

Commission Members:

Nicole Murati Ferrer

Chairperson

William Dwyer

Superintendent of Streets

Stephen Lenkauskas

City Electrician

# CAMBRIDGE LICENSE COMMISSION

831 Massachusetts Avenue, First Floor, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

## POLE AND CONDUIT COMMISSION



City of Cambridge

Elizabeth Y. Lint  
Executive Director

### Meeting Minutes

Of the Pole and Conduit Commission Meeting held on

Thursday, April 19, 2018 at 10:00 A.M.

Michael J. Lombardi Building, 831 Massachusetts Avenue

Basement Conference Room

**Commission Board Members Present:** Nicole Murati Ferrer, William Dwyer and Stephen Lenkauskas

**License Commission Staff:** Elizabeth Y. Lint

**Department of Public Works Staff:** Jeya Niranjian

Meeting Started at 10:03 a.m.

### Public Testimony Matters

Matters were called out of the order in which they were listed on the posted agenda. The Board first heard all matters where representatives from the utilities were present and members of the public that wished to be heard.

**Documents considered by the Board:** As to all applications, the Board considered the application submitted to the Board and all documents attached thereto.

**Decisions:** Some petitions were granted with "typical conditions." Those conditions are:

- (1) Must obtain Electrical Department Utility Permit and Department of Public Works ("DPW") Permits and comply with the provisions therein.
- (2) Must pay sidewalk preservation off-set fee.
- (3) Must coordinate site visit with DPW.
- (4) Must commence work within sixty (60) days of the grant and complete within six (6) months of the date of the approval.
- (5) Must comply with any amendment City agencies make to the issued permits after the *Acceptance Without Reservations* is filed.

1. Continuation from March 15, 2018, for further discussion with DPW. **Comcast, 426 E. First Street, Boston, MA 02127**, for the following: **190 Massachusetts Avenue** – From the existing Level 3 manhole on **Massachusetts Avenue**, trench westerly 250' installing 1 new

3'X5' manhole. From newly installed manhole, trench 20' southerly, installing 1 new comcast sidewalk vault. From same manhole, continue 400' westerly installing 1 new 3'X5' manhole at the intersection of **Massachusetts Avenue and Landsdowne Street**. Continue from newly installed manhole, 220' westerly to an existing sidewalk vault. From newly installed manhole at **Massachusetts Avenue/Landsdowne Street**, trench westerly on **Landsdowne Street** 275' installing 1 new 3'X5' manhole at **Green Street**. Continue an additional 300' to existing manhole on **Franklin Street**. From new manhole at **Massachusetts Avenue/Landsdowne Street**, trench northerly then turning easterly 240' to Pole #4 on **Front Street**. Install 4-4" conduit 2 over 2 for all trenches.

**Present:** Anthony Vatalaro for the applicant.

**Summary:** Mr. Vatalaro stated that he met with representatives from water, sewer and public works and all are fine with the plans. He sent out the common trench letter and received two negative responses. They will do four test pits. One of the conduits will be for the city. The breakout letter was received 3/6/18.

**Decision:** Granted (3-0) with typical conditions.

2. **New Petition Comcast, 426 E. First Street, Boston, MA 02127**, for the following: **229 Concord Avenue** – From existing westerly sidewalk vault, trench 4' northerly to the private property line of **229 Concord Avenue** installing 1-2" conduit. From existing easterly sidewalk vault, trench 8' northerly to the private property line of **221 Concord Avenue** installing 1-3" conduit. This will include the removal and replacement of 1 sidewalk panel.

**Present:** Anthony Vatalaro for the applicant.

**Summary:** Mr. Vatalaro stated that this is for 4 new units in 227 and a new unit behind 221. This is extending the service in to the new units. The vault is close to the property line so the sidewalk panel may need to be removed. The sidewalk panel will definitely be removed as to the 8' foot one which will be below grade.

**Decision:** Granted (3-0) with typical conditions.

3. **New Petition Comcast, 426 E. First Street, Boston, MA 02127**, for the following: **249 Third Street** – Install 1 new 3'X5' manhole over existing Comcast conduit on **Third Street**. From newly placed manhole, trench westerly then northerly 189' to riser Pole #35 installing 1-4" PVC conduit. From same manhole, trench westerly +/- 40' to the property line of **249 Third Street** installing 1-4" PVC conduit. This will include the removal and replacement of 1 sidewalk panel.

**Present:** Anthony Vatalaro on behalf of the applicant.

**Summary:** This is necessary to service the new building and also remove the overhead at the corner of Bent Street. They will add one four-inch conduit between riser pole 37 and the new manhole. One of the conduits is for the city. There is a significant amount of work going on at this location that will have to be completed before Comcast can go in. This may extend beyond the 60- day approval. Comcast will have to send a letter requesting that the approval be extended.

**Decision:** Granted (3-0) with typical conditions.

4. **New Petition Comcast, 426 E. First Street, Boston, MA 02127**, for the following: **24 Winter Street** – From the existing Pole #16 on **Winter Street**, trench southerly 5' in the public way installing 1-2" PVC conduit. No sidewalk removal. Homeowners contractor will install conduit.

**Present:** Anthony Vatalaro on behalf of the applicant.

**Summary:** These conduits have already been installed. Comcast is taking ownership of one of them. It is anticipated that Eversource and Verizon will each use the others but nothing has been confirmed. There has to be follow-up with the owner to make sure they were properly installed and to see who will take ownership of the conduits.

**Decision:** Continued (3-0) to May 17, 2018.

5. **New Petition Comcast, 426 E. First Street, Boston, MA 02127**, for the following: **1 Canal Park** – Install 1 new 3'X5' manhole over existing conduit on **First Street**, trench westerly 300' on **Otis Street** installing 1 new 3'X5' manhole. From newly installed manhole, trench westerly an additional 140' installing 1 new 3'X5' manhole on **Second Street**. From newly installed manhole, trench southerly 50' on **Second Street**, then trench westerly 21' to an existing Pole #9. Install 2-4" conduits from each manhole ending at Pole #9.

**Present:** Anthony Vatalaro on behalf of the applicant.

**Summary:** Mr. Vatalaro explained that this project is to remove the connection from 25 First Street and install fiber to connect the service. Currently there is no service at this location and there is nothing close. This is to service 1 Canal. 1 and 2 Canal are connected through a private property manhole. The city would like room in the conduit and on the pole. The common trench letter must be sent out, and a site visit with DPW.

**Decision:** Continued (3-0) to May 17, 2018.

6. **New Petition Harvard University, 1414 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge, MA 02138**, for the following: **10 Holyoke Street** – Trench easterly, 35' in the public way starting at the

private property parking garage of **1350 Massachusetts Avenue**, across **Holyoke Street** and ending at **10 Holyoke Street**, Farkas Hall. Install 2-4" PVC conduits to connect both Harvard University properties.

**Present:** Mark O'Brien on behalf of the applicant.

**Summary:** Mr. O'Brien stated that the conduits have already been installed. Harvard had told contractor they needed the pathway and to inform them before installing but they failed to do so. The contractor did this when the street was closed. Harvard did not know they had built it. They are tying in to Comcast service.

**Decision:** Granted (3-0).

7. Continuation from February 22, 2018. Verizon needs the response to the common trench letter. Comcast stated they will not be going in. Verizon must coordinate with Nstar. The correct address is 165 Main Street. There will be temporary service as well. Verizon will see if this has been applied for. Verizon New England, Inc., c/o EDS, 55 Riverdale Avenue, Bradford, MA 01835, for the following: **Main Street** – Install approximately 130 linear feet of (4) 4-inch, concrete encased, PVC underground conduit from existing Verizon Manhole #26/320 located on southerly side for service to private property at One Broadway.

**Present:** Everette Bryan on behalf of the applicant.

**Summary:** This was continued for the Main Street project. Verizon had located an abandoned manhole and needed to find an active one. They are asking for 4 conduits and one will be for the City. There was no response to the common trench letter. Mr. Bryan stated that RREF Real Estate did not receive notice in a timely fashion and he will re-notice them by certified mail.

**Decision:** Granted (3-0) with typical conditions and subject to receiving proof that RREF was notified by certified mail return receipt requested.

8. New Petition Verizon New England Inc, 144A Rangeway Road, N. Billerica, MA 01862, for the following: **Third Street** – To relocate Pole 667/8 on **Third Street** on the easterly side approximately 7 feet northerly toward **Gore Street** to allow for driveway widening into rear parking lot for **227 Cambridge Street**. This work is necessary per request of CVS (W.O. #4A0EM3U).

**Present:** Elizabeth Kelly on behalf of the applicant.

**Summary:** Service is necessary to allow the driveway to be widened for a new CVS.

**Decision:** Granted (3-0).

9. Continuation from January 18, 2018, to have site meeting with engineer. Residents concerned because adults with disabilities live next to property and attachments will be

placed on pole near bedrooms; concerns about electromagnetic waves. This work is for Sprint customers data capacity services enhancement. Mobilitie, LLC, 926B Peachtree Street NE, Atlanta, GA 30309, for the following: **Garden Street and Chauncy Street** - Attach wireless backhaul transport equipment to an existing utility pole in the right-of-way at the intersection of **Garden and Chauncy Streets** with electricity connection.

**Decision:** N/A – Applicant withdrew the petition.

10. New Petition Crown Castle NG East LLC, 67 Sharp Street, Unit 5, Hingham, MA 02043, for the following: **Norfolk Street** – From Pole 510/59.5 extending northerly approximately one hundred and sixty feet (160') in micro trench to the existing Crown Castle vault at the intersection of **Norfolk and Cambridge Street**.

**Present:** John Shannon and Amanda Cornwall on behalf of applicant.

**Summary:** Mr. Shannon stated that they have to move to the other side of the street in order to avoid an MWRA pipe. An 8M permit is required from MWRA before the Board can approve the petition. The existing conduit will remain in place but will be inactive.

**Decision:** Continued (3-0) to May 17, 2018.

11. New Petition Extent Systems, Inc., 100 Apollo Drive, Suite 303, Chelmsford, MA 01824, for the following: **14-16 Harrison Avenue** – Attachment of a small cell wireless facility to jointly owned Eversource/Verizon wood pole E-NT/NT-T-337/8. The facility is necessary to improve wireless capacity and/or coverage in the vicinity.

**Present:** Rick Angelini and Marty Cohen on behalf of the applicant; Carol Stout, resident.

**Summary:** This installation would be to provide better service for AT&T customers. The location was picked using a formula regarding the coverage gaps for AT&T users. Any slight move off the area, could negatively affect the result sought – to increase coverage. This would be the first installation for this company in Cambridge. Mr. Angelini explained that this canister does not create any noise as there are no moving parts. It is fed by aerial fiber. The antenna is located 30 feet up so there is no public exposure but it does produce emissions which are below the FCC maximum allowed number. A Maximum Permissible Exposure Study is being done but has not been completed.

Ms. Stout expressed concern about exposure from this and stated she opposed any installation anywhere in Cambridge and particularly near her house. The pole at issue is in front of her house.

**Decision:** Continued (3-0). Applicant must look to see if they can attach to the poles on Columbus Avenue which is nearby and do not abut residences. In addition, the MPE study

must be submitted. Finally, as with other similar providers, the applicant must provide a letter detailing their future plans in the City including any reasonably foreseen areas where they will seek to attach to poles.

- 12. Continuation from December 21, 2017. Still need updated plan to enlarge manhole. Phil Terzis appeared. He has applied for a building permit and will submit the construction schedule once he receives the permit. Nstar Electric Company, 101 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143, for the following: Orchard Street – At Beech Street and northwesterly from MHC1199, a distance of about 94 feet – conduit.**

**Beech Street – At Orchard Street and southerly from MHC1199, thence turning southwesterly, and ending at MHC27319, a distance of about 81 feet – conduit.**

**Beech Street – Southwesterly from MHC27319, approximately 80 feet southwest of Orchard Street, a distance of about 91 feet – conduit. This work is necessary to supply power to 7 Beech Street (W.O. #1974483).**

**Present:** Katie Flaherty, Susan Barroso and Phil Terzis (Acorn Holdings) on behalf of the applicant.

**Summary:** Two manholes are being enlarged at this location. The conduit is being added to the existing duct. There will be an excavation. There must be a site visit with DPW regarding neighbors' concerns about the tree. The temporary service is coming down.

**Decision:** Granted (3-0) with typical conditions.

- 13. Continuation from February 22, 2018, to have developer come in with all utilities. Waterline going in; want to limit the amount of disruption. Nstar Electric Company, 101 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143, for the following: Columbia Street – Southwesterly from Pole 166/79, approximately 397 feet north of Webster Avenue, a distance of about 67 feet – conduit. This work is necessary to supply power to 305 Webster Avenue (W.O. #2236265).**

**Present:** Susan Barroso and Katie Flaherty on behalf of the applicant.

**Summary:** There is no primary service on pole 79 but Crown Castle has a node on it. The node would have to be relocated and since it is a pole top antenna, primary service would not be allowed. Common trench letter must be sent out.

**Decision:** Continued (3-0) to May 17, 2018.

- 14. Continuation from February 22, 2018, to find out who owns conduit. This is for underground only. Nstar Electric Company, 101 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143, for the following: **Walden Street** – Northerly from Pole 697/56, approximately 163 feet west of **Sherman Street**, a total distance of about 100 feet – conduit. This work is necessary to supply power to **269R Walden Street** (W.O. #2250240).**

**Present:** Katie Flaherty and Susan Barroso on behalf of applicant; Max Souza and Eric Hoagland.

**Summary:** This had been continued to make sure all the utilities are contacted so that there is only one dig on the street. Mr. Vatalaro said that he responded to the common trench letter but never heard back. They were only planning on offering Comcast service but residents may want different service. The developer will reach out to Verizon. There is no manhole on the property. 253 and 269R will be serviced on the same pole. Eversource will be doing the dig.

**Decision:** Continued (3-0) to May 17, 2018.

- 15. Continuation from February 22, 2018, to determine who owns conduit and risers. Work already done; 3 conduits installed. Other utilities must be notified. Richard Vendetti appeared. He is the owner of the property. He has a meeting scheduled with comcast and is setting up a meeting with Verizon. He requested a continuance to have the meetings. Nstar Electric Company, 101 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143, for the following: **Winter Street** – Southerly from Pole 738/6, approximately 151 feet east of **Sciarappa Street**, a total distance of about 8 feet – conduit. This work is necessary to supply power to **24 Winter Street** (W.O. #2241724).**

**Present:** Susan Barroso and Katie Flaherty on behalf of the applicant.

**Summary:** The conduit has already been installed. The developer must meet with DPW to make sure it was installed correctly. It may have to be excavated.

**Decision:** Granted (3-0) with typical conditions.

- 16. Continuation from March 15, 2018, with no vote. Ted (Joseph) Killory appeared. He resides at 51 Coolidge Hill. He has questions about the route but has not received a return call from Eversource. Nstar Electric Company, 101 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143, for the following: **Coolidge Hill** – Southwesterly from MHC1706 thence turning southerly, approximately 268 feet east of **Coolidge Avenue**, a distance of about 98 feet – conduit. This work is necessary to supply power to **148 Coolidge Hill** (W.O. #2258379).**

**Present:** Susan Barroso and Katie Flaherty on behalf of the applicant; Mollie Miller, resident.

**Summary:** Ms. Miller came to the meeting to discuss neighborhood concerns about the trees on the street and that the street has been denuded of trees recently. Ms. Barroso stated that the route has been revised to go through the middle of the street and not the sidewalk to avoid the tree. The Board explained that the service to the residence is very old and must be replaced. They are upgrading from 100 amp to 400 amp service. Mr. Killory was concerned with the length of the route and the number of properties it will go through. The Board suggested they look at the abandoned duct that was identified. That would make the route go straight across the street and would avoid the tree.

**Decision:** Continued (3-0) to May 17, 2018 to explore the abandoned duct. Eversource is to have more open communication with Mr. Killory and Ms. Miller.

**17. Continuation from March 15, 2018, with no vote. Nstar Electric Company, 101**

**Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143**, for the following: **Appleton Street** – Southeasterly from Pole 20/17, approximately 35 feet east of **Dunstable Road**, a distance of about seven (7) feet – conduit. This work is necessary to supply power to **102 Appleton Street** (W.O. #2265077).

**Present:** Susan Barroso and Katie Flaherty on behalf of the applicant.

**Summary:** This conduit was already installed in coordination with DPW.

**Decision:** Granted (3-0).

**18. Continuation from March 15, 2018, with no vote. Nstar Electric Company, 101**

**Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143**, for the following: **Holworthy Street** – Westerly from Pole 370/11, approximately 101 feet south of **Park Avenue**, a distance of about forty-five (45) feet – conduit. This work is necessary to supply power to **72 Holworthy Street** (W.O. #2257794).

**Present:** Susan Barroso and Katie Flaherty on behalf of the applicant.

**Summary:** The City is requesting a conduit. There must be coordination with other projects/utilities at this location.

**Decision:** Continued (3-0) to May 17, 2018.



**19. Continuation from March 15, 2018, with no vote. Nstar Electric Company, 101**

**Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143**, for the following: **Main Street** – Southerly from MHC2156, thence turning westerly, thence turning northerly, approximately 276 feet east of **Broadway** a distance of about 225 feet – conduit. This work is necessary to supply power to **165 Main Street** (W.O. #2221653).

**Present:** Susan Barroso and Katie Flaherty on behalf of the applicant.

**Summary:** Eversource will submit a schedule for this project. They will have to expedite the job and coordinate with DPW and Verizon. This is part of the Longfellow Bridge construction. All utilities at the site may need to obtain a noise variance, which should be submitted now.

**Decision:** Granted (3-0) with typical conditions, meetings with DPW and other utilities working in the area.

**20. New Petition Nstar Electric Company, 101 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143**, for the following: **Massachusetts Avenue** – Southeasterly from MHC564, approximately 60 feet west of **Front Street** a distance of about fifty-eight (58) feet – conduit. This work is necessary to supply power to a new streetlight/antenna (W.O. #2252865).

**Present:** Susan Barroso and Katie Flaherty on behalf of the applicant.

**Summary:** The petition references in some places that the installation is a light tower and in others that it is an antenna. Clarification of the streetlight/antenna is needed.

**Decision:** Continued (3-0) to May 17, 2018.

**21. New Petition Nstar Electric Company, 101 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143**, for the following: **Willow Street** – At **Cambridge Street** and southerly from MHC113 a total distance of about forty (40) feet – conduit. This work is necessary to supply power to a new streetlight/antenna (W.O. #2258972).

**Present:** Susan Barroso and Katie Flaherty on behalf of the applicant.

**Summary:** The petition references in some places that the installation is a light tower and in others that it is an antenna. Clarification of the streetlight/antenna is needed. In addition, it appears the location is with regard to a new school and the City has not requested anything from them.

**Decision:** Continued (3-0) to May 17, 2018.

**22. New Petition** **Nstar Electric Company, 101 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143**, for the following: **Bishop Allen Drive** – Westerly from MHC1846 approximately 90 feet west of **Columbia Street**, a distance of about 15 feet – conduit.

**Bishop Allen Drive** – At **Columbia Street** and westerly from MHC1844, a distance of about 104 feet – conduit. This work is necessary to supply a temporary service for construction and a permanent service for **25 Columbia Street** (W.O. #2245136 & 2230102).

**Present:** Susan Barroso and Katie Flaherty on behalf of the applicant; Mark Barer, contractor.

**Summary:** This project is for temporary service for project as well as permanent city service.

**Decision:** Granted (3-0) with typical conditions.

**23. New Petition** **Nstar Electric Company, 101 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143**, for the following: **Bishop Allen Drive** – At **Douglass Street** and southeasterly from MHC1848, a total distance of about 255 feet – conduit. This work is necessary to supply a temp service for **25 Columbia Street** and service at the request of the City of Cambridge for submersible pumps and lighting (W.O. #2245122 & 2231668).

**Present:** Susan Barroso and Katie Flaherty on behalf of the applicant; Mark Barer, contractor.

**Summary:** This portion of the project is being done at the request of the City. Application is for temporary service and permanent service. There must be coordination with Kleinfeld regarding the plans that have been submitted.

**Decision:** Granted (3-0) with typical conditions and subject to coordination with Kleinfeld.

**24. New Petition** **Nstar Electric Company, 101 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143**, for the following: **East Street** – Northwesterly from MHC28713, approximately 40 feet southwest of **Northpoint Boulevard**, a distance of about 54 feet – conduit. This work is necessary to supply temporary service to **30 Northpoint Boulevard** (W.O. #2262528).

**Present:** Susan Barroso and Katie Flaherty on behalf of the applicant.

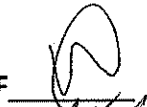


**Summary:** This installation is on private property but DPW wants to see the project. They are requesting service to the alley, and then it will go up and over the building. There will also new a new address. DPW has no concerns with it. These are questions for ISD and Fire.

**Decision:** Granted (3-0).

The Board discussed their past vote regarding notice to abutters. Mr. Clarke is to send a reminder to all utilities to send notices to abutters via certified mail, return receipt requested, and for the applicants to retain the green cards for two years.

25. Minutes of February 15, 2018 meeting.

**Decision:** Approved (3-0).

NMF   
SL   
WD 

**Board's Approval of Minutes:**

Date Minutes Approved: JUN 27 2018

Date Approved Minutes Were Posted: JUN 27 2018