

RESOLUTION NO. 523

Councilman Colligan offered the following resolution, which was seconded by Councilman Shepherd, to wit:

"Whereas", the current Administration has expressed interest in opening the Atlantic Ocean to offshore oil and gas drilling and exploration, which includes the use of seismic airguns which fire intense blasts of compressed air that rank just behind military explosives, and the loudest source of noise in the ocean, every ten to twelve seconds, twenty-four hours a day, for months on end, and

"Whereas" offshore oil and gas drilling and exploration places coastal communities at economic and ecological risk from oil spills and the pollution brought by routine drilling operations and onshore industrialization, threatening the livelihoods of commercial and recreational fishermen and small businesses that rely on a clean and healthy ocean and beaches, and

"Whereas", offshore drilling may require significant onshore infrastructure, such as pipelines or refineries which would harm the character of New York State's coastline and could exacerbate wetlands loss and storm surge, and sea level rise impacts, and

"Whereas", the harmful impacts from off shore oil and gas drilling and exploration anywhere along the Atlantic coastline could extend far beyond immediately surrounding areas and severely impact communities that rely on the robust economy of the marine industry, and

"Whereas", the Town of Shelter Island recognizes that our community, businesses, and industries depend on a healthy coastal environment for the benefit of current and future residents, property owners and visitors alike, now, Therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Town Board of the Town of Shelter Island hereby determines that offshore oil and gas drilling and exploration unnecessarily risks our economic and ecological health and thus, the Town Board sets forth its opposition to any plan or legislation which encourages oil and gas development and offshore and exploration offshore that would impact the citizens of New York State, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk shall forward certified copies of this Resolution to New York State Governor Andrew M. Cuomo, United States Senators Chuck Schumer and Kirsten Gillibrand, United State Representative Lee Zeldin, New York State Senator Kenneth P. LaValle and New York State Assemblyman Fred W. Thiele, Jr.

Vote: 4 in favor 0 opposed

The resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.