

**BUSINESS FOR THE CITY COUNCIL  
OF THE  
CITY OF ANGLETON**

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**SUBJECT:**

**DISCUSS AND CONSIDER POSSIBLE ACTION ON REQUEST FOR A VARIANCE FROM THE PROHIBITION OF DRILLING WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS(REQUEST FROM O'FARRELL AND FORTUNE OPERATING EXPLORATION DRILLING) LOCATED NEAR THE INTERSECTION OF State Highway 288B and Highway 523)TO ALLOW DRILLING FOR OIL AND GAS.**

REQUESTED BY: Greg Smith  
SUBMITTED BY: Keith Vaughan  
DATE SUBMITTED: February 22, 2008  
FOR THE AGENDA OF: February 26, 2008

Expenditure Required: n/a  
Available Funding: NONE

Attachments: Chapter 16 of Code of Ordinances

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**SUMMARY STATEMENT:**

**In September of 2002 the city council amending the Code of Ordinances to provide that the council could grant a variance from the prohibition of drilling within the city limits; provided “that it is unlikely that the proposed drilling will negatively impact the health, safety or welfare of the residents of the city, or any adjacent development or infrastructure of the city”. Council is required to impose a time limit not to exceed 12 months on the variance. The variance granted to O’Farrell or his representatives expired in September of 2003. There is a request for a new variance at the same location from O’Farrell and the drilling company. I suggest you conduct a public hearing before granting or denying the variance to insure any concerned citizen may address the issue.**

**Adequate insurance coverage must be provided, naming the City as an additional insured and the variance may be revoked by council action if any danger occurs in the future.**

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**Recommendation: Grant or deny the request for variance; if granted authorize City Manager Greg Smith to execute same, upon receipt of the applicable fee, and proof of adequate insurance with the city as a named insured. Council must also decide the length of time of the variance, staff recommends 12 months.**