

BARNSTABLE COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF DELEGATES
Report and Minutes of the Standing Committee on Finance
Proposed Ordinance 15-10
November 4, 2015

Dear Mr. Speaker and Assembly Delegates:

This is a report on Proposed Ordinance 15-10. The proposed ordinance was submitted to the Assembly of Delegates by the Board of Regional Commissioners at the Assembly of Delegates regular meeting on October 21, 2015. A public hearing was scheduled and held by the Standing Committee on Finance on Wednesday, November 4, 2015 at 3:30 p.m. at the Assembly of Delegates Chamber Hall, First District Courthouse Route 6A, Barnstable, Massachusetts. The public hearing was duly advertised in the Cape Cod Times on October 28, 2015.

The purpose of the proposed ordinance was to authorize an amendment in Section 13, subsection (b) of adopted Ordinance 13-03 and Ordinance 14-01 regarding bonding term limits applicable to Massachusetts General Laws.

Committee members present: Chairman John Ohman, Suzanne McAuliffe, and Julia Taylor.
Absent: Deborah McCutcheon and Teresa Martin.

Suzanne McAuliffe motioned, and it was seconded, to waive the reading of the public hearing notice. Motion carried 3-0-0.

Chairman John Ohman opened the public hearing and invited comments from Interim Finance Director Bob Lawton and Finance Director Mary McIsaac.

Bob Lawton explained that in previous Ordinances 13-03 and 14-01 (budget ordinances) the bond limits were specified at 10 years. Bond Counsel has informed the County that limitations should follow Massachusetts General Law. Specifying 10 years is a restriction and Massachusetts General Law would supersede these limits and could go as high as 30 years. It was unknown as to why there was a 10 year limit in these previous two ordinances. Approval of this proposed ordinance will authorize language that is compliant with Massachusetts General Law.

The Finance Director would choose the limits on the projects up to a maximum of 30 as allowed by Massachusetts General Law. The Finance Director will be sensitive to the limits being requested but indicated that it is rare to see anyone select a 30 year bond.

There were no comments from the public.

Chairman closed the public hearing at 3:40 p.m.

Julia Taylor motioned, and it was seconded, to recommend Proposed Ordinance 15-10 to the full Assembly. Motion carried. 3-0-0.

Suzanne McAuliffe motioned, and it was seconded to adjourn the meeting at 3:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

John Ohman
Suzanne McAuliffe
Julia Taylor