

**TOWN OF BOZRAH
TOWN HALL
1 RIVER ROAD
BOZRAH, CONNECTICUT 06334**

The **Bozrah Board of Selectmen** held a **SPECIAL MEETING** on **Friday July 6, 2018 at 8:00 A.M.** in the Meeting Room of the Bozrah Town Hall at 1 River Road, Bozrah, Connecticut.

MINUTES

1) Call to order/attendance Meeting called to order by FS Pianka at 0800 AM
Full Board of Selectmen in attendance, six members of the public

2) Public comment(s) None

3) Review/analyze referendum ballots (comments) from Friday June 29, 2018

-Distribute tabulations (See attached: FY18/19 Budget Referendum Results)

Selectman Ballinger commented that he observed not a strong trend one way or the other
The numbers of the various responses to the three budgets were discussed at length and
in response to the 39 comments received the following budget adjustments were made:

- 1) First Selectman salary raise pared back to 3% (\$54,599) from 7% (\$56,620)
- 2) Selectmen stipends reduced as well to \$1,622
- 3) Town Clerk Assistant (word "salary" removed) and line amount reduced to \$2,900
- 4) Assessor's Office Mileage line increased from \$50 to \$450 to be utilized for in-service training also
- 5) Building Official Supplies line increased from \$400 to \$800 for new updated code materials
- 6) ZEO salary increased from \$1975 to \$3000 annually
- 7) IWWC salary increased from \$1975 to \$3000 annually
- 8) Fire Department proposed Firefighter/EMT payroll of \$80,000 removed along with accompanying Fire Department Capital Equipment reduction of \$40,000 to that line
- 9) Fire Marshal code increased from \$600 to \$1500
- 10) DPW Equipment increased by \$15,000 to cover failed heating system furnace at DPW garage

After lengthy discussion of Fire Department (item number 8 above) First Selectman Pianka **MOTIONED** to form a Public Safety Advisory Committee to investigate the volunteer firefighter and emergency medical response manpower issue(s) currently being experienced in the community. That the committee would also be charged to interface with the Fields Memorial School Security Sub-Committee of the Board of Education in areas where appropriate. That this committee would be required to report back on or before January 31, 2019. That the committee would be comprised of Board of Education (2), Fire Department (2), Board of Selectmen (1), Board of Finance (1) and Five (5) Members of the community (11 Total) **SECONDED: ZORN PASSED: PIANKA/ZORN-YES BALLINGER-NAY**

4) Action Item: Establish short and long term BOS FY 18/19 budgetary adjustments and/or other action(s)

This agenda item was addressed under agenda item #3- (See above)

5) Public comment(s):

Linda Adelman: Add Fire Marshal to the public safety review committee especially in regard to the fees being charged in comparison to other towns. Fire Chief is not a town resident. Sending the assessor to schools should not be paid for by the town...they will leave once trained "on our dime". Where did the item appear on the ballot for the FD?

Raymond Barber: Will budget go to referendum? So we are starting from scratch.....

John Onsager: We should start sharing responsibilities with other towns. I disagree that the EMT would only be on a provisional basis. American Medical Response is the way to go. Move DPW furnace to the capital line.

Joe Murray: Anybody that did this with the FD lost more volunteers than it maintained. Also, I have a money issue with the proposal by the FD

Fred Potter: Voter turnout is arbitrary. Public safety committee should analyze all of the data. Take a look at the back up service that could be provided with American Ambulance. BOE should have a representative on the Public Safety Advisory Committee, but not the superintendent.

6) Adjourn: Meeting adjourned 0915 AM
Motion Pianka/Seconded Zorn-**PASSED**

Respectfully Submitted,

Glenn S. Pianka
First Selectman