

First Selectman Glenn Pianka called to order a Town Meeting January 12, 2022, at 7:00 pm at Fields Memorial School 8 Bozrah Street Ext. Bozrah CT with twenty people in attendance.

First Selectman Pianka: The first order of business is nominate a moderator. Mary Elizabeth Lang of Gifford Lane made a motion for Michael Betten of Wawecus Hill Road to act as moderator. Bruce Neild of Gifford Lane seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

Moderator Michael Betten asked for a moment of silence for the loss of Mr. Henry Granger who was moderator for the town for over 30 years. Michael Betten took over the role of Moderator from Mr. Henry Granger, Mr. Granger passed a few weeks ago.

Moderator Betten read the call of the meeting.

The electors of the Town of Bozrah and those entitled to vote at a Town Meeting are hereby warned and notified of a Town Meeting to be held at Fields Memorial School at 8 Bozrah Street Extension on **WEDNESDAY JANUARY 12, 2022, at 7:00 P.M.** The agenda is as follows:

### **AGENDA**

- 1) To approve the expenditure of **American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)** funds received in the amount of \$400,000 as approved by the Board of Selectmen Special Meeting on November 22, 2021 (See minutes for detailed breakdown)
- 2) To approve the **Maples Farm Commission** proposal to construct a **24' x 36' outdoor pavilion** at the Maples Farm Homestead 45 Bozrah Street, Bozrah, Connecticut

Dated at Bozrah, Connecticut this 21st day of December 2021 by the:

Board of Selectmen:

Glenn S. Pianka

William E. Ballinger  
Jeremy Tarasevich

Moderator Betten: There's two items on the agenda, we are going to have two discussions and two votes. If you would like to speak, please state your name and your address or the street you live on and raise your hand and I'll be happy to recognize you.

Item 1) To approve the expenditure of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds received in the amount of \$400,000 as approved by the Board of Selectman Special Meeting on November 22, 2021.

Moderator Betten: Would anyone like to start an explanation, Glenn? Anybody?

Selectman Ballinger: I make a motion to approve the expenditure of American Rescue Plan Act funds as approved by the Board of Selectman.

Moderator Betten: There's a motion on the floor, do we have a second?

Steve Seder: Bishop Road seconded the motion to approve the expenditure of American Rescue Plan Act funds.

Moderator Betten: Is there anyone who would like to describe it or say anything about it?

First Selectman Pianka: The American Rescue Plan Act is funding meant to enhance communities for various purposes. This is a unique opportunity for the Town of Bozrah to promote some public safety and just general improvement in conditions in town. The parameters to do so are pretty liberal in regards of what they can be used for, I always thought they were. I originally thought they were more a little more restrictive, it turned out not to be that way. At the November 30th Special Meeting of the Board of Selectman, I invited members of the public to come forward to present ideas that they would have in mind. So, the community would have input, so it wasn't a simple decision of a City Council, Town Council or as in our case a Board of Selectman. At that meeting you see the minutes that are listed here, you will see items A through N were presented. It tells you who presented and what they were presented for. We had another Special Board of Selectman meeting on November 22<sup>nd</sup> we wrote over those minutes just to make sure we addressed each and every one of those proposals.

You can see which ones have been approved and which ones were not. The reasons for not approval in most cases were some of the proposals could be addressed under other circumstances. One that comes to mind, is minor improvements at the senior center that can normally be taken care of out of our regular operation budget. We decided not to spend monies in that regard. One of the things that this really has done is if you look at all of these, it's public safety and public enhancement. To us many taxpayers' dollars will be saved with these incentives that we would of like to have done anyway. This is an opportunity to have it paid for otherwise. Do you have a copy of the minutes in front of you so you can see how the approval that we are bringing forward tonight. Various subjects we did not close the door on anyone in other words, for example emergency operation center, 30,000 was requested. We did not approve that allotment of money, because we anticipate another round to come. In order not to make things lopsided for one agency or the other in is case it would be the fire department; it would be distribution of funds is what it turns out to be also it was on priority bases. With that I open the floor for questions as far as what we have decided to spend the funds on, are there any?

John Hibbard Caroline Road: I have a question on "G" which is the pavilion at Maple Farms Park, I was under the impression that they already had they had the 40,000 from donations. That's what we were told at a special meeting back in the spring and the town postponed the construction, because of various regulations and so on and so forth. To me money from this rescue plan should go to something more important in the town then a pavilion, so I would like to make an amendment that this be discarded from this motion.

First Selectman Pianka: It would be taxpayers' money, direct taxpayers' money. We did not have 40,000 thousand dollars set aside at the time of the proposal. I do believe we had less than 20 actually. Seventy-five hundred was a direct donation from Bozrah Light and Power. There were several private individuals that said that they would step up to the plate. We had some in-kind services offered by several construction people around town. Could we have pulled it off without this money? I suppose just like anything else in Bozrah we would eventually get it done but this surely would not make it direct taxpayers' money.

John Hibbard Caroline Road: Doesn't Maple Farms Park received money from vendors? They have a kitty with money in it that they don't want to acknowledge

to the public. There are funds in their group somewhere, because they charge these vendors to be at the Farmers Market and where does this money go? It seems to me that every year on the budget we give Maple Farms about 17,000 thousand. If any of this money is used from these vendors, we are never notified of this. It seems that they should have a least 15,000 dollars or the scope of the construction could be cut back. I'm not against the pavilion but to me, this rescue money could be put to better use when there should be funds from Maple Farms Park to do this.

Mary Elizabeth Lang Gifford Lane: I was just asking about the order of business so because approval of the park, is what I'm asking about does this include the proposed structure and we haven't approve the proposed structure yet

Moderator Betten: We have a motion on the floor, and we have a discussion, and then anyone else can make a comment. The motion we would have to have seconded by the individual who make the original motion, that was you, Bill. If you accepted the amendment, then we would have a discussion on the amendment and then vote on the amendment. Depending on that, we would go ahead and have a vote on the motion on the floor.

Selectman Ballinger: It would be an amendment within the motion.

Moderator Betten: Correct and it would have to be dealt with or taken care of if you can get a second on it and it gets approved so that's where you are.

Mary Elizabeth Lang Gifford Lane: I'll second on the amendment

Moderator Betten; We have a second on the amendment on the floor any discussion?

Moderator Betten: We are still on the first discussion now we are just talking about the amendment if Mr. Ballinger agrees with the amendment on the floor any comments?

Selectman Ballinger: Call the question please.

Moderator Betten: So, you agree with the question. So now we are going to have a vote by those ballots on the amendment number one on the agenda. Does everyone understand that?

Moderator Betten: Amendment on section "G" not to use 15,000 of the rescue money towards the pavilion.

Moderator Betten: If you want a voice vote, please raise your hand all in favor of the amendment. Does everyone understand what the amendment is? Only on item G raise your hand. Thank you I had two. All Oppose? Opposition is so fast now we are going to have a discussion on item one the 400,000 as it is written here any questions?

Moderator Betten: Now on the floor we have number one does anyone have any comments?

If not, we are going to vote on number one that's the motion on the floor. You have in front of you grey one ballot, you have two ballots in front of you each one says Yes or No. We are now using the grey Yes for approval no for not approval.

Ballots were counted by Nancy Renshaw and Diana Santo.

Moderator Betten: What I would like to do while we are counting ballots, we will go onto number two on the agenda, and I will stop to announce the vote. Number two on the ballot is the Maple Farms Commission to construct the pavilion.

Moderator Betten: Would anyone like to make a motion to put it on the floor?

Selectman Bill Ballinger: I make a motion to construct a outdoor pavilion at Maple Farms.

Moderator Betten: Do we have a second on the motion?

Steve Seder Bishop Road: I'll second the motion.

Moderator Betten: We are now open for discussion; this is on the approval of the Maple Farms Commission pavilion.

Moderator Betten: Before we go on, I would like to announce the results on item number one on the agenda, the vote is 28 yes 1 no. Number one on the agenda has passed. Now we will continue with number two, question?

All questions asked by residents about the pavilion were answered by First Selectman Pianka.

Mike O'Connor: We are voting to allow the construction of this pavilion on town owned land, correct? We are not really controlling the budget here. The last time this was brought before a town meeting it was voted against because the abutting owner was not in favor of the placement of it unless that has changed, I was interested in the property's owners' prospect on the new location and design.

First Selectman Pianka: He was pleased/active in the new process, we invited them to the meeting, and they were absolutely in favor of the new proposal.

Moderator Betten: Any questions? Comments? We will now vote. You should have a green piece of paper

Ballots were counted by Nancy Renshaw and Diana Santo

Moderator Betten: the vote is 27 yes 2 no the vote has passed.

With no further business I call this meeting adjourned.

Lynne A. Skinner  
Bozrah Town Clerk

# TOWN OF BOZRAH

TOWN HALL  
1 RIVER ROAD  
BOZRAH, CONNECTICUT 06334

## TOWN MEETING

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1 RIVER ROAD  
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**AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT**  
**PROPOSED SPENDING PACKAGE**

As Presented to Board of Finance Quarterly Meeting December 13, 2021

Each item listed below (A through N) was the public proposal from the September 30, 2021 meeting, and the recommendations written below each item (italicized, and in red) are the result of the BOS meeting (November 22, 2021).

- a) **Evelyn Brown**- Soccer Field facility at FMS (No cost estimate)  
*Recommend \$5,000 ARP allocation for Update Design Plan*
- b) **Thomas Main Jr.**- Emergency Operations Center (EOC) \$30,000  
*Recommend second allotment allocation*
- c) **Michael Smith**- Recreation Field at 59 Bozrah Street- 1) to protect playground with concrete barrier, 2) Update maps in the assessors' office (No cost estimates)  
*Recommend \$5,000 ARP allocation for Item #1, #2 being addressed otherwise*
- d) **Pamela Contino**- Senior Center-walkway and curbing trip hazards, entry door sticks (No cost estimate)  
*Recommend Senior Center Repairs budget line-No ARP funds*
- e) **Ronald Leask**- Emergency Generator at the school (\$100,000)  
*Recommend Barber Electric proposal \$99,500*
- f) **Scott Taylor**- Software system for Boards and Commissions interface (No cost estimate)  
*Recommend follow through with SCCOG- No ARP funds*
- g) **Steve Seder**- Pavilion at Maples Farm Park (\$35,000-\$40,000)  
*Recommend \$15,000 ARP allocation*



h) **James Bonanno**- Completion of Route 82 waterline to the Montville town line.  
(\$1,200,000)

*Recommend Infrastructure Grant Funding- No ARP funds*

i) **FD Chief's Requests:**

- |   |           |
|---|-----------|
| 1) Power stretcher                      | \$30,000* |
| 2) Hydraulic Hurst tool                 | \$13,000  |
| 3) Structural Firefighter PPE (6 sets)  | \$30,000  |
| 4) Cascade system (Fill oxygen bottles) | \$65,000* |

*Recommend \$95,000 ARP allocation*

j) **BOS-Pianka:**

- |                           |         |
|---------------------------|---------|
| 1) TVCCA-                 | \$3,000 |
| 2) Uncas Health District- | \$4,000 |

*Recommend \$7,000 ARP allocation*

k) **BOS-Ballinger:**

- 1) Fuel tank replacement at the school

*Recommend \$128,700 ARP allocation- (See presented cost detail sheets)*

l) **Raymond Barber-**

- 1) Replacement of road signs

*Recommend \$25,800 for signage replacement, Standardized signage upgrades and center line painting on South Road, Stockhouse Road and short curve sections of Bozrah Street Extension*

- 2) Riverwalk Park- walkway, erosion control improvements

*Recommend No ARP allocation*

m) **Website Upgrades**

*Recommend \$19,000 ARP allocation*

n) **Small business impact(s)**

*Recommend No ARP allocation*

**TOTAL FOR THESE ALLOCATIONS: \$400,000**

Respectfully Submitted,  
Glenn S. Pianka