

First Selectman Carl Zorn called to order a Town Meeting at 7:04 at Fields Memorial School 8 Bozrah Street Ext at 7:04 pm with 45 people in attendance.

Ray Barber 25 Goshen Road made a motion for Mike Betten to act as moderator Glenn Pianka 185 Fitchville Road seconded the motion. Mike O'Connor of 23 Hickory Lane moved that the nomination be closed First Selectman Carl Zorn seconded the motion.

Meeting Mike Betten read the call of the meeting.

## **TOWN OF BOZRAH**

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### **Town of Bozrah Annual Town Meeting**

The electors of the Town of Bozrah and those entitled to vote at a Town Meeting are hereby warned and notified of the Annual Town Meeting to be held at Fields Memorial School, 8 Bozrah Street Ext. on Wednesday, 9 June 2021 at 7:00 pm. The agenda is as follows:

- 1) Shall the town appropriate sufficient sums of money to carry on the various divisions of Town Government for the fiscal year that begins 1 July 2021 all of which have been approved and recommended by the Board of Finance to the extent of the amounts appearing opposite each category below:

|                     |                   |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| Education:          | \$6,512,310       |
| General Government: | \$1,935,201       |
| Capital:            | <u>\$ 742,344</u> |
| Total               | \$9,189,855       |

Copies of the detailed budgets are available in the Town Hall during normal business hours.

- 2) Shall the Town of Bozrah permit the Maples Farm Park Commission to construct a 24' x 36' pavilion on town owned property at Maples Farm.

#### **NOTE:**

- 1) There will be no remote or zoom coverage of this meeting.
- 2) Social distancing and wearing of a face covering will be required.

Dated this 24<sup>th</sup> Day of May 2021 at Bozrah, CT.

Board of Selectman:  
Carl L. Zorn  
William E. Ballinger  
Glenn S. Pianka

Jonathan Gilman 20 Gilman Road made a motion to accept the town budget seconded by Selectman Ballinger of 225 Lake Road motion on the floor.

Discussion: Mike O'Connor Chair of The Board of Finance talked about how the Town of Bozrah did not have an Annual Town Meeting last year due to the pandemic. The Governors emergency orders authorized the Board of Selectman to transfer the authority to the Board of Finance so last year around this time the Board of Finance meet and did their work and approved the budget without the benefit of a town meeting. We have been meeting over ZOOM and some dual-purpose meetings over the last couple of months to come up with this budget again a lot of cooperation between the boards in case you were not following closely if you go back a few years the mil rate was 28 ½ we did not need that much money to do the things that we felt was necessary in the town the mil rate was lowered down to 27 ½. In fact, at that time the mil rate went 27 ½ to 28 ½ because the State of Connecticut was going to cut and we did not know what the impact was going to be, but we were prepared for it. When the state did not do that, we put the mil rate back down last year we lower the mil rate by half a mil. This year we have been discussing mil rates between 26 and 27 we have not made that final determination we needed more information where the towns accounts were, what the revenue looked like for next year and the state is still talking about supporting the town with extra covid resources but again we don't have a rule set for that money which could be up to half a million dollars which is two mils I'm not sure if that money is going to offset things that we're actually doing or do we have to do other things that we're not spending the money currently or in the future.

BOE budget is up by 5.6 % BOS budget is up almost 10% and the capital budget is down 10% our actual fund balance is 1.4 million dollars If the mil rate were to be 27, we would end up with a fund balance of about a million dollars the town has a strong financial position with which to go forward with. We are not doing a revalue this year it is not going to change the grand list at all. The grand list has gone up from two hundred and forty-nine million to two hundred and fifty-five million.

All questions were answered by Chairman Mike O'Connor and Jeanne Goulart Chair of BOE and Dr. Bonner concerning the budgets.

Ballots for the Board of Education, General Government and Capital were collected and counted by Tax Collector Nancy Renshaw and Assistant Tax Collector Greg Pardo.

Discussion was held on the pavilion to be build at Maple Farms on town owned property. Paul and Dale Barile of 57 Bozrah Street who live next to Maple Farms are no happy where the proposed pavilion will be placed as it too close to their property line.

All questions were answered by Glenn Pianka and Chair of Maple Farms Miria Grey concerning the pavilion.

Results of the budget Yes; 32 No; 13

Results of the pavilion Yes; 8 No; 36

Moderator Mike Betten thanked everyone for coming out this evening meeting adjourned at 8:25pm

Lynne A. Skinner  
Bozrah Town Clerk