

First Selectman Glenn Pianka called a Town Meeting to order on June 8, 2022, at Fields Memorial School 8 Bozrah Street Ext. Bozrah CT at 7:00 pm with 43 people in attendance. First Selectman Glenn Pianka made a motion for Mike Betten to act as Moderator. Bill Ballinger seconded the motion for Mike Betten to act as Moderator all in favor, motion carried.

Moderator Mike Betten read the call of the Town Meeting. Moderator Betten We need a motion to put this agenda on the floor as read. Selectman Bill Ballinger moved the motion, Jeremy Tarasevich seconded the motion. All in favor- Aye no opposite, no abstain So moved open to discussion.

John Hibbard Caroline Road asked where the four hundred thousand dollar Covid money the town received from the state. You don't see it in the budget.

First Selectman Glenn Pianka: Explained the four hundred thousand dollars that was given to the town, was brought to a public hearing. Proposals were presented. Which all of the requests the Board of Selectman thought were reasonable. Safety and Capital improvements were top of the list. The recording of that meeting is public information. The expenditures are documented due to some point, they will be audited. Some of the projects are -street signs are being replaced, some of the money is going towards Maple Farms. The foundation on the pavilion is being poured. All of the projects are listed in that report.

Superintendent of Fields Memorial School Dr. P. Bonner spoke about the Board of Education budget. Dr. P. Bonner introduced Michael Lopez who is currently the business manager for the Board of Education. Michael Lopez gave a summary of the different grants Field Memorial School received. One of the main projects to Fields Memorial School was to improve the air system in the building.

John Hibbard Caroline Road What happen to the four hundred thousand dollars the school received in the spring? I think the school also received one hundred and fifty thousand to replace a fuel tank, is that true?

Dr. P. Bonner If you are referring to last spring, that money we received is from our ARPA grant. Fields Memorial has received four grants. You can go online online see how we have spent our grants. The Covid fund of four hundred thousand dollars, we spent on replacing the roof top unit that was replaced in 2020-2021. The school used three hundred thousand of the four hundred thousand. Additional funds were used for supplies such as, masks, disinfecting supplies, remote learning. All of those things that we had to put in place. You can go on the state website and actually see what we have spent. As far as the as the oil fuel tank replacement project, the Board of Selectman put aside one hundred and sixty four thousand dollars for the project. We as a school district put in twenty thousand of our funds toward that project.

Mary Elizabeth Lang Gifford Lane also a Board of Education member spoke on how the funds received from the state. Also, she spoke of the strict guidelines the school had to follow.

Michael O'Connor Hickory Lane also the Chair of the Board of Finance, Mr. Hibbard raised a good question. A lot of federal money that the state gave us came with guidelines. 1 Mil in this town is around two hundred and sixty thousand dollars in the town budget. Michael also spoke of how the boards figure out each budget. All the money spent in that grant program is not off set by taxes.

Jack Santo South Road spoke about the school budget being too high.

Dr. P. Bonner explained the cost of education, increased cost of high school students which there are over two hundred students. Special Ed there are additional costs and fees. We need to service our students. There will always be a increase no matter how many students are enrolled due to cost.

Jonathan Gilman Gilman Road also the chair for the Board of Education spoke of on how well Dr. P. Bonner is doing with what little she has to work with. The Board of Education is also working hard to keep cost down.

Raymond Barber Goshen Road spoke about the budgets. * See attached letter.

Moderator Mike Betten, if no one has any more questions or comments, take your blue ballot you received. Yes, is approval of the budget, a no vote is against it. Please vote now.

Ballots were collected by Nancy Renshaw Bashon Hill Road and placed in the ballot box. Ballots were counted by Nancy Renshaw and John Way

Moderator Betten read the Results; 25 Yes 18 No

Budget has passed as presented, thank you for coming out have a wonderful summer. Meeting is now adjourned at 7:58 pm

Lynne A. Skinner

Bozrah Town Clerk

OVER THE PAST YEAR WE HAVE HAD
A LARGE INCREASE IN OUR GRAND LIST
OF 13 MILLION DOLLARS THE LARGEST I HAVE
EVER SEEN

I BELIEVE WE CAN REDUCE THESE BUDGETS AND
STILL CONTINUE TO PROVIDE THE NECESSARY
EDUCATIONAL, EMERGENCY, HIGHWAY AND ALL OTHER
ESSENTIAL SERVICES OF THE TOWN

THE COSTS OF EVERYTHING IN OUR TOWN, STATE + NATION
HAS RISEN TO UNPRECEDENTED LEVELS WITH GAS
DIESEL + HEATING OIL ALL OVER 5⁰⁰ PER GALLON
AND FOOD COSTS AT RECORD LEVELS.

ANOTHER ITEM THAT I BELIEVE WILL DRASTICALLY
AFFECT THE TAXES WE WILL PAY NEXT
YEAR IS THE VALUE OF MOTOR VEHICLES

MOTOR VEHICLE VALUES ARE SET BY THE
STATE AND AS YOU KNOW BOTH NEW AND
USED VEHICLES HAVE GREATLY INCREASED IN VALUE
IN THE PAST YEAR.

EVEN IF THE Bd OF FINANCE REDUCES OUR
MIL RATE BY 1 MOST OF US WILL PAY MORE
IN LOCAL TAXES BECAUSE OF THE VALUE
OF MOTOR VEHICLES

THANK YOU FOR LISTENING AND PLEASE VOTE NO