

Nicole Murati Ferrer  
Chairperson

Thomas Grande  
Acting City Electrician

Terrence James Shea  
Superintendent of Streets

## CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

### POLE AND CONDUIT COMMISSION

831 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139



Elizabeth Y. Lint  
Executive Director of  
License Commission

#### POLE AND CONDUIT COMMISSION'S MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, July 16, 2020 at 10:00 A.M.

By Remote Participation Via Zoom

*Meeting Started at approximately 10:04 a.m.*

**Commission Members Present (All Present):** Nicole Murati Ferrer, Thomas Grande, and Terrence James Shea.

**License Commission Staff Present:** Dana Clarke, Administrative Assistant

**Contributor:** Stephen Lenkauskas, Retired City Electrician

#### Noticed Matters:

*Matters may have been called out of the order in which they were listed on the posted agenda. The Commission first hears all matters where a member of the public that wished to be heard on a utility's petition is present.*

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

**Decisions:** When matters are granted with "typical conditions," those 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 February 27, 2020. Waiting for Design Consultant's plan for that development and whether need to plan for future service at adjacent building. (67202) Comcast, 426 E. First Street, Boston, MA 02127, for the following: 300 Putnam Avenue - At the intersection of Putnam Avenue and Allston Street, install one new 3'x3' manhole over existing Comcast conduit. From newly placed manhole, trench northerly 8' in the public way to the private property line of 300 Putnam Avenue - installing 1-4" conduit. [Time Stamp 21:29]

**Present:** Anthony Vatalaro, Comcast. Susan Barroso, Nstar/Eversource.

**Documents Considered:** Application and documents attached thereto.

**Summary:** Revised drawings have been submitted. This route/path was coordinated with DPW and they are ok with this Grant of Location.

**Decision:** Granted with typical conditions.

2. **New Petition (79996) Comcast, 426 E. First Street, Boston, MA 02127**, for the following: **227 Prospect Street** - From existing Comcast manhole on **Prospect Street**, trench 27' southwesterly to the private property line of **227 Prospect Street**. Installing 1-4" PVC conduit. [Time Stamp 30:02]

**Present:** Anthony Vatalaro, Comcast.

**Documents Considered:** Application and documents attached thereto.

**Summary:** This work is to service the new property that's currently under construction. This the closest service they have to this property and it's underground on Prospect Street.

**Decision:** Granted with typical conditions.

3. **Continuation from January 16, 2020, to have applicant complete process with M.I.T. (63600) Level 3, 300 Bent Street, Cambridge, MA 02141**, for the following: **84 Massachusetts Avenue** - Intercept existing Level 3 Conduit on **Massachusetts Avenue** and trench and install (1) road rated 24"x36"handhole; from handhole, trench and install (1) 4" conduit 150' +/- southwesterly to the building located at **84 Massachusetts Avenue**. [Time Stamp 04:05]

**Present:** Bill Conway, Axis Engineering.

**Documents Considered:** Application and documents attached thereto.

**Summary:** Applicant requested to remove until further notice or reapply at a later date.

**Decision:** Denied/removed.

4. **Continuation from February 27, 2020, to get confirmation there is no other conduit that can be leased. (66425) Level 3/Century Link, 300 Bent Street, Cambridge, MA 02141**, for the following: **201 Broadway** - Starting at Verizon MH#26/544, trench and install 25'+/- of (1) 4" conduit northerly to the building located at **201 Broadway**. [Time Stamp 05:42]

**Present:** Bill Conway, Axis Engineering.

**Documents Considered:** Application and documents attached thereto.

**Summary:** Applicant stated this is the only option that they had. Looked at licensing through Verizon and Eversource. Verizon didn't have an additional conduit into the building so they would have to breakout of this manhole and dig into the building. Electrical and DPW are in agreement with this path.

**Decision:** Granted with typical conditions.

5. **New Petition (74897) Crown Castle NG East, 1800 West Park Drive, Marlborough, MA 01581**, for the following: **Galileo Galilei Way** - Starting at Level 3 MH#0515-2703 on **Galileo Galilei Way** trench and install (2) 4" conduits 12'+/- northerly to proposed 3'x3' Crown Castle handhole #1. from proposed handhole #1, continue 443'+/- easterly to proposed Crown Castle handhole #2. from proposed handhole #2, continue 105'+/- easterly on **Ames Place** to the building located at 8 **Cambridge Center**. [Time Stamp 07:52]

**Present:** Bill Conway, Axis Engineering. Mike Paquin, Crown Castle.

**Documents Considered:** Application and documents attached thereto.

**Summary:** Crown Castle was not allowed to access Level 3 duct bank – verbal denial. There are ample ducts in that bank, including the 25% empty that is included in the common trench policy. Recommendation to meet with Level 3 and Electrical to review this .

**Decision:** Continued to allow applicant to go back to Level 3 for the duct bank.

6. **Continuation from February 27, 2020. Need DPW meeting on site for other options. Also need to show entire route, including aerial; and to determine whether Western Avenue has space. (66143) TC Systems Inc, 157 Green Street – Suite 2, Foxborough, MA 02035**, for the following: **Blackstone Street-Western Avenue-Hews Street** - The installation of two(2)four-inch PVC conduits at an approximate depth of 36 inches from an existing utility Pole #74-9 located in the easterly sidewalk of **Blackstone Street** to a point where it reaches the proposed concrete handhole located in the westerly sidewalk of **Blackstone Street**; a distance of approximately 48 feet.

The installation of two (2) and four(4), four-inch PVC conduits at an approximate depth of 36 inches from an existing utility pole #74-15 located in the sidewalk of **Blackstone Street** to a point where it reaches the utility pole #354/2 located in the sidewalk of **Hews Street**: a distance of approximately 553 feet. This project will also involve the placement of two (3'x3'x4") concrete manholes. [Time Stamp 13:15]

**Present:** Adam Heller, TC Systems Inc. Hayleigh Walker, TC Systems.

**Documents Considered:** Application and documents attached thereto.

**Summary:** DPW would like TC Systems to look at the River Street option. TC Systems has looked at other routes/options and has eliminated the need to do the dig on Western Avenue. They

would like to withdraw this petition and resubmit at a later date, once they have a completed and revised plan.

**Decision:** Denied/Removed.

7. **New Petition (78024) TC Systems Inc, 157 Green Street – Suite 2, Foxborough, MA 02035**, for the following: **Brattle Street and JFK Street** - The installation of the two four-inch PVC will begin at the existing cable TV manhole on **John F. Kennedy Street** and extend to a point where it reaches the proposed (4x4x5) manhole on **Brattle Street**; a distance of approximately 125 feet. From the proposed manhole the Contractor will continue the installation to a point where it reaches the proposed handhole located on **Brattle Street**; a distance of approx. 140 feet. **[Time Stamp 15:04]**

**Present:** Adam Heller, TC Systems Inc. Hayleigh Walker, TC Systems.

**Documents Considered:** Application and documents attached thereto.

**Summary:** This work is for a potential cell site. This work is a joint coordination with another utility and the petitions should be heard together, as one.

**Decision:** Denied/Removed to allow applicant to coordinate with other utility. Also, 8M permit and coordination with the MBTA will be required.

8. **New Petition (70001) Verizon New England, 385 Myles Standish Boulevard, Taunton, MA 02780**, for the following: **18 Hurley Street** - Verizon to place 42 feet of conduit in the public way at **18 Hurley Street** for a new service. **[Time Stamp 32:00]**

**Present:** Rick Foreman, Verizon.

**Documents Considered:** Application and documents attached thereto.

**Summary:** This petition was for a held order. There was a business that need speedy service. The electrician installed the conduit before the Grant of Location so the customer could have service, right away. This petition was submitted to come into compliance. Per Electrical, Poles 2 and 4 are scheduled to be removed. Everything is going underground to accommodate the new development. The conduit needs to be removed, as it was installed without a Grant of Location.

**Decision:** Denied/Removed. Conduit to be removed.

9. **New Petition (75209) Verizon New England, 385 Myles Standish Boulevard, Taunton, MA 02780**, for the following: **Cambridgepark Drive** - Verizon to place 293' of 4"pvc conduit for service from MH596 to **87 Cambridge Park Drive**. This petition portion is only for the 15' from the manhole to the property line. (1A4EG2C). **[Time Stamp 38:57]**

**Present:** Rick Foreman, Verizon.

**Documents Considered:** Application and documents attached thereto.

**Summary:** This work is to re-route service to 87 Cambridgepark Drive for new development. 4-inch conduit for the City was requested.

**Decision:** Granted with typical conditions.

- 10. New Petition (75215) Verizon New England, 385 Myles Standish Boulevard, Taunton, MA 02780**, for the following: **29 Charles Street** - Verizon to relocate pole, P130/7, 40' from its existing location on **Charles Street (4A0M0KW)**. [Time Stamp 40:48]

**Present:** Rick Foreman, Verizon.

**Documents Considered:** Application and documents attached thereto.

**Summary:** This work is a pole relocation for a new garage that's being constructed. This will allow ample entry space to garage. DPW requests that with the new pole location that sidewalk has to be compliant. Electrical recommends this petition to be continued to take a better look at it, to see if there's any risers or excavation that needs to be done.

**Decision:** Continued for further review by Electrical Department.

- 11. New Petition (77327) Verizon New England, 385 Myles Standish Boulevard, Taunton, MA 02780**, for the following: **Binney Street** - Verizon to place new conduit for service to **220 Binney Street (4A0L8WW)**. [Time Stamp 44:08]

**Present:** Rick Foreman, Verizon.

**Documents Considered:** Application and documents attached thereto.

**Summary:** This petition has (4) 4-inch conduits coming from 2 different locations to bring service to new location at 220 Binney Street. Electrical recommends common trench for this new development so that all communication companies are notified in case they want to join in on this dig. DPW asks that Verizon contacts VHB (developers for the Volpe Center) so that this work shows on their utility plans and coordinated; and also revised plan showing conduits.

**Decision:** Continued for further review and coordination.

- 12. New Petition (77331) Verizon New England, 385 Myles Standish Boulevard, Taunton, MA 02780**, for the following: **Munroe Street** - Verizon to place new conduit for service, mainly on **Munroe Street**, but crossing over **Fifth Street and Third Street (4A0L8WW)**. [Time Stamp 44:08]

**Present:** Rick Foreman, Verizon.

**Documents Considered:** Application and documents attached thereto.

**Summary:** This petition has (4) 4-inch conduits coming from 2 different locations to bring service to new location at 220 Binney Street. Electrical recommends common trench for this new development so that all communication companies are notified in case they want to join in on this dig. DPW asks that Verizon contacts VHB (developers for the Volpe Center) so that this work shows on their utility plans and coordinated; and also revised plan showing conduits.

**Decision:** Continued for further review and coordination.

- 13. New Petition (73075) DivcoWest, 200 State Street, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor, Boston, MA 02109**, for the following: **2 North First Street** - Cambridge Street between Second Street and O'Brien Highway, O'Brien Highway between Gore Street and Land Boulevard. **[Time Stamp 47:14]**

**Present:** Tim McIntosh, DivCoWest.

**Documents Considered:** Application and documents attached thereto.

**Summary:** Infrastructure improvements (roadway and utility) as required by the City in coordination with the Cambridge Crossing Project. Tim met with Electrical Department (Larry Winnett). Contractor will meet with appropriate staff before the work begins to review any protocols.

**Decision:** Granted with typical conditions, and close coordination with Traffic, Parking, & Transportation, and the Electrical Department.

- 14. New Petition (77491) GLX Constructors, 200 Inner Belt Road, Suite 225, Somerville, MA 02143**, for the following: **2 North First Street** - The work includes excavation, installation and back filling for underground electrical utilities that are to be installed in the **North First Street** for the new GLX Lechmere Station in Cambridge. **[Time Stamp 52:38]**

**Present:** Nelson Kiggundi, GLX Constructors. Siva Ancha, GLX Constructors. Shawn Anderson, GLX Constructors. Diane Stokes, Department of Public Works (Cambridge), Rebecca Lee, DivCoWest.

**Documents Considered:** Application and documents attached thereto.

**Summary:** This work is currently on private property (DivCoWest, MBTA, MassDot), with the understanding that part of the private property (East Street) will be turned over to the City in the next couple of years. None of the work will be done in the public way, as it stands currently.

**Decision:** No action, as we have no jurisdiction. The Commission has reviewed and acknowledged this petition and has no objections.

- 15. New Petition (80789) Massachusetts Institute of Technology, 77 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge, MA 02139**, for the following: **Vassar Street** - Furnish and install 6 telecommunication

conduits with concrete encasement on the south side of **Vassar Street** from existing telecommunications manhole to existing areaway of MIT Building 32, approximately 250LF. This is a re-routing of an existing MIT telecommunications duct bank. [Time Stamp 1:13:34]

**Present:** Travis Wanat.

**Documents Considered:** Application and documents attached thereto.

**Summary:** This work involves relocation of the M.I.T duct bank. Plans show area the work will be disrupting but does not show proper plans and conduits.

**Decision:** Continued for proper plans showing conduits.

- 16. Continuation from February 27, 2020. Waiting for Design Consultant's plan for that development. Also need to know the transformer size and set back onto property line. (67317) Nstar Electric Company, 10 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143, for the following: Putnam Avenue and Allston Street - Northerly 20' thence and turning northeast 11' from MHC1538 at Allston Street a distance of approximately 32' feet of conduit. [Time Stamp 21:29]**

**Putnam Avenue** – Northerly 5' thence and turning northeast 20' from MHC1538 installing @ **Allston Street** - a distance of approximately 25' of conduit.

**Present:** Susan Barroso, Nstar/Eversource. Anthony Vatalaro, Comcast.

**Documents Considered:** Application and documents attached thereto.

**Summary:** Revised drawings have been submitted. This route/path was coordinated with DPW and they are ok with this Grant of Location.

**Decision:** Granted with typical conditions.

- 17. New Petition (68070) Nstar Electric Company, 10 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143, for the following: **Blakeslee Street (near #44)** - Southeasterly from Pole 767/2 to private property at #42-44 **Blakeslee Street** a distance of approximately 7' of conduit. This work is necessary to supply power to #42 **Blakeslee Street** (W.O. #2374320). [Time Stamp 1:17:58]**

**Present:** Susan Barroso, Nstar/Eversource.

**Documents Considered:** Application and documents attached thereto.

**Summary:** No issues

**Decision:** Granted with typical conditions.

- 18. New Petition (68071) Nstar Electric Company, 10 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143, for the following: **34 Avon Street** - Southeasterly from Pole 38/9 to private property of #34 **Avon Street**, a**

distance of approximately 16' of conduit. This work is necessary to supply power to #34 Avon Street (W.O. #2370711). [Time Stamp 1:19:07]

**Present:** Susan Barroso, Nstar/Eversource.

**Documents Considered:** Application and documents attached thereto.

**Summary:** No issues

**Decision:** Granted with typical conditions.

- 19. New Petition (68799) Nstar Electric Company, 10 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143**, for the following: **Appleton Street** - Easterly from Pole 20/7 approximately five (5') feet to private property at #32 Highland Street. This work is necessary to supply power to #32 Highland Street. [Time Stamp 1:20:04]

**Present:** Susan Barroso, Nstar/Eversource.

**Documents Considered:** Application and documents attached thereto.

**Summary:** No issues. Pole is in correctly numbered. Pole number on print needs to be revised or pole number on site needs to be renumbered.

**Decision:** Granted with typical conditions and provide updated print with pole number or renumber pole on site.

- 20. New Petition (73093) Nstar Electric Company, 10 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143**, for the following: **Norfolk Street** - Northwesterly from MH2998, approximately 111' north of **Hampshire Street** to private property at #283 Norfolk Street, for a total distance of 48' of conduit. This work is necessary to supply power to electric vehicle charging ports for City of Cambridge DPW vehicles. [Time Stamp 1:22:09]

**Present:** Susan Barroso, Nstar/Eversource.

**Documents Considered:** Application and documents attached thereto.

**Summary:** No issues. Revise the drawing to show the building number is 147 Hampshire Street.

**Decision:** Granted with typical conditions and revised drawing showing building number is 147 Hampshire Street.

- 21. New Petition (73476) Nstar Electric Company, 10 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143**, for the following: **Quincy Street** - Northerly from MH2093, approximately 294' north of **Harvard Street**, to customer handhole at P571/5, for a total distance of approximately 86' of conduit. [Time Stamp 1:23:38]

This work is necessary to supply power to an Extenet street light antenna (W.O. 2372261).



**Present:** Susan Barroso, Nstar/Eversource.

**Documents Considered:** Application and documents attached thereto.

**Summary:** Conduit is being installed to supply power to an Extenet small cell antenna. We have not received an application from Extenet. Nstar/Eversource should reach out to Extenet and submit a complete application. Recommendation for Nstar/Eversource to see if they already have conduit there and not install new conduit.

**Decision:** Denied. Complete application needs to be submitted.

**22. New Petition (73087) Nstar Electric Company, 10 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143**, for the following: **Galileo Galilei Way** - Install six (6) new manholes and approximately 2992' of conduit in **Galileo Galilei Way** – beginning south of the intersection with **Broadway**, at new manhole MHC31121, and extending in a northerly direction to new manhole MHC31116 near the intersection with **Binney Street**. [Time Stamp 1:26:49]

New manholes are: MHC31121, MHC31120, MHC31119, MHC31118, MHC31117 and MHC31116

Conduit to be installed as follows:

from MHC31121 install 225' of conduit, northerly to MHC31120;  
from existing manhole MH2713 install 100' of conduit, northerly to MHC31120;  
from MHC31121 install 477' of conduit, northerly to MHC31119;  
from MHC31120 install 242' of conduit, northerly to MHC31119;  
from existing manhole MH3068 install 447' to 31118;  
from MHC31120 install 337' of conduit to MHC31118;  
from existing manhole MH3057 install 46' of conduit to MHC31118;  
from MHC31119 install 630' of conduit to MHC31117;  
from MHC 31118 install 488' of conduit to MHC31116

The purpose of this work is to begin the streetscaping necessary to accommodate a new Boston Properties development and future Eversource substation (W.O -2395079).

**Present:** Susan Barroso, Nstar/Eversource.

**Documents Considered:** Application and documents attached thereto.

**Summary:** Test pits are ongoing out there to determine the corridor. DPW requests Asvil drawings submitted to DPW and P&C Commission.

**Decision:** Granted with typical conditions, and Asvil drawings submitted to DPW and P&C Commission (to clarify Grant of Location, in case it changes out there).

- 23. New Petition (76329) Nstar Electric Company, 10 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143**, for the following: **Brattle Street** - Southerly from MHC 1011, then SW onto **Eliot Street**, install approximately 87 feet conduit. [Time Stamp 1:31:21]

**Present:** Susan Barroso, Nstar/Eversource.

**Documents Considered:** Application and documents attached thereto.

**Summary:** This project has not been coordinated with DPW and drawing does not show MBTA tunnel.

**Decision:** Continued for further review.

- 24. New Petition (76130) Nstar Electric Company, 10 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143**, for the following: **Binney Street** - Easterly from MHC3050, approximately 162 feet West of **Fifth Street**, install approximately 100 feet conduit. [Time Stamp 1:33:13]

**Present:** Susan Barroso, Nstar/Eversource.

**Documents Considered:** Application and documents attached thereto.

**Summary:** This is for the Volpe Center. Need to coordinate with VHB so we have all the utilities shown on the plan and coordinate.

**Decision:** Continued for further coordination.

- 25. New Petition (76131) Nstar Electric Company, 10 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143**, for the following: **Lambert Street** - NW from Pole 418/5, approximately 171 feet north of **Cambridge Street**, install approximately 6 feet conduit. [Time Stamp 1:34:33]

**Present:** Susan Barroso, Nstar/Eversource.

**Summary:** This will require a pole replacement; double pole must be removed before the conduit should be installed. Current pole would not support what Nstar/Eversource is planning to do, so pole must be replaced, and double pole removed (before any new facilities are attached to the pole).

**Decision:** Granted with typical condition and double pole must be removed before they can acquire any permits.

- 26. New Petition (76428) Nstar Electric Company, 10 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143**, for the following: **Massachusetts Avenue** - Easterly from MHC 515, at the intersection of **Roseland Street**, install approximately 196 feet conduit. [Time Stamp 1:37:47]

**Massachusetts Avenue** - Southeasterly from MHC 513, near the intersection of **Frost Terrace**, install approximately 10 feet conduit.

**Present:** Susan Barroso, Nstar/Eversource.

**Documents Considered:** Application and documents attached thereto.

**Summary:** No issues

**Decision:** Granted with typical conditions.

- 27. New Petition (80177) Nstar Electric Company, 10 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143**, for the following: **Wheeler Street** - Easterly side, approximately 500 feet north of **Concord Avenue**:  
Install two (2) JO Poles (741/11 & 741/13)  
Install one (1) Guy Pole (741/13-s). [Time Stamp 1:38:47]

**Present:** Susan Barroso, Nstar/Eversource.

**Documents Considered:** Application and documents attached thereto.

**Summary:** No issues

**Decision:** Granted with utility permit required.

- 28. New Petition (78392) Nstar Electric Company, 10 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143**, for the following: **Walker Street** - Northerly from Pole 698/25, approximately 301 feet southeast of **Linnaean Street**, install approximately 12 feet conduit. [Time Stamp 1:41:21]

**Present:** Susan Barroso, Nstar/Eversource.

**Documents Considered:** Application and documents attached thereto.

**Summary:** No issues

**Decision:** Granted with typical conditions.

- 29. New Petition (80179) Nstar Electric Company, 10 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143**, for the following: **Norfolk Street** - Southerly from Pole 510/27 near the intersection of **Norfolk Court**, install approximately 9 feet conduit. [Time Stamp 1:42:12]

**Present:** Susan Barroso, Nstar/Eversource.

**Documents Considered:** Application and documents attached thereto.

**Summary:** This will be in the private property next to 160 Norfolk Street. Needs to be reviewed by the Cambridge Water Department. Norfolk Court is one of the main feeds from the City for the MWRA. The water mains are labeled incorrectly in Norfolk Court, those are actually City water mains, not MWRA. This is a very sensitive area.

**Decision:** Continued for further review, 8M permit, and the Cambridge Water Department needs to review work to be done.

### 30. Discussion of Small Cell Policy

[Time Stamp 1:45:16]

**Summary:** There have been no updates from the Law Department since our last meeting. We have a few pending Small Cell Attachments: all of the Extenet tolling agreements can be continued. Crown Castle's petitions should be heard on the next agenda, unless they sign another tolling agreement. Recommendations and changes we would like to see in the policy will be submitted to the Law Department.

---

Commission's Approval of Minutes:

NMF

SL

TJS

Date Minutes Approved: 11/19/2020

Date Approved Minutes Posted: 11/25/2020