

TOWN OF BOZRAH
REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
ZOOM-VIDEO CONFERENCE
November 17, 2020

Item 1: First Selectman Carl Zorn called a Regular Meeting of the Bozrah Board of Selectmen (BOS) to order via Zoom on November 17, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

Members Present: First Selectman Carl Zorn, Second Selectman Bill Ballinger and Selectman Glenn Pianka.

Item 2: Public Comments

No public comments.

Item 3: Approve Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting minutes from October 20, 2020

MOTION 1: G. Pianka made a motion to approve the Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting minutes from October 20, 2020. B. Ballinger seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous - **MOTION CARRIED**

Item 4: DEMHS Official Resolution Approval

MOTION 2: Bill Ballinger made a motion to allow the First Selectman to sign and approve the official resolution. G. Pianka seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous - **MOTION CARRIED**

Item 5: Fire Truck Pumper Repair

C. Zorn noted the Bozrah Volunteer Fire Company's Ladder truck's pumper broke and needs to be repaired. Chief Sholes noted the BVFC is asking for around \$20,000 from the town.

B. Ballinger noted not to spend the money requested until approved by the Board of Finance. Chief Sholes noted he will spend around \$13,000 from the Fire Department's budget to get the parts, once the Board of Finance approves the rest they will continue.

MOTION 3: B. Ballinger made a motion to approve Chief Sholes plan and to request the Board of Finance to appropriate up to \$20,000 for the ladder truck pumper repair. G. Pianka seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous - **MOTION CARRIED**

Item 6: COVID Increases in Bozrah

C. Zorn reported COVID cases have increased in Bozrah. G. Pianka noted some instances where the system is breached and people don't comply.

G. Pianka questioned why the COVID alerts show the person's address and age.

Chief Sholes noted they added COVID to the Ryan White Act which is for First Responders and Town Authorities to know of people in town with certain diseases.

Item 7: Resolution for Board of Finance for purchasing a new street sweeper

C. Zorn noted the current street sweeper is breaking down often and is no longer financially viable. C. Zorn noted he received a quote of \$235,000 for a new 2018 model street sweeper with 4,000 miles on it . C. Zorn spoke with the Town Attorney and Dime Bank to include the new street sweeper as part of refinance for the renovation bond to reduce the outgoing cash flow in the town. Refinancing this way reduces \$324,000 to \$140,000 spent.

B. Ballinger clarified the renovation bond being refinanced is from 2010.

C. Zorn noted once the Board of Finance approves the refinance they will put a hold on the sweeper.

G. Pianka noted the renovation bond from 2010 is only a few years from being paid off. He noted it doesn't make sense to refinance that to last another 15 years. B. Ballinger noted the bond has 5 years left to be paid off and it is common that towns will extend bonds this way. G. Pianka noted it could be financed as its own item, many companies offer their own financing with 0% financing for the first months. G. Pianka requested C. Zorn asks the company about financing. G. Pianka also requested C. Zorn presented a spreadsheet with how this can benefit the town financially. B. Ballinger agreed they need more details before moving forward.

Item 8: Approval to allow Maple Farms Park to host vendors off season at the park

C. Zorn introduced Miria Toth from the Maples Farm Park Commission. M. Toth noted there was a request from vendors that customers can pre-order and pick up from them at the Maples Farm Park. M. Toth noted the vendors would only allow pick up for pre-orders on a scheduled day.

B. Ballinger noted the businesses selling at the preorders don't have to pay overhead and taxes. He noted his concern for established businesses in town.

G. Pianka noted the farmers market vendor fees are too low for the liability involved. G. Pianka noted the park is town property and they should be careful what they allow. B. Ballinger agreed.

The Board chose not to allow the Maples Farm Park to host vendors off season at the park.

Item 9: Transfer Station Permit Fee increase by \$10

C. Zorn noted Willimantic Waste increased their fees. He noted the transfer station will raise their permit fee by \$10, this will cover the increased fees for Willimantic waste.

B. Ballinger noted the permit fees were \$40 and now increased to \$50.

G. Pianka noted past abuse on bulky waste items from other towns. He noted it seems better and a permit fee increase was expected and necessary.

MOTION 3: B. Ballinger made a motion to approve the transfer station to increase their permit fees to \$50 starting this ticket season. C. Zorn seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous - **MOTION CARRIED**

Item 10: Monthly Reports

- a) Troop K Updates for September - Attachment 1
- b) Fire Marshal - Attachment 2
- c) Senior Center - Attachment 3
- d) Bozrah Food Bank - Attachment 4

B. Ballinger noted a debit card was included in the report. He questioned which account the card would be connected to. Diana Santo noted it would be connected to the Food and Energy fund.

Item 11: First Selectman Update

- a) Truck Preparation for Plowing in progress
- b) Route 82 Grass and Slope Stabilization not complete

C. Zorn noted this has not been signed off yet.

- c) Truck Wash and Garage Expansion (looking to add to long term projects)

C. Zorn noted it is illegal to wash the trucks in front of the garage because the oil and grease should be contained. C. Zorn presented the Board with a proposed layout for the Town Garage expansion. C. Zorn requested to add the Town Garage expansion to a list of long term projects he presented to the Board before. The project is estimated to cost around \$436,000. B. Ballinger clarified the Board was just adding it to the list of projects.

- d) Wawecus Hill Catch Basin Repairs

C. Zorn noted they finished the repairs on Wawecus Hill and Rosemarie Lane.

G. Pianka noted the town should promote holiday decorating this year. He sent over a form to C. Zorn. B. Ballinger noted in the past Bozrah Light and Power funded a holiday light decorating contest.

e) Leaf Pickup

C. Zorn noted many leaf pick ups have been completed. The crews will continue on the roads picking up leaves and branches.

f) Tremendous Work by the Town Clerk, Registrars and Poll Workers - acknowledgement

Item 12: Such other business as the Board may vote to hear

Item 13: Public Comment

Michel Leask commented that the form G. Pianka shared regarding the holiday light decorating was given to the children at school.

Item 14: Adjourn

MOTION 4: G. Pianka made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:16 p.m. B. Ballinger seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous - **MOTION CARRIED**

Respectfully submitted for the Board,

Heather Barber
Recording Secretary