

Commission Members:

Nicole Murati Ferrer

Chairperson

Stephen Lenkauskas

City Electrician

Terrence James Shea

Superintendent of Streets

# CAMBRIDGE LICENSE COMMISSION

831 Massachusetts Avenue, First Floor, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

## POLE AND CONDUIT COMMISSION



City of Cambridge

Elizabeth Y. Lint  
Executive Director

### POLE AND CONDUIT COMMISSION'S MEETING MINUTES

For Meeting of Thursday, April 25, 2019 at 10:00 a.m.

Michael J. Lombardi Building  
831 Massachusetts Avenue  
Carmelia M. Vicente Conference Room  
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Meeting started at 10:03 a.m.

**Commission Board Members (all present):** Nicole Murati Ferrer, Stephen Lenkauskas and Terrence J. Shea.

**Commission Staff Member Present:** Elizabeth Y. Lint.

#### Noticed Matters:

*Matters were called out of the order in which they were listed on the posted agenda. The Board first heard matters where residents were present.*

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

**Decisions:** Unless otherwise indicated, all votes were 3-0. When matters are granted with "typical conditions," the Board is imposing the following conditions:

- (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. **New Petition (#44753) Comcast**, 426 E. First Street, Boston, MA 02127, for the following: River Street- From existing Comcast manhole on River Street, trench 39' Northerly to the private property line of 25 River Street. Installing 1-4" PVC conduit in the public way. This will include the removal and replacement of 2 sidewalk panels.

**Present:** Anthony Vatalaro, on behalf of the petitioner.

**Summary:** This is for new underground service at 25 River Street. Comcast has been trying for a while to reach this location and get funding for the trench line.

**Decision:** Granted with typical conditions.

2. **Petition (#30801) continued from January 31, 2019: Cambridge Network Solutions LLC**, 35 McGrath Highway, Somerville, MA 02143, for the following: Hurley Street and First Street - Starting at Verizon MH#26/598 at the intersection of Hurley Street and First Street, trench and install 468' +/- of (2) 4 " PVC conduits in a northerly direction on First Street, and place a new 3'x3' Cambridge Network Solutions Manhole to intercept the existing Cambridge Network Solutions conduit recently placed from the Crown Castle common trench at 1 Canal Park.

**Present:** Jeffrey Harrington, on behalf of the petitioner.

**Summary:** The petition had been continued at the request of the petitioner because it did not have the Verizon conduit lease. Mr. Harrington represented they were still waiting for the Verizon license. Common trench letters were sent out and there may be one other utility going in.

**Decision:** Continued to allow time for the Verizon license to be granted and for the other companies to respond to the common trench letter.

3. **New Petition (#44726) Cambridge Network Solutions LLC**, 35 McGrath Highway, Somerville, MA 02143, for the following: Cambridge Street @ 2 Canal Park - Starting at Level 3 MH#0515-3808 on Cambridge Street trench and install 50'+/- of (1) 4" communication conduit in a southerly direction to the building located at 2 Canal Park.

**Present:** Jeffrey Harrington, on behalf of the petitioner.

**Summary:** This is for new service. The current trench is visible and there is no room in the existing conduit so new conduit is needed.

**Decision:** Granted with typical conditions.

4. **New Petition (#43731) Cambridge Network Solutions LLC**, 35 McGrath Highway, Somerville, MA 02143, for the following: Third Street and Rogers Street - Starting at Verizon MH#26/532 on Third Street, place fiber optic cable in/over existing conduit to MFS MH#5 at the intersection of Rogers Street and Third Street and continue 1,055' through 4 additional MFS manholes to the building located at 1 Rogers Street. There is no excavations work required.

**Present:** Jeffrey Harrington, on behalf of the petitioner.

**Summary:** They reached out to the person that had existing conduit at the location and obtained a license from them and will be joining the current conduit. It will be end to end.

**Decision:** Granted with condition that the petitioner must obtain electrical and street occupancy permits prior to commencing the work.

***Petitions 5 and 6 were heard together.***

5. **New Petition (#33891) Level 3 Communications/Century Link**, 300 Bent Street, Cambridge, MA 02141, for the following: North Point Boulevard and Museum Way - Starting at existing Level 3 MH on North Point Boulevard at North Street, trench and install (1) 4" conduit 138' +/- easterly to proposed 3'x3' MH#1. from proposed mh#1 continue 57' +/- northerly to stubbed conduit from building 10. Also, from proposed MH#1 continue 188' +/- easterly to proposed 3'x3' MH#2. from proposed MH#2 continue 99' +/- southerly on Museum Way to proposed 3'x3' MH#3. from proposed MH#3 continue 26' +/- easterly to 1 Education Street building.

6. **New Petition (#44042) Crown Castle Fiber**, 80 Central Street, Boxborough, MA 01719, for the following: North Point Boulevard and Museum Way – (Continuation from approved petition #31788) Starting at proposed 3'x3' Crown Castle MH#10 on Museum Way, trench and install 218'+/- of (2) 4" communication conduit in a northeasterly direction to proposed 3'x3' Crown Castle MH#11, continuing 278'+/- in a northeasterly direction on Museum Way to proposed 3'x3' Crown Castle MH#12 on North Point Boulevard, from proposed Crown Castle MH#12 continue 202'+/- in a westerly direction to proposed 3'x3' Crown Castle MH#13 to intercept future telecommunication system for the building located at 10 North Point Boulevard.

**Present:** Mike Weimer, Level 3; Bob Walls, Crown Castle; and Shikanth Vaidhyanathan, EF Education.

**Summary:** There was an administrative notation that the location's address has changed from North Point Boulevard to Education Circle. All petitions, plans and applications, must be submitted (or amended) to reflect the change.

The petition relates to providing service for the new building at North Point. There is urgency to start the project because EF Education wants to pave the street at the end of May. No common trench letters have been sent out. The intent is for the companies to work simultaneously and in tandem.

**Decision:** The companies cannot work in tandem and separately. They must comply with the Commission's common trench and sitting policies. The companies must send out a common trench letter to all utilities, a lead company on the project must be identified and must present the petition for all, and there has to be coordination with the Department of Public Works to walk the area together. The matters are continued to allow the common trench letter to be sent, internal coordination within the companies to decide which one will be the lead company, and coordination with the Department of Public Works.

7. **New Petition (#33400) Crown Castle Fiber**, 80 Central Street, Boxborough, MA 01719, for the following: First Street and Rogers Street - Starting at existing NextG MH, trench and install (1) 4 " conduit 18' +/- in a northerly direction to existing MFS (Verizon Business) MH.

**Present:** Bob Walls, on behalf of the petitioner.

**Summary:** They need to connect to Comcast. There is a live construction project in the area with which the petitioner will need to coordinate to be able to do the work at the same time.

**Decision:** Granted with typical conditions and the additional conditions that a conduit must be added for the City and there must be coordination with the current project in the area.

8. **Petition continued from September 20, 2018, Crown Castle NG East LLC**, 67 Sharp Street – Unit 5, Hingham, MA 02043, for the following: 392 Franklin Street – This Eligible Facilities Request involves an effort to collocate transmission equipment at an existing base station within a public right of way 392 Franklin Street. Pursuant to this Eligible Facilities Request Crown Castle proposes to replace the existing shroud with a new 70"H x 20" W x 18" D shroud, and the existing 24"H x 14.5" Ø antenna with a new 24"H x 15" Ø.

**Present:** Amanda Cornwall and Joe Shannon, for the petitioner.

**Summary:** The matter had been continued because the pole on which the attachment was going to be made needed to be replaced. The pole has now been replaced.

**Decision:** Granted with the condition that electrical and street occupancy permits must be obtained prior to the work being performed.

***Petitions 9, 10, 11 and 13 were heard together (Petition # 12 was heard separately as there were residents present for it). For purposes of clarity of the minutes, petitions 9-11 and 13 are listed together, and 12 is listed thereafter.***

9. **New Petition (# 44599) Crown Castle NG East LLC**, 67 Sharp Street – Unit 5, Hingham, MA 02043, for the following: Brookline Street and Valentine Street - This Eligible Facilities Request involves

an effort to collocate transmission equipment at an existing base station within a public right of way on a utility pole on corner of 163 Brookline Street, and Valentine Street, Pole #686-2 (Lat:42.35996/Long: -71.10539). Pursuant to this Eligible Facilities Request, Crown Castle proposes to replace the existing shroud with a new 50"Hx30"Wx18"D shroud, and the existing 48" x 8.16" Ø antenna with a new 48" x 18" Ø antenna.

10. **New Petition Crown Castle NG East LLC**, 67 Sharp Street – Unit 5, Hingham, MA 02043, for the following: Hews Street and Callender Street - This Eligible Facilities Request involves an effort to collocate transmission equipment at an existing base station within a public right of way on a utility pole on corner of 27-29 Hews Street. and Callender Street, Pole #354/6 (Lat:42.365305/Long: -71.11293). Pursuant to this Eligible Facilities Request, Crown Castle proposes to replace the existing shroud with a new 50"Hx30"Wx18"D shroud, and the existing 48" x 8.16" Ø antenna with a new 48" x 18" Ø antenna. VP 44598

11. **New Petition Crown Castle NG East LLC**, 67 Sharp Street – Unit 5, Hingham, MA 02043, for the following: Thorndike Street - This Eligible Facilities Request involves an effort to collocate transmission equipment at an existing base station within a public right of way on a utility pole on Thorndike Street, Pole #12 (Lat:42.36949/Long: -71.07894). Pursuant to this Eligible Facilities Request, Crown Castle proposes to replace the existing shroud with a new 70"H x 20"W x 18"D shroud, and the existing 48" x 8.16" Ø antenna with a new 48" x 18" Ø antenna. VP 44597

13. **New Petition Crown Castle NG East LLC**, 67 Sharp Street – Unit 5, Hingham, MA 02043, for the following: Third Street - This Eligible Facilities Request involves an effort to collocate Transmission Equipment at an existing Base Station within a public right of way on utility pole #19 on Third St. (Lat:42.36818/Long: -71.08060). Pursuant to this Eligible Facilities Request, Crown Castle proposes to replace the existing shroud with a new 70"H x 20"W x 18"D shroud, and the existing 48" x 8.16" Ø antenna with a new 48" x 18" Ø antenna. VP 44595

**Present:** Amanda Cornwall and Joe Shannon, on behalf of the petitioner.

**Summary:** All the petitions relate to Crown Castle's City-wide project of replacing existing shrouds and antennas with larger ones. The changes in dimensions are not substantial changes within the meaning and definition set by the FCC.

**Decision:** Granted with the condition that electrical and street occupancy permits must be obtained prior to the work being performed

12. **New Petition Crown Castle NG East LLC**, 67 Sharp Street – Unit 5, Hingham, MA 02043, for the following: Magazine Court and Allston Street - This Eligible Facilities Request involves an effort to collocate transmission equipment at an existing base station within a public right of way on a utility pole on corner of 6-8 Magazine Court and Allston Street, Pole #34 (Lat:42.36009/Long: -71.11089). Pursuant to this Eligible Facilities Request, Crown Castle proposes to replace the existing shroud with a new 50"H x 30"W x 18"D shroud, and the existing 48" x 8.16" Ø antenna with a new 48" x 18" Ø antenna. VP 44596

**Present:** Amanda Cornwall and Joe Shannon, on behalf of the petitioner; and residents Antonella Guzzi, Susan Dacunha and Marshall Sikowicz.

**Additional Documents Considered:** Photographs presented by the residents.

**Summary:** This petition relates to Crown Castle's City-wide project to replace existing shrouds and antennas with larger ones to allow the co-locating of equipment for multiple carriers. In this case, the carrier coming in is Sprint. Crown Castle presented that co-locating the equipment is less onerous as it reduces redundant equipment on poles. The larger shrouds and antennas comply with FCC regulations and the changes are not "substantial changes" per the FCC.

Residents were concerned about safety, waves, 5G technology and noise. It was explained the service being provided is 4G. The larger shroud provides for sound dampening, and therefore, noise should be less of an issue. A concern was also raised as to the pole's status. Eversource, the owner of the pole, has determined there is no current need to replace it.

**Decision:** Granted with the condition that electrical and street occupancy permits must be obtained prior to the work being performed.

14. **Petition (#25038) Continuation from November 15, 2018, for clarification from the City Solicitor.** Extenet Systems, Inc, 100 Apollo Drive, Suite 303, Chelmsford, MA 01824, for the following: 57 Gorham Street - Attach small cell antenna shroud just above top of the pole; attach radio shroud approximately 13.5' above the ground and connect to existing power supply. Third party vendor to bring fiber to the pole.

**Decision:** No action – matter was continued by the applicant prior to the hearing.

15. **New Petition (#43722) TC Systems, Inc.,** 157 Green Street, Suite 2, Foxboro, MA 02035, for the following: Massachusetts Avenue and Temple Street - Proposed break out at Existing VZ Manhole #26/99, thence 266+/- ft along Massachusetts Avenue to a proposed 3'X3' TC Systems Manhole, thence approx. 124' NE/LY across Massachusetts Avenue, and a distance down Temple Street to a proposed 5" core at 727 Massachusetts Avenue. TC Systems is proposing (1) 4" conduit, and (1) 4" City shadow conduit, together, both approximately 390' in the same trench.

**Present:** Chris Murray, on behalf of the petitioner.

**Summary:** The petition as submitted would require curb to curb restoration. In addition, it is unclear why the utility is crossing Massachusetts Avenue twice. There are safety concerns as the area is very congested and there is an MBTA line and gas line at the location. The customer has an accelerated time line. The petitioner is hoping to lease conduit from Verizon to not cross Massachusetts Avenue twice. The petitioner has submitted plans to the MBTA to request a license from them. The question arose if an alternate route could be Prospect to Bishop Allen to Temple, as a common trench.

**Decision:** Continued to provide time to discuss the proposed and potential alternate routes with the Department of Public Works.

***Discussion with Eversource regarding past due fees to the License Commission and the Department of Public Works. Ms. Joanne Callender represented Eversource would be taking care of all past due fees forthwith.***

16. **Petition (#30626) continued from January 31, 2019, Nstar Electric Company, 10 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143, for the following:** Albany Street - At, and southwesterly from MHC 22, at the intersection of Massachusetts Avenue, install approximately 326 feet—conduit (W.O #2263908).

**Present:** Joanne Callender and Susan Barroso, on behalf of the petitioner.

**Summary:** The matter was previously continued to provide time to hear from Lighttower as to the original grant of location. Eversource has yet to hear from Lighttower and there is no information as to whether there is an 8M letter. Eversource just found out there is a large duct bank at the location, and there is power service there. Crown Castle has a node on the opposite corner.

**Decision:** Denied.

17. **New Petition (#44604) Nstar Electric Company, 10 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143, for the following:** 113 Webster Avenue - Northerly from Pole 551/14, at the intersection of Plymouth Street, to install approximately 70 feet--conduit, and install a new Manhole (MHC30831).

**Present:** Joanne Callender and Susan Barroso, on behalf of the petitioner.

**Summary:** This is for a service upgrade requested from property owner for the new building that is going into the location. Since there is no space on the property, the power will come from the public way and feed from there. The building is not yet constructed, and no building permits have even been pulled for this location.

**Decision:** Continued until all past due fees to the City of Cambridge are paid and building permits are pulled for the location.

18. **New Petition (#44606) Nstar Electric Company, 10 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143, for the following:** 440 Cambridge Street - Southerly from MH1250, approximately 67 feet west of Fifth Street, to install approximately 6 feet--conduit.

**Present:** Joanne Callender and Susan Barroso, on behalf of the petitioner.

**Summary:** This is to supply a service upgrade to 440 Cambridge Street. There is already conduit installed at the property line and between two buildings. The construction at this location is nearly finished and the upgrade in service is necessary.

**Decision:** Granted with typical conditions.

**Old/New Matters Discussed:**

**19. Discussion of 1780 Massachusetts Avenue.**

**Summary:** Communication received from a resident. During the moratorium Comcast reached out to the abutting property, which they service. They are working with them to get a license or an easement. It is before their condo board.

**Decision:** None/not applicable.

**20. Consideration of March 21, 2019 Meeting Minutes.**

**Decision:** Approved.

**21. Miscellaneous Eversource Issues.**

**Summary:** Eversource said they have not heard back regarding Cambridge Crossing. Ms. Barroso said they have been in contact with Eversource. The project is delayed.

416 Massachusetts Avenue also has to be addressed. There is a work order for temporary service for Massachusetts and Main. Apparently, there is conduit in the way which should be removed. The contractor is not getting back to the City.

Eversource was supposed to provide the Fire Department with the exact amounts of flammables maintained in the City and it has yet to do so. It is incumbent upon Eversource to get back to the Fire Department on these issues.

**Decision:** None/not applicable. Eversource will follow up.

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**Commission's Approval of Minutes:**

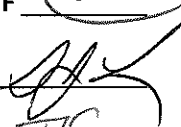
NMF



Date Minutes Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

**MAY 16 2019**

SL



TJS



Date Approved Minutes Posted: \_\_\_\_\_

**MAY 16 2019**