

**TOWN OF BOZRAH**  
**QUARTERLY MEETING**  
**BOARD OF FINANCE**  
**BOZRAH TOWN HALL**  
**September 20, 2021**

**Item 1:** Chairman Mike O'Connor called the Quarterly Meeting of the Bozrah Board of Finance(BOF) to order at the Bozrah Town Hall on September 20, 2021 at 7:00p.m.

**Members Present:** Chairman Mike O'Connor, Raymond Barber, Michel Leask, Phil Lavallee, Evan Gilman, Steve Seder

**Item 2:** Public Comment

No public comment.

**Item 3:** Approve minutes for Board of Finance Quarterly Meeting on June 21, 2021

**MOTION 1:** M. Leask made a motion to approve the minutes from the Board of Finance Quarterly meeting held June 21, 2021. P. Lavallee seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous - **MOTION CARRIED**

**Item 4:** Report from the Treasurer

D. Santo presented the Board with the Treasurer's Report. The Board received copies of the bank balances, revenue and State of Connecticut revenue

**Item 5:** Report from the Tax Collector

N. Renshaw presented the Board with the Tax Collector's Report. The Board received copies of the Grand Ratebook Balance Sheet Report. N. Renshaw noted \$3,981,476.79 has been collected.

**Item 6:** Report from the Assessor

L. Zdanys presented the Board with the Assessor's Report on several assessment changes in town. R. Barber commented on trailers in town being assessed higher than their worth. L. Zdanys noted she does not have a value book on trailers and uses the internet for research on how to assess them. S. Seder questioned if the new chicken coops at Hillendale have been assessed. L. Zdanys noted she will meet with them soon to assess the new chicken coops. L. Zdanys noted she received a list of the number of campers at Acorn Acres Campground but not a list of individual campers. L. Zdanys was hopeful campers at Acorn Acres will respond so they can be taxed appropriately. R. Barber questioned if each campsite in the many campgrounds in town are taxable. L. Zdanys noted each campsite was not individually taxed. R.

Barber also commented on the importance of communication between the building inspector and the Assessor. L. Zdanys noted they should consider a geographic information system for mapping.

**Item 7: Board of Selectmen**

a. Update 2020-2021 Budget

B. Ballinger commented on items in the 2020-2021 budget that need funds added before audited. B. Ballinger noted item 102 Employee Benefits is \$2,389.97 under due to an increase of medical pensions paid in the fiscal year. B. Ballinger noted the Planning and Zoning item is also about \$2,300.00 under due to a late bill from SCCOG for indirect costs. B. Ballinger also noted a mistake on item 122 Public Safety commenting the two AED costs should be moved to the school. B. Ballinger noted earlier in the fiscal year 2020-2021 the Board of Selectmen moved funds from the guardrail line to the line for overlay for town roads. Following that transfer of funds a guardrail in town was hit and needed to be replaced for \$6,094.14. B. Ballinger noted overall the capital budget was not affected by this, but funds need to be moved back to the guardrail line item to cover that cost. B. Ballinger noted a surplus of around \$274,000 in the 2020-2021 Board of Selectmen budget.

b. Update 2021-2022 Budget

G. Pianka noted for the Inland Wetlands item the Wetland Enforcement Officer salary will not be expended as they do not have a current officer. G. Pianka also noted item 130 General Highway may be under budgeted. Item 137 Transfer Site will be impacted due to the current repairs and the need for a third attendant. G. Pianka noted item 190 General Government Capital is low due to a mower purchase.

c. Financial Forecasting Items

G. Pianka noted the many trees in town that will soon need to be removed. G. Pianka also noted the open space grant for a property on South Road. G. Pianka explained to the Board the town Bozrah would pay around \$50,000 for this property. G. Pianka noted they will plan a meeting with the Board of Selectmen to discuss spending the funds from the American Rescue Plan.

**Item 8: Board of Education**

a. Update 2020-2021 Budget

J. Goulart presented the Board with the Board of Education's expenditure report for fiscal year 2020-2021. J. Goulart reported the BOE expects to return to the town balance \$92,274.04. J. Goulart noted this high return to the town is due to COVID changes in transportation with remote schooling and tuition costs. R. Barber questioned how many students were enrolled in school. P.

Bonner noted 172 students were enrolled, out of that 40 students stayed remote. P. Bonner noted there are no additional teachers or staff, only increased hours for the interventionist.

b. Update 2021-2022 Budget

J. Goulart noted they have spent about 50% of the 2021-2022 budget and presented the Board with the expenditure report.

c. Update on Underground Storage Tank

J. Goulart introduced Jim Ericson from Lenard Engineering. J. Ericson noted the original construction estimate in March 2020 was around \$150,000. J. Ericson reported the bids received on the project were \$298,000 and \$312,000. J. Ericson explained their original estimate was formulated from costs of similar projects in 2019. J. Ericson noted they can resubmit the plans as they are with the town approvals at the new cost and plan on construction in the 2022 spring. E. Gilman questioned the engineering planning. M. O'Connor expressed his frustration with the process of applying for the state grant, the specifications of the grant and the overall cost of the project.

**MOTION 2:** P. Lavallee made a motion to approve the Board of Educations request of \$384,339 for the underground storage tank replacement at Fields Memorial School. M. O'Connor seconded the motion.

Vote 6 opposed. Motion failed.

**Item 9:** Such other business as the Board may vote to hear

No other business.

**Item 10:** Final Public Comment

No public comments.

**Item 11:** Adjourn

**MOTION 3:** R. Barber made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:30 p.m. P. Lavallee seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous - **MOTION CARRIED**

Respectfully submitted for the Board,

Heather Barber  
Recording Secretary