The Town Council shall schedule between December 1 and January 31 of the ensuing year a public hearing to discuss and solicit comments from the public relating to the goals and objectives of the FY 2021-2022 municipal and school budgets, in accordance with the South Kingstown Town Code, Section 4220, entitled "Budget Procedures." Discussion will include but not be limited to increases in taxes, proposed new projects, contractual obligations and other items or matters of concern. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, meetings will be held via Zoom and tele-conferencing until further notice. The public is invited and encouraged to attend virtually via Zoom to comment or express concerns at that time. The link to attend the meeting will be included on the Agenda.

Petitions for revisions to Preliminary Budget

The council shall review the budget submitted by the manager in public workshops, and on or before March 1st of each year adopt a Preliminary Budget.

In accordance with the South Kingstown Town Code, Section 4220, entitled "Petitions to the Council," the council shall consider and vote upon each such petition(s) proposal.

Petitions to the Council.

The council, before final adoption of the budget, shall consider and vote upon each such petition(s) proposal.

Budget referendum

The town council shall caucus a referendum by ballot to be held on the Tuesday following the first Saturday in June on all budget changes requested on petitions submitted, provided that each such petition contains signatures of no less than two hundred of the qualified electors of the town and shall request an increase or decrease of a sum of at least $250,000.00.

The petition shall contain signatures of no less than two hundred of the qualified electors of the town and shall request an increase or decrease of a sum of at least $250,000.00. The petition shall have received, make any final changes in the Preliminary Budget it may deem advisable, and give final approval to the budget.

The Town Council and the School Committee of the Town of South Kingstown will hold an initial budget hearing for the purpose of discussing and soliciting comments from the electors relating to the general goals and objectives of the budget for the ensuing year.

Preliminary Budget Adoption

The council shall, on or before May 1st of each year, complete its consideration of any petitions it shall have received, make any final changes in the Preliminary Budget it may deem advisable, and give final approval to the budget.

Submission to Council

Upon receipt, the town clerk shall cause the signatures to be verified, such verification to be completed on or before May 1st of each year. All petitions shall be approved by the town clerk before circulation, and must be returned to the town clerk on or before May 12th of each year. The town clerk, upon the return of petitions to her or his office, shall cause the signatures to be verified, such verification to be completed on or before May 16th of each year.

Agenda. A summary of the budget adoption process as approved November 7, 2006 and tentative schedule follow.