

Nicole Murati Ferrer  
Chairperson

Tom 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

#### Minutes for the Pole and Conduit Meeting of

Thursday, October 15, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.

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

*This meeting was held by remote participation through Zoom, pursuant to Governor Baker's Executive Order of March 10, 2020, suspending certain provisions of M.G.L. ch. 30A.*

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

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

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

*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: All matters granted had, at a minimum, the following conditions (also known as "typical 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. Continuation from September 17, 2020, for site visit, additional information, and common trench. (91127) Comcast, 426 E. First Street, Boston, MA 02127, for the following: Brattle Street (Ash Street – Story Street) – From Existing Comcast MH, trench easterly 220' +/- installing (2) 4" conduits and 1 new 3'x3' Comcast MH #1. From proposed MH #1, continue 370' +/- southeasterly to proposed 3'x3' Comcast MH #2, and continue the trench 260' +/- southeasterly to Existing Comcast MH at the intersection with Story Street. [Time Stamp: 17:04]

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

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

**Summary:** Harvard wants a 4" conduit and a 4" will be added for the City shadow. Test pit results were uploaded to the portal. All were clear except #5 but there is room next to the structure found in the ground. The new plan has not been uploaded.

**Decision:** Continued for DPW to review internally and to update the plan. Harvard still needs to petition for the conduit and any laterals. Comcast is responsible for any other laterals coming out i.e. need to apply for common trench.

2. **Continuation from September 17, 2020, for verify whether conduits are available and for test pits to be performed. (91132) Comcast**, 426 E. First Street, Boston, MA 02127, for the following: 232 – 272 Allston Street - Starting at Utility Pole #9/32 on Allston Street, trench easterly 287' +/- to existing utility Pole #9/28 on Allston Street. Installing (2) 4" conduits. **[Time Stamp: 21:55]**

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

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

**Summary:** They have permission from Crown Castle to use the conduits in place. The permissions have been uploaded. No excavation is needed. They have a lease agreement.

**Decision:** Granted.

3. **New Petition (95123) Comcast**, 426 E. First Street, Boston, MA 02127, for the following: 125 Munroe Street - From existing Comcast manhole on Third Street, trench 47' westerly to proposed Verizon trench. Join common trench 270' westerly, breaking out 4' southerly to install 1-new 3'x3'x3 Comcast manhole on Munroe Street. Re-join Verizon trench from new Comcast manhole westerly 262' to the property line of 125 Munroe Street. **[Time Stamp: 24:00]**

**Present:** Anthony Vatalaro on behalf of the petitioner. Rick Forman for Verizon.

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

**Summary:** This is a common trench that matches up with petition #8, Verizon. This is for the 47 feet outside of the common trench, the manhole outside the common trench, then joining the common trench. Must coordinate with VHB, doing the Volpe project and must have test pits to confirm location. The common trench with Third Street crossing is very congested.

**Decision:** Continued.

4. **Continuation from September 17, 2020. Tolling agreement. (88230) Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless**, 118 Flanders Road, Westborough, MA 01581, for the following: 41 Second Street - Proposed installation of a small cell wireless antenna and associated equipment on an existing Eversource utility pole. **[Time Stamp: 03:26]**

**Present:** Michael Giaimo and Derek Maheux on behalf of the petitioner.

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

**Summary:** A tolling agreement was signed on September 17, 2020 so this should not be on yet. They are asked to upload new plans and to see where the fiber was being fed from. The meter socket was eliminated. The fiber run is aerial. Verizon will be coming from the previous pole to this site. There is still an issue with the fee. The \$500.00 that the federal statute allows for does not begin to cover the costs involved. The Law Department will respond.

**Decision:** Granted.

5. **Continuation from September 17, 2020. Tolling agreement. (88232) Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless**, 118 Flanders Road, Westborough, MA 01581, for the following: 5 Bigelow Street - Proposed installation of a small cell wireless antenna and associated equipment on an existing Eversource utility pole. [Time Stamp: 10:55]

**Present:** Michael Giaimo and Derek Maheux on behalf of the petitioner.

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

**Summary:** This is a similar situation to the above agenda item. There is no existing fiber that they can pull from. They will have to run underground conduit from Mass. Ave. Trenching work will be done by Verizon land line. They have to apply along with this application so the whole project can be viewed at once to make sure it is viable. The tolling agreement is still in place.

**Decision:** Continued to give Verizon time to apply.

6. **Continuation from September 17, 2020. Tolling agreement. (88234) Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless**, 118 Flanders Road, Westborough, MA 01581, for the following: 19 Rutland Street - Proposed installation of a small cell wireless antenna and associated equipment on an existing Eversource utility pole. [Time Stamp: 14:24]

**Present:** Michael Giaimo and Derek Maheux on behalf of the petitioner.

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

**Summary:** This is an aerial fiber run. New Plans have been uploaded. They are pulling from an existing utility pole on Langdon Street. There will be over lashing on to existing utilities.

**Decision:** Granted.

7. **Continuation from July 16, 2020, for further coordination, common trench, and updated design. (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 (4AOL8WW). [Time Stamp: 32:50]

**Present:** Rick Forman for the petitioner.

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

**Summary:** This is being coordinated with Verizon and the VHB designer to show the new 4" conduits to be placed in the median running down the property line. This will include a 4" conduit for the City from the manhole into the property. An updated plan is needed.

**Decision:** Granted with typical conditions and a City shadow.

This matter was considered with #3.

8. **Continuation from July 16, 2020, for further coordination, common trench, and updated design. (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 (4AOL8WW).

**Decision:** Continued for test pits.

9. **Continuation from September 17, 2020, pending Linksey Way paperwork and renewal of Garage and Flammable License.** (91097) Nstar Electric Company, 10 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143, for the following: Massachusetts Avenue - Westerly from MHC362, near the intersection of Hancock Street, to install approximately 23 feet of conduit. **[Time Stamp: 36:32]**

**Present:** Jackie Duffy for the petitioner.

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

**Summary:** The renewal paperwork was completed. They are waiting for insurance. Payment is still outstanding. They are waiting for the as built plans for Linksey Way. Assurance is needed that when emergency work is done, they must complete the process. The project should not be held up. Paperwork would have to be in before any other petitions would be considered.

**Decision:** Granted with typical conditions. Both pedestrian ramps must be fully ADA compliant.

10. **New Petition (94145) Nstar Electric Company,** 10 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143, for the following: 17 Elsworth Avenue - Northerly from Pole 228/9 at the intersection of Ellsworth Park, to install approximately 59 feet conduit. **[Time Stamp: 43:10]**

**Present:** Jackie Duffy on behalf of the petitioner.

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

**Summary:** This is for new underground service. The customer is also requesting a conduit for Comcast. Mr. Vatalaro will follow up with the paperwork. This will be a joint trench as they are both going to the same location. Site meeting with paperwork to follow to only have 1 excavation and to not hold up the customer. Comcast will have to file a petition.

**Decision:** Granted with typical conditions and revised drawing.

11. **New Petition (94206) Nstar Electric Company,** 10 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143, for the following: Holworthy Street - Northerly from Pole 370/11, thence turning westerly, near the intersection of Park Avenue, to install approximately 81 feet-conduit. **[Time Stamp: 48:30]**

**Present:** Jackie Duffy and Susan Barroso on behalf of the petitioner.

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

**Summary:** This is for new service. There is a generator on site which the customer has an issue with. Comcast is not aware of this petition. MWRA has a sewer line that goes between 2 houses. An 8M permit is needed.

**Decision:** Approved pending 8M permit, typical conditions and communication with Comcast to see if they will be going underground.

12. **New Petition (94342) Nstar Electric Company,** 10 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143, for the following: Brattle Street - Easterly from MHC194, thence turning northerly, near the intersection of Palmer Street, to install approximately 138 feet—conduit. **[Time Stamp: 55:12]**

**Present:** Jackie Duffy and Susan Barroso, on behalf of the petitioner.

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

**Summary:** This is to power a small cell. Extenet has to submit a corresponding small cell application.

**Decision:** Continue but take off agenda until Extenet files. If they don't apply within 6 months, this will be denied. The plan has to be amended to show MBTA tunnel.

13. **New Petition (94372) Nstar Electric Company**, 10 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143, for the following: Prospect Street - Northerly from MHC2407, at the intersection of St. Mary Road, to install approximately 83 feet—conduit. **[Time Stamp: 1:00:00]**

**Present:** Jackie Duffy and Susan Barroso on behalf of the petitioner.

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

**Summary:** This is to provide service to 223-227 Prospect Street, a 6 unit building. There has to be an alternate route to avoid the trees.

**Decision:** Continued to find an alternate route.

14. **New Petition (94829) Nstar Electric Company**, 10 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143, for the following: Gurney Street - Northwesterly from MCH1910, at the intersection of Huron Avenue, to install approximately 57 feet conduit. **[Time Stamp: 1:02:39]**

Huron Avenue - Easterly near the intersection of Gurney Street, to install approximately 105 feet of conduit. Install one (1) new MHC30792.

**Present:** Jackie Duffy and Susan Barroso on behalf of the petitioner and Charles Piquet, electrical contractor.

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

**Summary:** This is for Formaggio Kitchen. The manhole location is in question. They have to reach out to Cambridge Water to see if the water mains are inactive. They have to find an alternate location for the manhole on Gurney Street. The store is being built and needs power and is nearing completion.

**Decision:** Continued to next agenda.

15. **New Petition (94586) Nstar Electric Company**, 10 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143, for the following: Third Street - Southwesterly from MHC2767, near the intersection of Rogers Street, to install approximately 50 feet of conduit. **[Time Stamp: 1:08:40]**

**Present:** Jackie Duffy and Susan Barroso.

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

**Summary:** This is for the Foundry Building.

**Decision:** Granted with typical conditions.

16. **New Petition (94941) Nstar Electric Company**, 10 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143, for the following: Concord Avenue - Southerly from MHC1665, at the intersection of Fern Street, to install 60 feet of conduit. [Time Stamp: 1:09:48]

**Present:** Jackie Duffy and Susan Barroso.

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

**Summary:** This is for the Tobin School. They may have to move the conduit to avoid the raised brick crosswalk. This has to be expedited. There should be extra conduits for the school. Construction generators are running during the day and there is a push to get the temp service in. A site meeting is necessary. This has to be fed from the Concord Ave. side and not Vassal Lane.

**Decision:** Approved subject to site visit, coordination with Eversource and typical conditions.

17. **New Petition (95116) Nstar Electric Company**, 10 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143, for the following: Dana Street - Northerly from pole 196/5, at the intersection of Centre Street, to install approximately 82 feet -- conduit. [Time Stamp: 1:17:23]

**Present:** Jackie Duffy and Susan Barroso on behalf of the petitioner.

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

**Summary:** This had been previously approved, but the work wasn't done in the time frame, so they had to reapply. Pole 5 is a double pole and must be removed before any risers are put on.

**Decision:** Granted with typical conditions and removal of the double pole.

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NMF 

TJS 

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Date Minutes Approved: NOV 19 2020

Date Minutes Posted: NOV 25 2020