

BOZRAH BOARD OF FINANCE
Regular Meeting
Bozrah Town Hall
1 River Road, Bozrah, Ct 06334
March 18, 2019

Item 1: Chairman Michael O'Connor called the regular meeting of the Bozrah Board of Finance (BOF) to order at 7:02 p.m.

Members Present: Michael O'Connor Michel Leask, Raymond Barber, Phil Lavallee, Ann Chambers.

Members Absent: Evan Gilman

Others Present: Glenn Pianka (First Selectman), Bill Ballinger (Selectman), C. Zorn (Selectman), Nancy Renshaw (Tax Collector), Diana Santo (Treasurer), Jack Welch (Superintendent), Jeanne Goulart (BOE), Sue Lyon (BOE) and 4 members of the public.

Item 2: Public Comment

No public comment.

Item 3: Review and approve minutes from the February 19, 2019 Special Meeting.

MOTION 1: A. Chambers made a motion to accept the minutes of the February 19, 2018 meeting as written. P. Lavallee seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous – **MOTION CARRIED**

Item 4: Report from the Treasurer

D. Santo noted the tax account is collecting a 2.52 interest rate this month. R. Barber questioned why Maples Farm Commission deposited more money than other months in January. D. Santo noted she will look into it.

D. Santo presented the Board with the Revenue and Expenses paperwork and the Treasurer's Report.

Item 5: Report from the Tax Collector

N. Renshaw noted 97.5% of the 2017 Grand List has been collected. N. Renshaw also noted outstanding back tax collection has decreased because they can be paid online now.

Item 6: Board of Selectmen update on current budget status (FY 2018/2019)

G. Pianka noted items within the Revenue and Expenses for July 2018 – March 2019. G. Pianka noted \$30,600 needed to be added to item 53024 Fire Department Equipment for the new Fire Fighter/EMT personnel. Item 53050 under Welfare General Assistance is over budget because of more efficient evictions in the town.

Item 7: Capital plan discussion including water mains, gas lines, and Optimus contract, and funding thereof

B. Ballinger noted the agreement between the Town of Bozrah and Optimus Senior Living is set to begin July 1, 2019 with hooking in to the water line. The hook up with the water line will not take place for another 10 months so the Board will modify their agreement with Optimus.

The Board of Selectmen presented the Board of Finance with three options on loans for the completion of the water line as well as adding in a connection to the water line from Noble Hill Road.

M. O'Connor noted for the Board of Selectmen to get the actual cost of the project and bring a contract to the Board of Finance for recommendation to a Town Meeting.

Item 8: Board of Education update on current budget status (FY 2018/2019)

J. Welch noted the current status of the Board of Education is not good because of unexpected Special Education cost that result in a \$71,976.37 deficit. The board will continue to look at what they can do.

Item 9: Receive Budgets from the Board of Selectmen and Board of Education

Board of Education:

J. Goulart noted a 3.3% increase for Special Education costs, a 2.3% decrease for high school costs due to a smaller amount of students and a 0.5% increase for the Fields Memorial School budget.

R. Barber noted the Board of Education is a member short and if not replaced soon the Selectmen may appoint someone for the position.

Board of Selectmen:

G. Pianka noted a 3% raise for all salaries. Item 51053 Clerk (File Purging) has increased to \$3,000 for a 10 week temporary position for record retention. Item 51052 Town Clerk Assistant Salary has been restored. Item 53083 Phone/ Internet for the Fire Marshal and Chief has been decreased as the Chief has found a lower costing phone service. Item 54161 Summer Program has been increased to \$7,100

for a longer program. Item 6560 Human Resource Service has been decreased to \$2,500 because the Employee Handbook has been completed. Item 54067 Town Wide Guardrail has increased to \$20,000 due to rotted guardrails throughout town. Item 54065 has been decreased because of the purchase of a tractor. Item 55006 Senior Center Repairs has been increased to \$8,500 because of a needed renovation of the bathrooms.

Item 10: Appoint Auditor for FY 2018/2019

MOTION 2: R. Barber made a motion to retain Sandra Wellwood LLC as Auditor for FY 2018/2019. M. Leask seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous – **MOTION CARRIED**

Item 11: Establish meeting dates for FY 2019/2020 budget process

Board of Finance Special Meeting
Monday April 8, 2019 7:00 Town Hall

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

MOTION 3: R. Barber made a motion to add the approval of the December 17, 2018 minutes to the agenda. M. Leask seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous – **MOTION CARRIED**

MOTION 4: R. Barber made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 17, 2018 meeting. A. Chambers seconded the motion. P. Lavalley abstained.

Vote unanimous – **MOTION CARRIED**

Item 13: Final Public Comment

No public comment.

Item 14: Adjourn

MOTION 5: R. Barber made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:03 p.m A. Chambers seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous – **MOTION CARRIED**

Respectfully Submitted for the Board,

Heather Barber
Recording Secretary