



**BEFORE THE CITY COMMISSION
CITY OF STUART, FLORIDA**

RESOLUTION NUMBER 41-2021

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF
THE CITY OF STUART, FLORIDA URGING THE
BAHAMIAN GOVERNMENT TO DENY OFFSHORE
OIL DRILLING EXPLORATION LICENSES AND
PERMANENTLY BAN OFFSHORE OIL DRILLING
ACTIVITIES IN THE BAHAMAS; PROVIDING FOR
AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES.**

*** * * ***

WHEREAS, the Bahamas Petroleum Company (“BPC”) has been granted an offshore oil drilling exploration license by the Bahamian government that allows them to construct exploratory offshore oil drilling wells 150 miles off the coast of Florida; and

WHEREAS, exploratory and commercial drilling, extraction, and transportation of offshore oil and gas resources by BPC poses a significant risk of oil spills and chronic leakage that may adversely impact the Bahamas and coastal communities in the Caribbean and Florida; and

WHEREAS, offshore drilling activities pose threats to treasured vacation destinations in the Caribbean and along Florida’s Coasts, which are of intrinsic economic value for numerous industries and countries, provide essential nursery habitats for recreational and commercially important fisheries, and act as natural buffers from storm surge and hurricanes; and

WHEREAS, the City is one of numerous communities in Florida and in the Caribbean whose local or nearby marine habitats, industries, and public health may be devastated by offshore drilling oil spills originating in the Bahamas; and

WHEREAS, the City endeavors to protect the environmental health of all marine habitats; and

WHEREAS, exploration and development of oil and gas resources off the Bahamian coast may not effectively address the long-term economic diversification goals of the Bahamas, and would likely substantially damage the tourism sector of the Bahamian economy, which makes up sixty percent of the country’s economy; and

WHEREAS, the City urges the Bahamian government to deny offshore oil drilling exploration licenses and to permanently ban offshore oil drilling activities in the Bahamas, and further urges Martin County and the State of Florida to oppose such offshore oil drilling and work with the Bahamian government in such efforts.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF STUART, FLORIDA THAT:

SECTION 1: The foregoing “WHEREAS” clauses are ratified and confirmed as being true and correct and are made a specific part of this Resolution

SECTION 2: The City Commission respectfully urges the Bahamian government to deny offshore oil drilling exploration licenses and further urges the Bahamian government to permanently ban all offshore oil drilling activities in the Bahamas. The City Commission further urges Martin County and the State of Florida to oppose such offshore oil drilling and to work with the Bahamian government in such efforts.

SECTION 3: The City Commission hereby directs the City Clerk to transmit a copy of this Resolution to the Bahamian Prime Minister Hubert Minnis, the Bahamian Ambassador to the U.S. Sidney S. Collie, the Martin County Board of County Commissioners, Governor Ron DeSantis on behalf of the State of Florida, all municipalities in Martin County, Florida, and the Treasure Coast Regional League of Cities.

SECTION 4: This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.

Commissioner _____ offered the foregoing resolution and moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner _____ and upon being put to a roll call vote, the vote was as follows:

EULA R. CLARKE, MAYOR
MERRITT MATHESON, VICE MAYOR
BECKY BRUNER, COMMISSIONER
TROY MCDONALD, COMMISSIONER
MIKE MEIER, COMMISSIONER

YES	NO	ABSENT	ABSTAIN

ADOPTED this ____ day of _____, 2021.

ATTEST:

MARY R. KINDEL
CITY CLERK

EULA R. CLARKE
MAYOR

APPROVED AS TO FORM
AND CORRECTNESS:

MICHAEL J. MORTELL, ESQ.
CITY ATTORNEY