

**Town of Freedom
Conservation Commission
Special Meeting
October 29, 2024, 6:30 pm at the Freedom Town Hall**

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by Jeff Nicoll. Present are: Susan Marks, Michele Keenan, Linda Mailhot, Jeff Nicoll, Megan Broderick, Nancy Cristoferi, Sue Hoople, Paul Elie

Paul Elie gave a summary of the FAC meeting regarding the bids. All culverts were upgraded to 18" culverts (approx. \$2000.). One culvert could be eliminated due to the upsizing of the others. Consensus was to get started this year. The FAC will be putting together a maintenance plan.

\$71,269 total, the bid with extras, including at 10% contingency from G.W. Brooks is what the FAC has recommended.

There is a question about warranty.

Paul has done a rating system on both bids received. This will be included in communications to the Selectmen with the recommendation.

A motion to accept the recommendation from the FAC and accept the proposal of GW Brooks and son in the amount of \$64,790. Seconded by Nancy. APPROVED

The FAC recommended a 10% contingency. The FCC supports putting this amount under normal forest maintenance activities, rather than as a contingency on the bid.

Next step: communication from FCC to Board of Selectmen. Write thank you letters to both bidders. Propose having a public hearing to access the additional funds needed for the complete contract.

Linda made a motion to adjourn at 7:09 pm, Jeff seconded. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Melissa Donaldson
Recording Secretary