File: DBF

## **BUDGET HEARINGS AND REVIEWS**

The Joint Finance Committee shall receive the proposed budget from the School Committee by March 1 of each year.

NOTE: Excerpt from Bristol/Warren Enabling Legislation III., Article XI.

The joint finance committee shall approve a budget within thirty (30) days after the regional committee submits its budget. Upon the approval of a budget by the joint finance committee, the regional committee shall, within seven (7) days, post the budget at each town in Bristol and Warren, and, within ten (10) days, publish the budget in one or more newspapers of general circulation in each or both towns.

A regional district financial meeting may be called upon a petition of six hundred (600) district voters, filed in writing with the regional committee, within fourteen (14) days of the approval of the budget by the joint finance committee.

The regional committee shall submit the petition to the board of canvassers for the towns of Bristol and Warren within twenty-four hours of the receipt of the petition. The board of canvassers shall, within seventy-two (72) hours, verify that the petition has the necessary number of valid signatures. Upon such verification, the regional committee shall call a regional school district financial meeting, to be held within ten (10) days of the date of verification, for the purpose of determining the regional school district budget as to overall amounts. The regional committee shall give written notice of the regional district financial meeting by posting such notice at each town hall in Bristol and Warren, and by publishing such notice in a newspaper of general circulation in the regional district.

The moderator of the regional district financial meeting shall be the chairperson of the regional committee and the clerk of the meeting shall be the secretary of the regional committee.

A quorum for the regional school district financial meeting shall be two hundred (200) qualified voters, and such quorums shall consist of not less than one hundred (100) qualified voters from each member town.

A majority vote of all the voters present at the special regional district financial meeting and qualified to vote shall be required for the adoption of the annual regional school district budget.

Upon the approval of the budget, each town shall appropriate the funds for the regional district which shall be apportioned between the cities on a per public pupil calculation using enrollment as of the prior October 1.

ADOPTED: April 6, 1992 REVIEWED/RENUMBERED: February 27, 2023