

BARNSTABLE COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF DELEGATES
Report and Minutes of the Standing Committee on Finance
Proposed Ordinance 15-03
May 20, 2015

Dear Mr. Speaker and Assembly Delegates:

This is a report on Proposed Ordinance 15-03. The proposed ordinance was submitted to the Assembly of Delegates by the Board of Regional Commissioners at the Assembly of Delegates regular meeting on May 6, 2015. A public hearing was scheduled and held by the Standing Committee on Finance on Wednesday, May 20, 2015 at 2:30 p.m. The public hearing was duly advertised in the Cape Cod Times on May 13, 2015.

The purpose of the proposed ordinance was to add to the County's operating budget for Fiscal Year 2016, as enacted in ordinance 15-02, by making supplemental appropriations for the Fiscal Year two-thousand and sixteen for the HOME Program of \$174,714 from Statutory Reserve funds set aside at the close of FY15.

Committee members present: Chairman John Ohman, Teresa Martin (arrived at 2:55 pm), Suzanne McAuliffe, Deborah McCutcheon, and Julia Taylor.

Julia Taylor motioned, and it was seconded, to waive the reading of the public hearing notice. Motion carried 4-0-0.

Chair John Ohman opened the committee meeting for the purpose of conducting a public hearing on Proposed Ordinance 15-03.

Patty Daley from the Cape Cod Commission came forward to explain the purpose and request associated with Proposed Ordinance 15-03. A memo from Patty Daley to Michael Brillhart dated 4/24/15 was referenced and will be considered an attachment to this report and available in the Clerk's office.

Patty Daley provided some background on the history of the program and the recommendation to move the program from the Cape Cod Commission to county Human Services. This program will be managed along with the continuum care program by Human Services Director Beth Albert.

During the FY16 budget process an amendment was proposed and adopted to remove funding for the HOME Program from the county budget. At that time it was stated that the program could be managed by the Housing Assistance Corporation (HAC). In the time since this action was taken it was clarified that HUD regulations require that a government entity must administer the program. HAC is not a government entity. It is a non-profit agency.

Once this was explained to the Commissioners it was recommended that a request for supplemental funding to the FY16 budget be brought forward as a proposed ordinance. This is what is being submitted to the Assembly for consideration.

Paul Ruchinkas stated it appears that funding for this program will continue at the federal level and the county has previously applied and received grant funding. Suzanne McAuliffe asked about the relationship between the amount of money it will cost to run and manage the program versus what the county will receive in grant funds. Beth Albert explained the various components to the programs including the monitoring and planning requirements which translated to the staffing request of two FTEs as stated in the proposed ordinance. Suzanne McAuliffe questions whether or not a \$400,000 grant requires several FTEs to manage it.

Patty Daley indicated that even if there is no funding for the HOME program, the county would still be responsible for compliance monitoring based on monies spent in the past 23 years.

Gail Coyne stated that personnel time is tracked and strict accounting guidelines followed.

It was clarified that approval for this program does not require approval by the Cape's 15 towns individually.

If funding is not approved Human Services cannot take over the program. In August or September the Commissioners will need to determine the future of the programs. The ongoing cost to monitor past commitments, if funding was not approved, could not be answered but monitoring would need to continue.

There were no other comments. Chairman John Ohman closed the public hearing at 3:00 p.m.

Julia Taylor motioned, and it was seconded, to recommend Proposed Ordinance 15-03 as presented to the full Assembly. Motion carried. 5-0-0.

Julia Taylor motioned, and it was seconded to adjourn the meeting at 3:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

John Ohman, Chairman
Teresa Martin
Deborah McCutcheon
Suzanne McAuliffe
Julia Taylor