

**BE SURE TO GIVE YOURSELF ENOUGH TIME TO COLLECT THE REQUIRED NUMBER OF SIGNATURES ON THE
'Petition for Change'**

Within 7 days of the Council filing the proposed budget with the Town Clerk: Budget Published

The day the budget is published until 8 days after: Question(s) must be brought to the Town Clerk to be placed on a "Petition for Change" form being sure to have enough time to gather 3% or more signatures of the qualified electors as determined at the previous general election.

Within 8 days of publishing the budget by 4:00 P.M.: COMPLETED Petition **WITH** the required number of signatures must be returned to the Board of Canvassers

INSTRUCTIONS TO PETITIONER TO AMEND THE PROPOSED BUDGET

1. The Petitioner must submit the question(s) to be placed on the 'Petition for Change' to the Town Clerk **EXACTLY** the way it is to be presented to the voters. Be sure that it is in the form of a question. It is the *suggestion* of the Board of Canvassers that the Petitioner seek legal advice as to the validity of the question.
2. The question(s) will be placed on a 'Petition for Change' by the Board of Canvassers, verified by the Petitioner that it is correct, and certified copies issued to the Petitioner for circulation. Be sure to word your question so it is clear what the voter will be voting on by answering Approve or Reject.
3. The certified copies of the 'Petition for Change' must be signed by 532 (3% of 17,719) or more electors qualified to vote on financial matters of the Town. (Town Charter 3-1-5(c))
4. The certified copies, signed by the circulator and notarized, must be returned to the Board of Canvassers no later than **4:00 P.M. on the eighth day following the publishing of the budget.**
5. The signatures must be validated by the Board of Canvassers (within three business days).
6. A referendum shall be held within thirty-two days of validation of the signatures at such polling place or places as may be designated by the Board of Canvassers.

The first page of the 'Petition for Change' will appear as follows:

PETITION FOR CHANGE
TO THE FY 20xx/20xx BUDGET FOR THE
TOWN OF WESTERLY

To be returned to the Local Board of Canvassers not later than 4:00 P.M. on **date**

Pursuant to Section 3-1-5 of the Charter of the Town of Westerly, we the undersigned, being qualified electors of the Town of Westerly, do hereby petition to increase/decrease and change the proposed FY 20xx/20xx budget adopted by the Town Council on day,date.

Question(s):

APPROVE or REJECT

Budget Published: date

Petition Filed For Circulation:

ATTEST:

Donna L. Giordano, MMC
Town Clerk