Committee Members Present: Steve Baldwin, Nancy Campbell, Charlie Champagne (Chair), Judy Knapp, Susie Vogel

Committee Members Absent: Bill Gurney, Sturdy Thomas (Selectmen's Representative)

Also Present: Sherry Miller, Geoff Pinney, Roger Trempe, Brian Barden, Dale Gabel, Walter Snitko, Jeannine Dunne, Margaret Gurney (see attached sign-in sheet)

Chair Champagne called the hearing to order at 7:00 p.m. and read the public notice as posted. He then had the members of the Budget Committee introduce themselves.

Charlie explained that this is an informational meeting on the request to increase the 2018 town budget by $225,000 to be voted on at the Special Town Meeting on Thursday, November 8, 2018 at 7 p.m.

He began by giving some background information on the reason that a Special Town Meeting was necessary. The town was impacted by an unanticipated rain storm on August 17th which caused significant damage to a number of the town's paved and unpaved roads. Over $70,000 has been spent to date on the immediate repairs to make the roads passable until further reconstruction of the affected roads could be done. The cost of this action has impacted the Highway Department budget so that only 4% remains for this year.

Geoff Pinney asked how much money was currently in the unexpended fund balance. According to our audit, there is currently $296,000 in the fund balance.

Geoff asked if we could use the money in the Road Construction Capital Reserve Fund to fund the repairs. Nancy responded that the funds can't be used for 2 reasons: 1) the funds would have to be voted out at a town meeting, and; 2) it is earmarked for repayment on the loan taken in 2018 for the paving of designated roads as specified in the warrant article. We also have a contract with a paving company to do the work that we are obligated to honor.

Hearing no further questions or discussion a motion was made to close the hearing. The hearing was closed at 7:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith A. Knapp, Co-Secretary