

**CAPE COD REGIONAL GOVERNMENT
ASSEMBLY of DELEGATES
2024 Session
Resolution No. 2**

Calling on the Board of Regional Commissioners to introduce a proposed ordinance establishing a Water and Wastewater Stabilization Fund

Whereas, Cape Cod regional government water quality and wastewater programs provide testing, monitoring and research in every stage of water use; from recreation, to drinking, to wastewater disposal; and

Whereas, those programs also provide an effective and efficient means of financially assisting area residents with often cost-prohibitive yet essential septic system requirements; and

Whereas, all 15 of Barnstable County's towns rely on a single source aquifer--the Cape Cod Aquifer-- for 100% of their drinking water needs; and

Whereas, effective wastewater management is essential to public health and environmental protection in our region; and

Whereas, due to unprecedented excess deeds excise revenue during fiscal years 2021, 2022, and 2023, the Cape Cod regional government's unreserved fund accumulated a balance that exceeded \$27,761,774 as of June 30, 2023, and

Whereas, Ordinance 2020-15 authorizes the Cape Cod regional government to create special stabilization funds into which monies may be transferred for a broad category of spending purposes by ordinance; and

Whereas, our Home Rule Charter states a proposed ordinance may be introduced by any member of the assembly of delegates, or by the board of regional commissioners; and

Whereas, our government's general counsel has opined that the Assembly of Delegates acts as the County's Advisory Board on Expenditures when acting on appropriations under Section 2 – 4 of our Home Rule Charter and Chapter 35, Section 28B of Massachusetts General Laws; and

Now therefore,

Be it Hereby Resolved by the Cape Cod regional government Assembly of Delegates:

Section 1.

The Assembly of Delegates calls on the Board of Regional Commissioners to introduce a proposed ordinance: 1) establishing a Water and Wastewater Stabilization Fund , for the purpose of setting aside funds that are to be invested to secure reserves for regional water quality and wastewater programs; and 2) appropriating the sum of \$3 million dollars into that fund by transferring that amount from the unreserved fund balance.

The Assembly of Delegates adopted the foregoing Resolution No. 2 at its regular meeting on May 15, 2023 by a roll call vote with delegates representing 97.25% of the population of Barnstable County voting in the affirmative, and delegates representing 2.75% of the population absent.

Attested by:

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "O. G. Fletcher".

Owen Fletcher, Clerk
Assembly of Delegates