

RESOLUTION NO.: 244 - 2016

OF

SEPTEMBER 12, 2016

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEWBURGH OPPOSING
THE ESTABLISHMENT OF ANCHORAGE GROUNDS IN THE HUDSON RIVER BY
THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

WHEREAS, in June 2016, the U.S. Coast Guard announced that it was soliciting comments and concerns from the public on a proposal to establish a large number of anchorage grounds for commercial vessels in the Hudson River that commercial tankers would use as rest stops; and

WHEREAS, research shows that the habitats of some fish have been affected by previous anchorage sites. Vessels containing volatile crude oil and petroleum products pose a serious risk. An anchored boat containing these hazardous materials could catch fire or spill toxic oil in the river. The health of communities that use the Hudson River for drinking water will be threatened. The sites would also take a toll on the scenic beauty of our region; at least three locations would block the view from popular tourist attractions. Moreover, many in our community are concerned about the impact of constant noise, light and smoke from anchored boats, as many of the proposed sites are nearby homes and businesses; and

WHEREAS, the said proposal would create health, safety environmental and economic problems for Hudson River communities including the City of Newburgh;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Newburgh hereby states its firm and unequivocal opposition to the proposed anchorages and urges the U.S. Coast Guard to conduct public meetings and include this document as a statement of our position; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Newburgh request further information be provided including, but not limited, to the following: a) whether, in considering adoption proposed rules permitting new anchorage grounds, the Coast Guard will comply with the National Environmental Protection Act ("NEPA); b) on average, the number of ships per year that would use such anchorage positions; c) on average, the length of time a ship will be anchored; d) a list of the potential impacts associated with noise from the ships; e) the potential economic impact on tourism in the City of Newburgh from locating such anchorage points directly opposite the City's busy waterfront commercial district; f) whether the proposed anchorage points are consistent with the City of Newburgh's Local Waterfront Revitalization Plan; g) details as to the height, length and width of the ships that would be expected to anchor in our area; and h) the types of materials that ships would be hauling that potentially would be anchored in our area; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Clerk of the City of Newburgh, New York forward copies of this resolution to U.S. Senators Charles Schumer and Kirsten Gillibrand and U.S. Representative Sean Patrick Maloney, Governor Andrew Cuomo, Assembly Member Frank Skartados, N.Y. Senator William Larkin, N.Y. State DEC Commissioner Basil Seggos, and U.S. Coast Guard Waterways Management Branch Craig Lapiedjko.

I, Lorene Vitok, City Clerk of the City of Newburgh,
hereby certify that I have compared the foregoing with the
original resolution adopted by the Council of the City of
Newburgh at a regular meeting held 9/12/16
and that it is a true and correct copy of such original.

Witness my hand and seal of the City of
Newburgh this 13 day of Sept 2016

Lorene Vitok

City Clerk