

TOWN OF BOZRAH
SPECIAL MEETING
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
ZOOM-VIDEO CONFERENCE
May 5, 2021

Item 1: First Selectman Carl Zorn called a Special Meeting of the Bozrah Board of Selectmen (BOS) to order via Zoom on May 5, 2021 at 4:00 p.m.

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

Item 2: Public Comments

Don Pirie, Gager Road, commented on the rental property next door to his home and the negative effects.

Raymond Barber, Goshen Road, commented on Item 6 on the agenda noting they should set a Referendum.

Mark Easter, Gager Road, commented his support of the Short Term Rental Properties Ordinance.

Item 3: Review public comments and discuss possible changes to the Short Term Rental Properties Ordinance

C. Zorn noted many comments were in support of the Short Term Rental Properties Ordinance. C. Zorn noted there were comments made about the ordinance fitting into the Planning and Zoning regulations. B. Ballinger noted Planning and Zoning can incorporate the ordinance into their regulations, although the ordinance will stand alone. B. Ballinger noted the Board of Selectmen could recommend it to Planning and Zoning.

B. Ballinger noted on a comment from Scott Taylor on the restrictions of use. B. Ballinger clarified the ordinance does not restrict townspeople from hosting gatherings at their homes.

MOTION 1: G. Pianka made a motion to move ahead with the version of the Short Term Rental Properties Ordinance presented. B. Ballinger seconded the motion.
Vote unanimous - **MOTION CARRIED**

Item 4: Review public comments and discuss possible changes to the Cemetery Commission Ordinance

C. Zorn noted on a comment from Raymond Barber on the commission being made up of more Bozrah residents than those out of town. G. Pianka clarified that the ordinance allows for at least 3 members from the town of Bozrah, it does not restrict to only 3 townspeople. G. Pianka noted he was open to changing the ordinance to at least 4 members from the town of Bozrah.

MOTION 2: G. Pianka made a motion for the Cemetery Commission to be made up of 4 members from in town and 3 members from out of town. B. Ballinger seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous - **MOTION CARRIED**

MOTION 3: B. Ballinger made a motion to approve the Cemetery Commission Ordinance as amended and to send the ordinance to a Town Meeting. G. Pianka seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous - **MOTION CARRIED**

Item 5: Adopt finalized versions of the Short Term Rental Properties Ordinance and the Cemetery Commission Ordinance and vote to send to a Town Meeting or Referendum

C. Zorn noted Raymond Barber's comment on moving the ordinances to a referendum. B. Ballinger noted the attorney explained not to schedule the referendum or town meeting before the governor's orders lift on May 19 so they could have a regular town meeting. B. Ballinger explained they need to have a town meeting and from there they may vote to have a referendum. B. Ballinger suggested the Board sets a town meeting date for May 20, 2021 in the gymnasium at Fields Memorial School. B. Ballinger noted if the Board chooses they can meet before May 14, 2021 to move the items to referendum. G. Pianka noted a referendum does not seem necessary for the ordinances. B. Ballinger noted the added expense of a referendum. Registrar of Voters, Sue Ververis, noted that having a referendum would not be too much of an expense due to the low number of people expected to go. S. Ververis noted the cost is not in the election budget at this time, but there is money in the registrars budget.

Item 6: Set Town Meeting/Referendum date, time and place

MOTION 4: B. Ballinger made a motion to set a Town Meeting for May 20, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. in the gymnasium at Fields Memorial School to vote on the two proposed ordinances. G. Pianka seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous - **MOTION CARRIED**

MOTION 5: B. Ballinger made a motion to send the two proposed ordinances at the Town Meeting to a Referendum to be held anywhere between May 27 and June 3, 2021. G. Pianka seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous - **MOTION CARRIED**

MOTION 6: C. Zorn made a motion to set a referendum for May 28, 2021 from 11 a.m to 8 p.m. at the Bozrah Town Hall. B. Ballinger seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous - **MOTION CARRIED**

Item 7: Public Comments

No public comments.

Item 8: Adjourn

MOTION 7: B. Ballinger made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m. G. Pianka seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous - **MOTION CARRIED**

Respectfully submitted for the Board,

Heather Barber
Recording Secretary