Resolution 08-01

To establish an Ad Hoc Committee to Review the County Dredge and Legislative constraints within which the Dredge can operate.

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Barnstable County Assembly of Delegates that:

An Ad Hoc Committee to review the County Dredge and the legislative constraints within which the Dredge can operate is hereby established. The committee shall consist of five Delegates appointed by the Speaker.

The Ad Hoc Committee shall report to the Assembly of Delegates on a regular basis.

The foregoing Resolution was adopted by the Barnstable County Assembly of Delegates, by a voice vote with 78.48% present and voting at the regular meeting held on February 6, 2008.

Attested by:

Diane C. Thompson, Clerk
Barnstable County Assembly of Delegates
Proposed Resolution 08-01: Ad Hoc County Dredge Committee

Speaker STRIEBEL: Thank you very much.

This is my day to make Proposed Ordinances and Proposed Resolutions. The next item on the calendar is a Proposed Resolution 08-01 to establish an Ad Hoc Committee to Review the County Dredge and Legislative constraints within which the Dredge can operate.

“BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Barnstable County Assembly of Delegates that:

“An Ad Hoc Committee to review the County Dredge and the legislative constraints within which the Dredge can operate is hereby established. The committee shall consist of five Delegates appointed by the Speaker.

“The Ad Hoc Committee will report to the Assembly of Delegates on a regular basis.”

I’m making this Proposed Resolution. Is there a second?

Mr. BERGSTROM: Second.

Speaker STRIEBEL: Thank you very much. I’ll open it up for discussion.

John, do you wish to speak on this to advise the Assembly why we are asking for this Proposed Resolution?

Mr. OHMAN: Yes, Madam Speaker, thank you. It has come to our attention that the windows of opportunity for dredging on Cape Cod have been shrinking dramatically over the course of time. As you know of the 15-member towns of Barnstable County, 14 of them use the dredge services. But as the window shrinks, the ability for the dredge to operate becomes problematic and they can’t be in two places at once.

There has always been tremendous competition in recent years for the opportunity of the dredge to be used. Apparently it lies in the hands of one particular person up at the Marine Fisheries Department and his name is Vin Markowski, and he’s right at the ire of all of the harbormasters, including those members in Sandwich and all the way down the southeast coast, through New Bedford and beyond, because it’s causing a situation where harbors cannot be dredged; whether it be our County dredge or not, it resonates out to the islands and there has to be a political solution to it.

It seems as though we’re going to lose the ability of our dredge to be a financial success for us. It’s been a great concern for the majority of the towns on Cape Cod.

So I thought that we should explore this. I know that many members of the community are concerned about this, especially your harbormasters. They are literally livid over the lack of authority for the dredge to operate. So if we’re going to continue a viable dredge department on Cape Cod and Barnstable County, I think we have to see what we can do to resolve this problem and see if there is a political solution to it.

Speaker STRIEBEL: Thank you, John.

Are there any questions regarding the Proposed Resolution?

Mr. BOARDMAN: Move the question.

Speaker STRIEBEL: The question has been moved. This is a voice vote. There is no roll call; it’s a voice vote. So all those that are in favor of Proposed Resolution 08-01, please say “yes”?

Thank you. It passes unanimously.

Whereupon, it was moved, seconded, and by a voice vote with 78.48% voting yes: VOTED: approve Proposed Resolution 08-01: Ad Hoc County Dredge Committee