of which are known to disrupt the endocrine system so if people are getting sick they are getting sick from one of more of those 649 chemicals. My name is Ruth Zouth and I live at 750 Weaver Dairy Road, Chapel Hill.

Mayor Voller said I want somebody to speak, maybe it could be Colleen, to just tell the Board who worked on this resolution. I didn't write this resolution. I gave it to our Board but what groups put this together and how did it come to be. Colleen Kendrick said Elaine Chiosso from Haw River Assembly was the main coordinator and we had myself from Deep River Clean Water Society, Sierra Club North Carolina, Food and Water Watch, Chatham Citizens for Effective Communities, and John Wagner, Jeffrey Starkweather, and Sammy Slade from Carrboro. Mayor Voller said Sammy is an alderman with Carrboro. Mr. Starkweather said Rocky River didn't work on it but they endorsed it. Mayor Voller said at least a half dozen groups. Colleen said maybe Clean Water of North Carolina edited on there as well. Commissioner Foley asked if this is similar to ones that are in the other counties too? Colleen said Carrboro's is written a little bit differently. Ms. Chiosso said this one is actually being used as a model for other places because it is very long but the comprehensiveness is useful really but this one was crafted to include as many things so other cities will find things to put in theirs that they think are their own information - what they would be protecting. Mr. Starkweather said this is not the kind of thing that we got from someone else, we literally went through everyone of these things ourselves and drafted it.

Mayor Voller asked what is the time frame on this and why is it coming to the meeting on March 12, 2012, that is the big question. Ms. Chiosso said this very important. So we have a window that all citizens in North Carolina working to try and stop fracking is basically now until the General Assembly comes back in May. As soon as they come back we believe they are going to start introducing bills to legalize fracking so right now is very important and if you were to pass this resolution we would urge you to, of course, send it not just to the General Assembly but also to DENR and they can put it into their information they are collecting about this study of impacts in North Carolina of shale. So those public hearings on the draft, DENR's study on shale are this month, March 20, 2012 in Sanford and March 27, 2012 in Chapel Hill. This is a great time for us to urge as many cities and towns to pass resolutions. Mr. Starkweather said, Randy, essentially DENR is taking public input on the draft study so they will make a final set of recommendations so the towns who raise issues could potentially have an impact on what they present to the General Assembly. Mayor Voller said so the question you are asking policy makers to consider is there are 21 points and I can hear Pam over here already talking about whether she agrees with it or where is the backup information on all these whereas'. Ultimately it comes down to the "therefore be it resolved" which is really the most important thing. Commissioner Baldwin said it is the most important thing but some of the "whereas" like number 3, where "substantial political influence" I would not want that in a resolution that I was going to vote for and I would like to review one that was passed by Creedmoor. Ms. Chiosso said Creedmoor passed an ordinance banning fracking that is a much bigger thing. Commissioner Baldwin said she would like to see their ordinance. Colleen said Ms. Baldwin, if I may be so bold as to say, we have evidence that American Petroleum Institute is in bed basically with our

Senate Energy Committee right now and we aren't there. The state environmental groups are not there building policy with them, so that is where that political influence statement comes from. Commissioner Baldwin said she does understand what she is saying but I would not want that in a resolution. Colleen said okay, I see what you are saying. Commissioner Turner said she would urge us to take out whereas' that you don't agree with and keep the resolution and pass it. Commissioner Baldwin said she didn't say she wanted to investigate all the points I said that I did not specifically like that – that is a political statement. Basically the effect it is going to have on our environment and how it will harm the environment and what will happen as a result if fracking is passed. Commissioner Turner said think of it as a smorgasbord to choose from. Mayor Voller said I guess I would just like to ask the Board can we read the therefore statement at the end and if we can concur, that is the thing we would be passing and then we can go back up and get rid of anything from 1 to 21 or just write we have concerns, whereas we are concerned, now therefore. I just want to make sure that is the key thing to read. Commissioner Fiocco said he definitely can support the resolution, I do want to take some time to look at all of the points that are the foundation of the resolution, having just really been able to study this today. I want to make sure that I can agree with the foundation for making the conclusion. I think the conclusion is sound. I think it completely makes sense, I would like to urge the legislators not to act in haste and to take the time to understand the ramifications and implications of legalizing this activity. Commissioner Turner asked if this is put off for another two weeks how will that impact. Mr. Starkweather said he thinks DENR is meeting March 20, 2012 and March 27, 2012 and we are meeting the March 26, 2012. I believe their report is not going to be delivered on the March 28, 2012. Several people said they will still take comments. Ms. Chiosso said although it would be excellent if the representative from Pittsboro was at the Sanford hearing on the March 20, 2012. Commissioner Fiocco asked if the March 27, 2012 was in Chapel Hill? Ms. Chiosso said March 27, 2012 in Chapel Hill, March 20, 2012 in Sanford, there will be lots of people speaking in Chapel Hill but not so many in Sanford. Commissioner Foley said she was going to go to Sanford, just so you know. Mayor Voller said I guess Commissioner Foley your question is there some utility to the timing of this in terms of what could be...21 points are a lot of points. Commissioner Turner said it appears this is important the sooner we vote on this the more useful it will be so to me it seems like if we wanted to act on this the sooner the better. If Sanford knows that we passed it then that would have an impact in Sanford. Ms. Chiosso said it would be encouragement from cities. Mayor Voller said so cross off item 3, the first one that Pam said, just x it out. Go down the list and lets cross them out, let's do something good here. Commissioner Turner said we could also add something later. Mayor Voller said of course you can. Commissioner Foley said that is another resolution. Mr. Starkweather said if you all need documentation for any of these the thing I gave you on economic, I have some references. Mayor Voller said there were about 28 times back and forth between this group. Commissioner Fiocco said I don't see how we can write this at this meeting, part of the argument is to not act in haste and quite frankly I would like to have the time to review this at some length to better understand those comments. Again, I support the resolution but I don't know that I agree with every statement in here so if I am going to vote to support it I want to at least know that I agree or disagree with any of the statements in here. Mayor Voller said so let's ask you a question, Commissioner. If what Commissioner Foley is trying to accomplish is that at the hearing on the March 20, 2012 we can say some statement that would provide them input that we had a concern, what could we say or let one of our Board members say if you wanted to edit it so we pass it on the March 26, 2012. So that there was some utility on going down on the March 20, 2012 and saying we're actually speaking from a united front. I do understand that we can't spend all night going

through this thing. On the other hand, the people that put this together spent a month doing it so they are very comfortable with it but they are asking you to get comfortable with 21 points that you just got in a huge agenda packet. On the other hand, if Commissioner Turner or Commissioner Foley or myself go down to Sanford we want to make a representation that our Board has some something to say. Would you be comfortable saying we are concerned and without getting into all the whereas' and then come back and deal with the resolution on the March 26, 2012? Because that is really what you are getting at, is being able to say something speaking by the Board. Commissioner Turner said Lee County is a big piece of this and if it would help in Lee County but I also understand where you are coming from. Commissioner Fiocco said perhaps we could make a statement, and I would only be able to speak for myself, but the Town intends to pass the resolution once it resolves the foundation of that resolution, which is expected to occur at the next meeting. Commissioner Foley said so maybe we should make some kind of motion about that whoever wants to vote yes or no that we approve of the resolution after reviewing the conditions or the whereas' as you were saying. Mayor Voller said a conditional or conditioned approval based final editing or based on coming back. Paul, if they have passed it with coming back, what would be the form of a motion? Mr. Messick said why don't you just adopt the "therefore be it resolved" and leave the whereas' out? Commissioner Foley said or you could even take the first two whereas' surely everybody could agree with those two, those are pretty hard statement of fact that describing what it is and then saying that it's not legal in North Carolina right now then skip straight to the therefore be it resolved." You could come back and adopt other whereas'. Mayor Voller said that seems like a reasonable suggestion. Colleen said going to the DENR hearing may help you all decide which whereas' you are comfortable with. Mayor Voller said the first two statements are both factual statements. It is not allowed and this is the method and everything else there is a mixture of quantitative and qualitative statements. Commissioner Foley said it gives a framework of what you are passing. Mayor Voller said if we wanted to add the others, if Commissioner Fiocco and others wanted to come back and add them later after the hearings we could. If not, we don't but at least you would have the basis. It is a method of extracting under high pressure, we don't currently allow it, and we urge them to take their time in studying it and this is why. Commissioner Fiocco said he could support that. Commissioner Baldwin made a motion that the Town of Pittsboro approve a resolution on hydraulic fracking in North Carolina, whereas hydraulic fracturing, or fracking, is a method of extracting natural gas that involves injecting, at an extremely high pressure, and undisclosed mixture of water, sand, and toxic chemicals to break up shale or other rock formations otherwise impermeable to the flow of gas; whereas North Carolina does not currently allow either horizontal drilling or hydraulic fracturing, and the current North Carolina study of in-state shale gas resources and of the potential impacts of reversing this ban and allowing drilling and fracking to extract these resources is being undertaken without adequate funding and without adequate time; now therefore be it resolved, that we, the members of the Town of Pittsboro Board of Commissioners, urge the North Carolina General Assembly to maintain current laws in North Carolina that prevent hydraulic fracturing and horizontal drilling in the State and to take no action that would weaken these laws before it is fully demonstrated that North Carolina public health, waters, land, air, economy, and quality of life can be fully protected from impacts of allowing shale gas development in the state. Commissioner Foley seconded the motion.

Vote Aye-5 Nay-0

**A RESOLUTION ON HYDRAULIC FRACTURING IN NORTH CAROLINA IS RECORDED IN THE BOOK OF RESOLUTIONS NUMBER ONE, PAGE 16**

**WRITTEN COMMENTS ARE ATTACHED TO THESE MINUTES.**

**RESOLUTION IS AS FOLLOWS:**

**Town of Pittsboro Resolution on Hydraulic Fracturing in North Carolina**

Whereas, hydraulic fracturing, or “fracking,” is a method of extracting natural gas that involves injecting, at an extremely high pressure, an undisclosed mixture of water, sand, and toxic chemicals to break up shale or other rock formations otherwise impermeable to the flow of gas; and

Whereas, North Carolina does not currently allow either horizontal drilling or hydraulic fracturing, and the current North Carolina study of in-state shale gas resources and of the potential impacts of reversing this ban and allowing drilling and fracking to extract these resources is being undertaken without adequate funding and without adequate time.

*Now Therefore Be It Resolved*, that we, the members of the Town of Pittsboro Board of Commissioners, urge the North Carolina General Assembly to maintain current laws in North Carolina that prevent hydraulic fracturing and horizontal drilling in the State and to take no action that would weaken these laws before it is fully demonstrated that North Carolina public health, waters, land, air, economy, and quality of life can be fully protected from impacts of allowing shale gas development in the state.

Ms. Chiosso said she really understands you wanting to look at this and think about it. It is a very complex issue. Commissioner Fiocco said did I hear the Mayor say that it took a month to work on this? Ms. Chiosso said really she has taken a year and a half on this issue getting to the place where I am. Mayor Voller said a month once they had spent the first year and a half in order to write it. Commissioner Fiocco said so you took a long time to write a short letter? Mayor Voller said I would think that if this Board wanted to reconsider and amend it, you should provide information to the Board and they will reconsider but at least there is a working resolution that states the intent. What else you may or may not add they want to look at the information. Commissioner Fiocco said and there is a workshop put on I think by Triangle J for how municipalities can organize their regulations to deal with fracking and that is I think that is on the March 29, 2012 so that is something that I will be attending and I think Pam you will as well. Unknown member of audience said I think Chatham County and Pittsboro ought to be really proud because I have been to conferences like everybody else. Chatham County consistently has had the most input and hopefully more people will have studied this issue we could almost have a masters of the program from all the people who have studied this for so long so we have an incredible array of people who are really

knowledgeable about this issue in your community and strong advocates, obviously. Mayor Voller said so we have 3 openings on the Grants Committee who would like to sign up? I know that some of you have been on our parks and recreation board, it is time for maybe a few of you to sign up for this grants committee because there's obviously areas in there that will apply to this.

## **Capital Projects Update**

### **Manager's Update on Capital Projects.**

Manager Terry said I just have one item to report on this. Our Hillsboro Street Transmission Line Water Pipe Project we did get that out – that advertised out for bids last week in The Chatham Record. Pre-bid conference is scheduled in this room on Tuesday, March 20, 2012 and bid opening is scheduled for Thursday, April 5, 2012. Related to that report, you had asked me to contact the county manager and ask them about their willingness to participate in the funding of this project should we run into difficulties in cost overruns after we open bids and I spoke with Manager Horne and he is open to discussion about perhaps entering into an agreement to pay their access and capital recovery fees early for the jail sewer project if we have a cash flow issue they could pay that early and help us relieve the cash flow issue to that extent. Mayor Voller said wait a minute, and how would this help us? He'll pay it early on that? Manager Terry said right, the access and capital recovery fees wouldn't come due until they were seeking a building permit, which could be quite some time but he said if cash flow was the issue if we didn't want to draw down on our fund balance they didn't necessarily want to take on the cost of the project but if cash flow was our issue they might see their way clear, if you would want to take that to his board that they would pay those fees early to help us solve what was essentially a cash flow issue. He said we would talk again after the bids are open and we know what the extent of the funding issue is at that time. Commissioner Fiocco said I haven't seen the latest plans on the project but where is the southernmost terminus of our project? Manager Terry said it is in the traffic circle. I believe there is a little fish-hook, it comes right down to the first street on the traffic circle and then I think it takes a little jog to the west toward West Street. Commissioner Fiocco said and does our project include a stub to the new courthouse for fire sprinkler protection? Manager Terry responded not at this time. Commissioner Fiocco said because the architect thinks that that's happening. Manager Terry said I can check with Becky but I think the architect is incorrect. Commissioner Fiocco said well he thinks its happening and he thinks the county is paying for it. Manager Terry said not as far as our project. Commissioner Fiocco said I would hope we would do the work while we have the road wide open. Mayor Voller said this has come up at numerous meetings. We have got to nail this down. Commissioner Farrell we had that discussion through the fire department. We haven't heard anything concrete. He said if the county is asking for all this to get that water pressure on that water line on down to the justice system. Commissioner Fiocco said and you are talking about the new justice system and I'm just talking about the architect for the existing courthouse. Manager Terry said that should be pretty easy because it will be right in front. He said getting that line down south of the circle would mean a change. Commissioner Fiocco said he doesn't know what their options are. They have either got a big tank and/or a booster pump to do it. Commissioner Farrell asked the justice building. Commissioner Fiocco said yes. Commissioner Farrell said right now as far as the plans are if that water line doesn't go through, the 12-inch. Manager Terry said the problem is not the building it is the parking lot. They are going to reduce water pressure in the building. Commissioner

Fiocco said right but they need a big enough tank to let it run. Manager Terry said that is taken care of it is the parking lot that is the problem. Commissioner Fiocco said well, can't get the flow out of a hydrant for it to fight off car fire? Manager Terry said right outside the building they will use a sprinkler that is the issue. But it does need to be resolved; there is no question about that. Mayor Voller said but we need that line there regardless if we have another fire, and I hope we don't anywhere in that area.

Commissioner Farrell said I don't think the pressure on that line in front of the justice building right now is like 400 psi, 400 gallons a minute. Mayor Voller said that is low. Commissioner Farrell said that is nothing, it should be 750. Commissioner Fiocco said so what is that pressure flow at 400 gallons. Mayor Voller said almost nothing. Commissioner Farrell said about 100 or 150. That is what we run, 150 psi, I don't know what the hydrant pressure is. We can check that anytime. We've got that on record.

Commissioner Fiocco said you're saying when you hook the truck up to the hydrant the pump in the truck pumps it at 100. Commissioner Farrell said at 750. But we run it at 150. Commissioner Fiocco said 150 gallons a minute. Commissioner Farrell said the hydrant is not going to keep up. Same thing we ran into with the courthouse, it sucked the suction line in. Darrell was supposed to be talking with somebody through the county to try to get that 12-inch line run down to the justice building but, like I said, we thought that since we are helping them out and we're supposed to be helping the school board out why not help the town out a little bit. I mean everybody is asking everything from the town and what is the county doing for us? Mayor Voller said Bill, I think the question is to go back and say can we get some participation because that directly benefits the town, county, citizens, economic development, so forth and so on. I mean I don't ever want to be out on the circle and see a fire like I saw when we didn't have enough...I was there at 4:00 at The General Store when the smoke started coming. You saw what that was like. There is no flow. I don't ever want to see that again. Manager Terry said what I know for certain is our project has not been amended to do what you are suggesting. What I do not know is if they have amended the construction project for the historic courthouse to run a connection up to meet where our work ends. If they have done that I'm not aware of it but I can ask the question. Mayor Voller asked Mr. Terry to verify that immediately because once we start this project and bid it out it would be hard to do. Jay has a good point if we are going to work with the county. The county funds the schools we are one government entity, we are saving them money there in perpetuity why not save here. And really you are saving them because if they have a fire you are saving them. Commissioner Fiocco said, Bill, the architect is only; the project on climate is only referring to a stub out of a fire line to the historic courthouse, not anything beyond that. Manager Terry said that should be easy to do. That line goes almost a quarter of the way around the circle to; I think it terminates right across the street from where The General Store Café was. Commissioner Farrell said I think that's what the plan we had on that, Mr. Terry, it was right across 64 west, more or less the crosswalk, right? Manager Terry said that is my recollection. Manager Terry said that's it that is the only project that we've got any activity on.

Mayor Voller said I can defer on the updates, just go to Commissioner Concerns.

#### Commissioner Concerns

Commissioner Farrell said I don't have anything at this time, thanks. Commissioner Foley said I don't have anything either. Commissioner Fiocco said I am going to take it easy on the Commissioner Concerns this time. Commissioner Baldwin said no, not at this time. Commissioner Turner said I only have a card for Mandy and her family for all of us to sign, that is my only concern. Mayor Voller said perhaps at

some point I'd like to bring back to the Board that either we do a letter of resolution thanking and honoring former Speaker Hackney and Senator Atwater who are retiring and I think we should probably send something to them. I just kind of let you guys know we haven't gotten the letter but Joe Hackney had alerted me and then the Rural Center called, we got that grant that we applied for, which is a big deal, it is the first one of its kind that Chatham County has ever gotten which means that we should be open to get more for building reuse that is very good. And we got funded for the full amount, not partial. Manager Terry asked if we have any written confirmation. Mayor Voller said it will come, I talked to Melody she said in a couple of weeks you are going to get a letter, Bill, and you know how they run, like clockwork, but they notified me with a phone call and Speaker Hackney had called me and said you got it. Manager Terry said we will be looking for it.

Commissioner Baldwin makes a motion to adjourn. Motion seconded by Commissioner Foley.

Vote Aye-5 Nay-0

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 pm.

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Randolph Voller, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Alice F. Lloyd, CMC, Town Clerk

I am Kathleen Hundley, I live at 136 Rocky Falls, I am President of the Friends of the Rocky River, and I feel the need to speak to the issue of fracking.

With the recent continuous rise in gas prices, the county is becoming desperate in its need to find a new fuel source. The source that has captured the nation's attention is fracking rather than concentrating on large scale research into efficient production of wind and solar power.

According to some voices, such as the President of Fromkin Energy who spoke to Chatham County on October 17, 2011, fracking is the best thing since sliced bread and is as safe and easy as falling off a duck's back. However, mounting documented scientific research has cited potentially serious results from the technology of fracking in three primary environmental areas: major contamination of ground water that would eventually lead to contamination of streams and rivers, instability of planetary rock foundations deep in the earth that the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, which oversees the oil and gas industry, has recently linked to earth tremors, and the heating and conversion to carbon dioxide in the atmosphere that contributes to global warming. The point is that WE DON'T KNOW possible results of fracking, and until we are 90 – 95% SURE what inheritance fracking could leave us, we need to follow the example of some of the European countries and adopt the Prevention Principal that says, in effect, unless and until we KNOW what impact fracking is likely to have on our environment in central North Carolina, we should direct our efforts toward finding out what level of risk is involved in threatening clean ground water, creating cracks in deep rock layers and in the potential for methane being converted to CO<sub>2</sub> that would heat the atmosphere and speed us toward and into global warming. An old proverb says that it does no good to lock the barn after the horse is stolen, as it will do us no good to recognize threat to and a damaged if not destroyed environment AFTER fracking has happened.

As President and spokesperson for Friends of the Rocky Fiver, I urge this body to request that the Legislature of North Carolina hold off on any fracking in North Carolina until serious scientific research can provide irrefutable evidence of the results that can be expected from fracking.

Thank you.

Good evening fellow citizens and elected officials:

I am Gary Simpson. I live at 82 Cynthia Lane, Pittsboro, our lovely little county seat in NC's Piedmont:

- A place where the streets are still rolled up each night and tucked in around the courthouse circle; where you can hear a rooster crowing in the morning and listen to a bluegrass band playing on a sultry summer's eve,
- A place where folks mainly want to be left alone to fall in love, enjoy one another's company and maybe raise kids to enjoy and appreciate the small town rural lifestyle that Andy and Opie and Aunt Bee, Barney, Gomer, Floyd and all the Mayberry gang knew ... that special brand of southern charm and quality of life to be envied by a nation.

I'm here tonight to ask you as our elected officials to put your weight behind a citizen backed petition to protect this quality of life we have come to know in Pittsboro and Chatham and to preserve the peace. I ask this as the winds of a war are swirling in Raleigh, a needless war that will put Pittsboro and Chatham County on the front lines of a "Fracking Fracas" that could turn this place into an industrial war zone. If we are not proactive now, we will be conscripted into a war that will pull the proverbial living room rug out from beneath our feet, upset the agricultural apple cart that defines our rural identity, rend the curtain of community in two turning neighbor against neighbor, and send a seismic shock wave through the very core of life as we know it.

Envision the real world of other sleepy hamlets that have become the gateway to ground zero - the Fracking Fields:

- Ammunition truck after endless ammunition truck rolling through town, hauling millions upon millions of gallons of watery toxins 24/7 to bomb the subterranean earth and force a noxious vomit of toxic waste to the surface with no safe means of disposal,
- the night sky ablaze with flames and lights, while night and day there is the deafening drone of the machinery of war,
- the air invisibly fouled with vented and leaking gases and volatile organic compounds,
- The land and waters (surface and sub surface) poisoned by the products and byproducts of "friendly fire" (those accidents of war that couldn't, shouldn't ever happen but always do).

Welcome to the collateral damage (*Collateral damage occurs when something incidental to the intended target is damaged during an attack. When used in conjunction with military operations it can refer to the incidental destruction of civilian property and non-combatant casualties.*)<sup>1</sup> inflicted by that contentious conflict foisted upon shale rich communities by state legislatures on behalf of the fossil fuel industry, that filthy rich and wildly powerful industry that fuels our energy addiction

With their insanely gross profits these corporations have the power to:

- manipulate minds through relentless advertising and misinformation campaigns, (think tobacco)
- leverage and lobby legislation to subsidize and deregulate their operation, and
- buy public servants (elected officials) to play the role of dutiful servants to crony benefactors.

It is because of the impending quality of life altering decisions to be made all too soon in Raleigh that I ask you as public servants who won't be misinformed or bought by special interests to be the champions of caution and concern. I ask you to be proactive leaders in waving the caution flag. When legislators get in a hurry, they make mistakes. When corners are cut accidents happen. Don't let accidents happen. Let Raleigh know that Pittsboro wants the lead foot to be taken off the fracking gas pedal and hit the brakes. The shale gas beneath our feet is going nowhere. Time is our best friend, not our worst enemy. Our fate lies in the willingness and determination of citizens and our local governments to influence state lawmakers and assert our rights to maintain the vision we hold for Chatham:

*The Vision for Chatham County and Pittsboro*

*Chatham County will be a place that cooperatively controls its own destiny to assure the state of well-being desired by all of our people, while proudly preserving diverse cultural heritages and the County's rural character.*

-- Vision prepared by the Strategic Plan Development Committee and signed by the five governing boards in the County.  
[http://www.chathamcitizens.org/resources/LinkedDocs/Land\\_Use\\_Development\\_Plan.pdf](http://www.chathamcitizens.org/resources/LinkedDocs/Land_Use_Development_Plan.pdf)

Comments on Proposed Outline of Oil and Gas Study Under Session Law 2011-276

Jeffrey Starkweather, 590 Old Goldston Rd., Pittsboro, 27312, 919-417-0969

Dear DENR Officials:

I want to thank you for holding this hearing and public input on the proposed shale gas impact analysis to be conducted by your agency. This is a follow-up from my oral comments to you at your hearing in Sanford on October 10, 2011.

As I stated that evening my focus will be on the economic impacts. I have been a member of the Chatham County Economic Development Corporation board since 2007 and worked closely with consultant from the Center for Competitive Enterprises, UNC –Chapel Hill in developing Chatham County Strategic Plan for Economic Development. I am also on board of the Triangle South Workforce Development. However, I was speaking and I am writing only as an individual and 39 year resident of Pittsboro and Chatham County.

I want to echo the statement made by Chatham County Commissioner Sally Kost that the North General Assembly had provided way too little time and even less resources (e.g. \$100,000) to conduct this massive environmental, economic, infrastructure and social impact analysis and regulatory reviews. Thus, under these circumstances I do not see how the promise made by Representatives Mitch Gillespie and Mike Stone to conduct a thorough and unbiased study can be met.

Second, I am also having a hard time seeing how the State of North Carolina under existing statutes can meet the promise made to us Representatives Gillespie and Stone that they would support hydraulic fracturing (e.g. fracking) only if there were adequate regulatory safeguards in place to protect the environment and the health of residents, as well as provide positive economic benefits. I am speaking specifically of Senate Bill 781, passed over the veto of Governor Beverly Perdue. That bill has a provision which prohibits DENR or any other state agency from adopting “a rule for the protection of the environment or natural resources that imposes a more restrictive standard, limitation, or requirement than those imposed by federal law or rule...” This would be reasonable if the federal government strictly regulated fracking. But, in fact due to industry lobbying, fracking is exempt from most federal environmental protection regulations, including the Clean Air and Clean Water Acts. Thus, I cannot see how Representative Gillespie and Stone can meet what they promised in this regard unless they agree to eliminate this restriction on our state’s ability to protect the health and safety of our residents and environment in the use of fracking.

Now to the proposed DENR study.

Like a number of other speakers eloquently stated, the economic impact portion of the proposed study is extremely narrow and limited. It essentially only focuses on the economic benefits of fracking (e.g.

jobs, incomes and fiscal benefits). It does not adequately address the short-term and long-term costs. To do this properly, DENR should be obtaining the services of experts in economic impact studies of environmental regulations and natural resource extraction economies. A proper study would price all the proposed costs and benefits, including accounting for risk factors, and compare them against each other. For example, Sections 3 (infrastructure), 4 (environmental) and 6 (social) provide examples of potential impacts that will pose a cost on land owners, communities, the state, local governments, etc. that needed to have a range of prices (costs) identified. Without pricing and comparing potential short- and long- term costs, an economic impact analysis is meaningless in determining if North Carolina residents and communities will benefit or pay a steep price for allowing fracking here.

Moreover, there may be different costs and benefits associated with different communities in North Carolina depending on their existing economic development assets and strategies, demography, level of development, geology, geography, typography, existing community and urban development, rural, suburban or urban, etc. There should be some attempt to conduct targeted analysis of fracking's impact on different types of landscapes, communities, towns and counties.

Additionally, I would request that you focus on the economic impact on different types of individual land owners (e.g. farmers, small residential owners, large landowners, etc). Recently, many of us in Chatham heard horror stories about the negative impacts of fracking on farmers from Bradford County, Pennsylvania and homeowners in Dish, Texas. Check out the PowerPoint's presentations from the Summit on the Impacts of Fracking at the 27th Annual Meeting of Clean Water for NC, held in Pittsboro on September 10. See <http://www.cwfnc.org/?s=summit&submit.x=11&submit.y=7>. Sally Kost was the only Chatham County Commissioners who attended that summit.

As to specific set of recommended research on the economic impact of fracking, I am requesting that you review three types of economic impact studies, as outlined and linked below.

First, there are research studies in the United States comparing counties and localities on what has been described as the "curse of natural resources." A 2010 study from David Adland and Alex James of the Department of Economic and Finance, University of Wyoming, entitled "*The Curse of Natural Resources: An Empirical Investigation of U.S. Counties*" found:

Research consistently shows that natural resource dependence tends to be associated with lower economic growth. However, studies typically focus on difference across nations or states. We fill the gap in literature by testing the so-called resources curse at a more disaggregated county level. Our results show clear evidence that resource-dependent counties exhibit more anemic economic growth, even after controlling for state-specific effects, social-demographic differences, initial incomes, and spatial correction. A case study analysis of Maine and Wyoming, and the counties within, highlight the growth effects on specializing in natural resources extraction.

[www.uwyo.edu/aadland/research/resourcecurse.pdf](http://www.uwyo.edu/aadland/research/resourcecurse.pdf)

See also on the web *A Natural Resource Curse: Does it Exist Within United States?* By Bryce Gerard, Claremont McKenna College.

A second and more fracking specific economic impact research I would request you review are of specific analysis of Marcellus Shale Gas Drilling locations. Although there are many, two specific studies I would ask you to review at least these two: 1) *The Economic Impact of Marcellus Shale Gas Drilling, What Have Learned, What Are the Limitations*, April 2011 by David Kay, staff economist and Senior Extension Associated with the Community and Regional Development Institute in the Department of Development Sociology at Cornell at <http://www.cce.cornell.edu/EnergyClimateChange/NaturalGasDev/Documents/PDFs/KayFormattedMarcellus%20WorkingPaperREvised4-4-2011.pdf>. 2) A related set of studies is entitled *The Economic Consequences of Marcellus Shale Gas Extraction: Key Issues: A Research Project sponsored by the Cornell University Department of City & Regional Planning* by Susan Christopherson, Professor. See Community and Regional Development Institute Reports, No. 14, September 2011 at <http://catskillcitizens.org/learnmore/CaRDIReport.pdf>.

One of the key findings of these studies is a possible long term economic decline due to the potential boom bust cycle of fracking extraction. As an example, we have been told by a number of experts that there is a much gas extracted in the first year of a fracking well as is extracted throughout the rest of the life of that well. Thus, one of the key concerns is the ability of local governments to govern and regulate in a strategic manner in terms of mitigation, land use, long-term capital planning, taxation, investment strategies and ability and willingness to diversify and stabilize their economies.

The second major concern brought out by these local economic impact studies is whether fracking conflicts with existing industry, business, economic and natural assets, and the community's economic development strategy and direction. Does this potentially drive way or crowd out other better or more growth oriented economic development prospects, industries or source of wealth? For example, tourism, high end retirement communities, sustainable agriculture and wineries, arts havens, university communities. All of these existing and expanding economic development assets in Chatham County.

Here is where I believe there is serious danger of allowing fracking to damage long-term economic development prospects in Chatham County. Our community's assets are based on natural resources amenities (hiking, biking, canoes, swimming, riding in or on our lakes, rivers, mountains and woods) and our location near the internationally recognized creative industry capitals of the Research Triangle and Piedmont Triad areas. Our agreed upon strategic plan for economic development is based upon quality of life, or what is called "placed-based" economic development. We already are attracting highly educated and well-off retirees who would likely find the impacts of shale gas based extraction industry as negative location factor. See our strategic plan at <http://www.chathamcdc.org/who-we-are/strategic-plan>.

Our economic development strategy was not just based on community preferences, but on a detailed SWAT analysis and supportive economic asset statistical analysis by the UNC Center for Competitive

Enterprises. Moreover, there is considerable research which demonstrates that the most economically robust rural communities rely on an amenity- and place-based quality of life growth strategy, that I would request you review in evaluating the economic alternatives to fracking in community like Chatham County,

See *The Creative Class: A Key to Rural Growth: Some rural areas can generate economic growth by attracting people in creative occupations who value natural amenities.*

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/AmberWaves/April07/Features/Creative.htm>; *Natural Amenities Drive Rural Population Chang*, by David McGranahan, Agriculture Economic Report, 1999, at

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/aer781/>; *Economic Rationales For and Against Placed-Based Policies* by David Killkenny, Iowa State University and David Kraybill, Ohio State University, 2003 at

<http://reimer.concordia.ca/files/PlaceBased/PlaceBasedPolicyKraybill,Kilkenny.pdf>. *Place-Based Policy: A Rural Perspective* by Bill Reimer, Concordia College and Dr, Sean Markey, Simon Fraser University,

[http://www.crcresearch.org/files-crcresearch\\_v2/ReimerMarkeyRuralPlaceBasedPolicySummaryPaper20081107.pdf](http://www.crcresearch.org/files-crcresearch_v2/ReimerMarkeyRuralPlaceBasedPolicySummaryPaper20081107.pdf).

Finally, according to Daniel Yergin, the first seven shale gas hydrologic fracturing wells were not drilled until 2002 by Devon Energy, from Oklahoma City. It was not until 2003 that the company became "very confident that this drilling truly worked." *The Quest: Energy, Security, and the Remaking of the Modern World*, pg. 328. While the production of shale gas extraction has taken off, this is an extremely short time period in which to determine the environmental, economic, infrastructure and social impacts of this new industrial technology on local communities. This leads me to two thoughts on the potential for shale gas drilling in North Carolina and Chatham county.

First, I would requests that DENR research of history of other natural resources drilling practices to determine how long it took before any negative environmental and other impacts became known. Did it take longer than seven years, which is about the time this technology has been being implemented and hopefully improved.

Secondly, there was a statement made at the Sanford meeting by a DENR official that significant deposits of shale gas in North Carolina were at this point "unproven." I would say the same is true for fracking technology. I believe most North Carolinians would prefer a go-slow approach on consideration of use of this new shale gas extraction technology. We would rather let other parts of United States, who have voluntarily agreed to proceed with implementing this technology, be the human and environmental guinea pigs. We should give this new technology sufficient time to play itself out in terms of costs and benefits to these other states and communities. If the technology proves itself to be provide considerably more environmental, economic, infrastructure and economic costs than benefits, then were can consider using it here, if we decide it does not conflict with our present economic assets, industries and strategies. This resource is not going anywhere.