

**TOWN OF BOZRAH
TOWN HALL
1 RIVER ROAD
BOZRAH, CONNECTICUT 06334**

The **Bozrah Board of Selectmen** held a **SPECIAL MEETING** on **THURSDAY October 5, 2023, at 3:00 PM** in the Meeting Room of the Bozrah Town Hall, 1 River Road, Bozrah, Connecticut

MINUTES

- 1) **Call To Order/Attendance:** Meeting called to order at 3PM by FS Pianka. Full BOS in attendance.
Eleven members of the public: Jonathan Gilman, Ray Barber, Evelyn Brown, Lindsey Laflash, Lindsey Baah, Tom Ververis, Sue Ververis, DJ Casavant, Ronald Leask, Michel Leask and Jack Santo, Sr.
NOTE: Meeting was recorded by the new Owl System for practice purposes and not offered as a Zoom or Hybrid Meeting.

- 2) **Public Comment(s):**
 - a) Lindsey Laflash-commented on an email sent to the BOS regarding her explanation of what transpired to bring us to the need for this Special Meeting
 - b) Lindsey Baah-commented about another interested candidate but the BOE Chairman did not allow/act on that individual.
 - c) Johnathan Gilman- explained the process that he went through to bring forward the most qualified replacement BOE member, that being David Bowser who was recommended by Nancy Rollinson
 - d) Raymond Barber- examined/qualified Johnathan Gilman as BOE Chairman and Republican Town Committee Chairman and his present favorability in the eyes of the rest of the BOE membership. You didn't act within 30 days so that is why we are here.
*FS Pianka curtailed the personal interaction by Mr. Barber to Mr. Gilman to bring his commentary to public comment focus.
 - e) Lindsey Laflash- (SECOND COMMENT) the letter of resignation from Elin Hill was presented to the Town Clerk on October 4th.

- 3) **Consider and act on the appointment of David S. Bowser (R) of 152 Scott Hill Road, Bozrah, Connecticut to fill the Board of Education vacancy created by the resignation of Elin Hill (R) per the provisions of Connecticut General Statute Section 7-107:**

MOTION: Ballinger/**SECONDED:** Pianka to bring agenda item #3 to the floor for discussion **PASSED-UNANIMOUS**

Selectman Ballinger made the following points: a) explained the process to replace b) that the length of the BOE vacancy was 2-1/2 months c) We go by state statute since we do not have a charter d) BOE could have removed the chair if that was the impedance to member replacement e) Town clerk advises Secretary of the State on vacancies.

Discussion concluded at 3:31 PM

Vote on the motion: Ballinger and Pianka AYE, Tarasevich NAY **MOTION CARRIED**

4) Public Comment(s):

- a) Jack Santo, Sr. – you (BOE) need to work on internal policies.
- b) William Ballinger- (reinforcing Santo comment) policies that dovetail with State Statutes
- c) Raymond Barber- Johnathan Gilman will be re-elected to a four-year term in this year's municipal election.
- d) Johnathan Gilman- thanked the BOS for the appointment of David Bowser.
- e) Lindsey Baah- BOE candidate Kristen Deschamps was told not to come to their meeting by Chairman Gilman. The BOE looked to CABA for guidance.
- f) Lindsey Laflash- they have researched the removal of the Chairman.

5) Adjourn: MOTION: Tarasevich/**SECONDED:** Ballinger **PASSED-UNANIMOUS** 3:42PM

Respectfully Submitted,
Glenn S. Pianka