

BARNSTABLE COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF DELEGATES
Standing Committee on Finance
Minutes
April 6, 2016

The Standing Committee on Finance met with the Chairpersons of the Standing Committees on Economic Affairs, Natural Resources, Telecommunications and Energy, Public Services, and Health and Human Services, to receive committee reports on the review of the 2017 proposed operating and capital budgets beginning at 2:00 p.m.

Committee members present: Chairman John Ohman, Suzanne McAuliffe, Deborah McCutcheon, and Julia Taylor. Absent: Teresa Martin (arrived at 3:35 p.m.).

Committee chairpersons present: Suzanne McAuliffe (Economic Affairs), Ned Hitchcock (Natural Resources), James Killion (Telecommunications and Energy), Marcia King (Public Services), Patrick Princi (Health and Human Services), John Ohman (Finance).

Finance Committee Chairman John Ohman asked the committee chairs to report their committee recommendations to the members of the Finance Committee.

Suzanne McAuliffe reported that the Economic Affairs Committee voted to recommend the proposed budget of the Arts Foundation (under the County Commissioners budget) 3-0-0 to the Finance Committee. The Arts Foundation values and appreciates the support from the County. There was no recommendation from the committee for the Economic Development Council budget as it is a section of the Cape Cod Commission budget. Brief discussion took place regarding the origins of the EDC as it relates to funding sources and disbursements.

Marcia King reported that the Public Services Committee voted to recommend the proposed budgets of the Registry of Deeds, Facilities, and the Fire Training Academy 5-0-0 to the Finance Committee. Brief discussion took place regarding potential grants and the Fire Training Academy. The committee reviewed the Dredge budget (identified as an Enterprise Fund) and it was favorably reported and recommended by the committee.

Ned Hitchcock reported that the Natural Resources Committee voted to recommend the proposed budgets of the Cape Cod Water Protection Collaborative 2-1-0 (L. Zuern voting "No"), the Health & Environment, Cooperative Extension Service and the Cape Cod Commission 3-0-0 to the Finance Committee. Brief discussion and concerns regarding the 2% COLA budgeted within the Cape Cod Commission budget and there use of reserves. The Joint Initiatives budget recommended 2-1-0 (L. Zuern voting "No") to the Finance Committee. The Joint Initiatives budget also reviewed under the County Commissioners budget with the Finance Committee. Brief discussion took place regarding projects and funding associated with Joint Initiatives.

James Killion reported that the Telecommunications & Energy Committee voted to recommend the proposed budget of Information Technology 3-0-0 to the Finance Committee. There was brief discussion and an overview regarding the progress made by the department in FY16.

Patrick Princi reported that the Health & Human Services Committee voted to recommend the proposed budgets of Children's Cove and Human Services 3-0-0 to the Finance Committee. There was brief discussion and an overview regarding the progress made by the department with the transition of the

HOME program to the County from the Cape Cod Commission. There was no recommendation from the committee for the Human Rights Commission budget and Elder Services as these are budgets within the County Commissioners budget and were reviewed and recommended by the Finance Committee. It was noted that changes made in FY16 to the Human Rights Commission and its reporting structure are going well.

John Ohman reported that the Finance Committee voted to recommend the proposed budgets of the Regional Commissioners, Finance, Shared Costs and Debt, Capital Improvement Plan, Unfunded Liabilities, and Joint Initiatives 3-0-1 (D. McCutcheon voting to “abstain”). The budget of the Resource Development Office (RDO and AmeriCorps) recommended 4-0-0 by the committee. There was no recommendation made for the Assembly budget.

The Chairpersons of the Standing Committees left the meeting with the exception of the Finance Committee Chair and its members.

Consensus of Finance Committee Members regarding the following:

- a) Policies related to the use and purpose of reserve funds as it relates to the Cape Cod Commission and its use of reserves to balance its budget. What control and authority does the voting Assembly exercise over the Cape Cod Commission budget.
- b) Cape Cod Commission FY17 budget reflects a 2% COLA for employees but County budget for FY17 does not include a 2% COLA for County employees. Does the Assembly have authority to approve or disapprove COLAs for the Cape Cod Commission in light of the fact that County employees have no COLA budgeted.
- c) Interest in seeing the cost sharing history between the Regional Government and the Cape Cod Commission regarding projects associated with the Joint Initiative Programs.

Committee members seeking justifications will make inquiries and seek answers to remaining questions.

Motion made by Suzanne McAuliffe, and was seconded, to adjourn the meeting. Unanimous Meeting adjourned @ 3:45 p.m.

Submitted by:

Janice O’Connell, Clerk
Assembly of Delegates