

**TOWN OF BOZRAH  
BUDGET WORKSHOP  
BOARD OF FINANCE  
BOZRAH TOWN HALL  
April 10, 2023**

**Item 1:** Chairman Mike O'Connor called the Budget Workshop of the Bozrah Board of Finance(BOF) to order at the Bozrah Town Hall on April 10, 2023 at 7:00p.m.

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

**Members Absent:** Evan Gilman

**Others Present:**First Selectman Glenn Pianka, Selectman Bill Balinger, Treasurer Diana Santo, Principal Ian Polun, Superintendent Denise Grant, Board of Education Chair Jonathan Gilman, and 7 members of the public.

**Item 2:** Public Comment

Jeanne Goulart, Bishop Road Bozrah, commented on the Board of Education budget line item 3100 Food Service.

**Item 3:** Approve Minutes

- a. Board of Finance Quarterly Meeting - March 20, 2023

**MOTION 1:** P. Lavallee made a motion to approve the minutes of the Board of Finance quarterly meeting held March 20, 2023. M. Leask seconded the motion.  
Vote unanimous - **MOTION CARRIED**

- b. Public Hearing - March 29, 2023

**MOTION 2:** R. Barber made a motion to approve the minutes of the Public Hearing held March 29, 2023 noting a correction, Carolyn Dziengiel. M. Leask seconded the motion.  
Vote unanimous - **MOTION CARRIED'**

**Item 4:** Budget Workshop

Attachment - 2023-2024 Bozrah Budget Spreadsheet

M. O'Connor presented the Board with a spreadsheet, showing the result of the budgets if they were approved as presented with level tax collection and half mil increases for 5 years. M. O'Connor explained the mil rate is adjusted to the tax rate increase.

M. Leask noted comments on staffing at the school and positive feedback on the reading program. M. Leask noted the Reading Program and the RULER Program line item in the Board of Education budget could be moved under the Capital Projects line item to have a positive impact on the reserve and reduce the request for this year.

R. Barber noted town feedback on the purchase of the town truck and the ladder truck. R. Barber expressed the importance of maintaining a surplus of around 8%. R. Barber noted the Board should send the Town Budget and the Board of Education Budget back to the respective Boards and request reductions.

P. Lavallee noted the lack of feedback at the Public Hearing.

S. Seder commented that a 5% reserve is too low and the Board should send the Town Budget and the Board of Education Budget back to the respective Boards.

**MOTION 3:** M. O'Connor made a motion to send the proposed FY 23/24 Town Budget and the proposed FY 23/24 Board of Education Budget back to the respective boards for reductions and to present one time expenditures. P. Lavallee seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous - **MOTION CARRIED**

The Board scheduled a Board of Finance Budget Workshop for Monday April 24, 2023 7 p.m. at the Bozrah Town Hall to hear and act on the budgets.

**Item 5: Public Comment**

No public comment.

**Item 6: Adjourn**

**MOTION 4:** S. Seder made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:49 p.m. R. Barber seconded the motion.

Vote unanimous - **MOTION CARRIED**

Respectfully Submitted for the Board,

Heather Provost  
Recording Secretary

**Result if budgets are approved as presented with level tax collection and half mill increases for 5 years**

FY 22/23		FY 23/24	FY 24/25	FY 25/26	FY 26/27	FY 27/28	FY 28/29
27.00	Estimated mill rate	22.00	22.50	23.00	23.50	24.00	24.50
\$1,344,717	Actual Fund Balance July 1, 2022	\$1,503,066	\$502,626	-\$39,612	-\$540,571	-\$1,000,183	-\$1,418,401
-\$408,841	2022/23 effect @ 27 mills	-\$228,462					
\$935,876	Planned Fund Balance July 1, 2023	\$1,274,604	\$502,626	-\$39,612	-\$540,571	-\$1,000,183	-\$1,418,401
-\$2,012,222	2021/22 BOS requested	3.00	-\$2,082,646	-\$2,166,785	-\$2,210,121	-\$2,254,323	-\$2,299,409
-\$6,813,051	2021/22 BOE requested	4.26	-\$7,102,975	-\$7,389,935	-\$7,537,734	-\$7,688,489	-\$7,842,258
-\$775,496	2021/22 Capital requested	5.73	-\$819,968	-\$853,095	-\$870,157	-\$887,560	-\$905,311
\$2,063,394	2021/22 estimated income	1.77	\$2,100,000	\$2,100,000	\$2,100,000	\$2,100,000	\$2,100,000
\$7,308,913	Property tax revenue at estimated mill rate	0.16	\$7,322,165	\$7,808,856	\$8,058,399	\$8,312,153	\$8,570,176
\$170,000	Budget Impact (under/over)		-\$188,554				
-\$200,000	Additional revenue						
-\$53,000	2020/21 additional approps						
\$624,414	Expected Fund Balance July 1, 2020		\$502,626	-\$39,612	-\$540,571	-\$1,000,183	-\$1,418,401
-\$228,462	revenue excess (shortfall)		-\$583,424	-\$542,238	-\$459,612	-\$418,218	-\$376,802
6.50%	reserve %		5.02%	-0.39%	-9.42%	-13.10%	-16.25%
\$9,600,769	total budget	4.22	\$10,005,589	\$10,205,701	\$10,618,011	\$10,830,371	\$11,046,979
-\$228,462	General fund augmt		-\$583,424				
\$279,072,650	Grand List total	22.06	\$343,119,259	\$346,550,431	\$353,516,095	\$357,051,256	\$360,621,769

1 mill is \$333,027 at a collection rate of 97% (\$63K per 1/4 mill)

1 mill increase is 4.54% increase in taxes

Future fiscal years project 2% increases in BOE/BOE budgets, 2% increases in the capital budget, 1% increases in the grand list

Grand list trend (in millions)

2012 \$215,725 - 2013 \$218,581 - 2014 \$220,073 - 2015 \$222,024 - 2016 \$224,787 - 2017 \$224,787 - 2018 \$226,915 - 2019 \$249,885,080 - 2020 \$256,548,709 - 2021 \$279,072

2022 \$343,119,259

2021 increase in the grand list was 5.2%

2022 increase in the grand list was 23%