

BARNSTABLE COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF DELEGATES
Report of the Standing Committee on Finance
Proposed Ordinance 12-02
April 18, 2012

Dear Mr. Speaker and Assembly Delegates:

This is a report on Proposed Ordinance 12-02. The proposed ordinance was submitted to the Assembly of Delegates by the Board of Regional Commissioners at the Assembly of Delegates regular meeting on February 15, 2012. A public hearing was scheduled to be held by the Standing Committee on Finance on Wednesday April 18, 2012 at 2:00 p.m. The public hearing was duly advertised in the Cape Cod Times on April 11, 2012

The purpose of the proposed ordinance was to make appropriations for Barnstable County's operating budget for the Fiscal Year 2013, including the operations of the County Assembly, Executive branch, County agencies, boards, commissions, departments and institutions and the maintenance of certain County functions; for interest, reserve funds and serial bond requirements of the County, and for County Capital improvements and to borrow money to pay therefore.

Committee members present: Chair John Ohman, Leo Cakounes, Marcia King, and Tom Lynch.

Chair John Ohman opened the public hearing a 2:00 p.m. and read the public hearing notice.

Tom Lynch motioned, and it was seconded, to wave the reading of Proposed Ordinance 12-02. Motion carried. 4-0-0.

Chairman John Ohman called upon Finance Director Mark Zielinski to provide a brief presentation to the committee and audience on how the FY 2013 budget would be spent. Mark Zielinski provided the committee and the audience with a handout of the presentation. The handout will be considered an addendum to this report.

The County's FY 2013 budget is \$23,580,850 dollars. The budget represents a decrease of 5.6% from FY 2012. The deeds tax rate will remain the same, and the County tax and Cape Cod Environmental Protection Fund tax rate will increase 2.5%.

The 2013 budget includes \$1.3 million dollars in capital programs.

On the revenue side, the largest revenue producers are tax revenues at 55% and department revenues 25%.

On the expense side, salaries make up the largest part of the budget representing 45%, followed by fringe benefits at 18%, and contractual services at 12%.

There will be \$10,000 set aside for each of the two appropriated reserve accounts in FY 2013 as compared to \$25,000 that was set aside for each account in FY 2012.

An overview with budget highlights was provided for each county department.

The County tax generates about \$70,733 dollars in revenue based on an equalized property valuation formula.

The committee had some discussion between Mark Zielinski, Mary Pat Flynn, and Sheila Lyons regarding possible funding scenarios for the rest area on Route 6 in Yarmouth.

Kristy Senatori, Chief Regulatory Officer from the Cape Cod Commission, provided an overview of how the \$75,000 for regional services (that is part of the FY 2013 budget) will fit into the Regional Umbrella Services Support Center (a/k/a RUSS) and the Strategic Information Office (a/k/a SIO). Mark Zielinski and Sheila Lyons explained further and provided additional comments to the committee regarding the use of this money and the potential opportunities.

Questions, comments, and concerns were brought forward by a committee member regarding the lease of the county farm, its buildings, and maintenance. Repairs to the barn roof are part of the FY 2013 budget.

There were no further comments from the public.

Marcia King motioned, and it was seconded, to close the public hearing at 2:40 p.m. on Proposed Ordinance 12-02. Motion carried. 4-0-0.

The committee did not have any concerns with the budget as proposed and the consensus was that revenue numbers were more reasonable than the previous year. The budget is down 5.6%. COLA's are in the budget for staff and the consensus was that staff is doing more with less.

Marcia King motioned, and it was seconded, to recommend approval of Proposed Ordinance 12-02 as submitted to the full Assembly. Motion carried. 4-0-0.

The meeting adjourned at 2:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

John Ohman, Chair
Leo Cakounes
Marcia King
Tom Lynch