

MEETING NOTES

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Barnstable, ss.

At a special meeting of the County Commissioners held in the Open Cape Building in Barnstable on the twenty seventh day of May, A.D. 2014.

Chairman Flynn called the meeting to order at 2:10 a.m.

Board of the Barnstable County Commissioners:

Mary Pat Flynn Present

Sheila Lyons Present

Staff Present:

Michael Brillhart County Administrator

Mark Zielinski Finance Director

The Commissioners recited the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a Moment of Silence.

I. Discussion and potential vote on Ordinance 14-02, the proposed County Budget for FY15, as amended and adopted by the Assembly of Delegates on May 21, 2014.

Commissioner Flynn stated that the Board of Commissioners has scheduled two meetings in order to discuss recent actions taken by Assembly of Delegates. The Assembly has amended the proposed FY15 budget that includes 2.5% increase of the county tax. The Assembly rejected that proposal, splitting that amount equally and decreasing the budget for two county departments: Information Technology and joint projects funding between Cape Cod Commission and County

Commissioners. Commissioner Flynn also stated that according to Home Rule Charter, the Commissioners have 10 days to take any action and the Assembly has additional 10 days to approve or disapprove the budget. However that timeline cannot be met because the Charter also specifies that the budget must be approved by June 1.

County Administrator, Michael Brillhart, clarified where the increase came from according to the Home Rule Charter. The 2.5% regional tax levy increase would result in total tax assessment revenues of \$3,046,865, an increase of \$74,314.00. Every year each Cape Cod town recommends the adoption of the 2.5% increase stabilization measure as part of their annual budget. The County's budget includes a reliance upon property and deeds excise taxes. In previous years both Assembly and the Commissioners have realized the need to incorporate general revenue fund stabilization through the 2.5% increase to ensure that the sufficient revenues are available to meet operating expenditures.

Commissioner Flynn stated that the County does not have the sustainable source of revenue, the deeds excise tax is not sustainable, and it can change due to economy or other factors.

Motion made by Commissioner Lyons not to take any action on Ordinance 14-02, the proposed County Budget for FY15, as amended and adopted by the Assembly of Delegates on May 21, 2014, 2nd by Commissioner Flynn, approved 2-0-0.

II. Public Comment

Mr. Peter Kenney spoke about the 2.5% tax increase and suggested that in the future the Commissioners consider putting this money in places like pension liability or OPEB.

Barnstable, ss. at 2:42 p.m. on this twenty seventh day of May, A.D. 2014, Commissioner Lyons moved to adjourn, 2nd by Commissioner Flynn, approved 2-0-0.