

Nicole Murati Ferrer
Chairperson

Mark Melo
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, March 18, 2021 at 10:00 A.M.

By Remote Participation Via Zoom

This meeting was held by remote participation through Zoom, pursuant to Governor Baker's Executive Order of March 12, 2020, suspending certain provisions of M.G.L. c. 30A.

Commission Members Present (All Present): Nicole Murati Ferrer, Mark Melo, and Terrence James Shea.

License Commission Staff Present: Dana Clarke, Administrative Assistant.

Advisor: Stephen Lenkauskas, Retired City Electrician.

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

Decisions: All votes, unless otherwise stated, were taken by roll call vote and were 3-0. 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. **New Petition (110882) Cambridge Traffic, Parking, and Transportation, 344 Broadway, Cambridge, MA 02139**, for the following: **325 Main Street** - Installation of underground traffic signals conduit related to reconfiguration of traffic signals at the intersection of **Galileo Galilei Way, Binney Street and Fulkerson Street**. Installation of new underground traffic signal conduit to restore interconnect cable between the traffic signal system at the intersection of **Broadway at Galileo Galilei Way** with the traffic signals at **Galileo Galilei Way, Binney Street, and Fulkerson Street**.

Present: Rob Cahoon (on behalf of City of Cambridge).

Summary: This is for traffic signal modifications – first phase. On a larger scale this relates to the streetscape's improvement outside mitigation plans with respect to redevelopment of Kendall Square area, and part of the work includes improvements at the proposed streets. The project has been phased and this is part of phase 1 between Broadway and Binney Street intersection. Modification to traffic signal at Galileo and Fulkerson and Binney – reconfiguring the Y shape

crosswalk to provide separate perpendicular which will facilitate pedestrian activity particularly during construction. The address of the petition will be 322 Binney Street.

Decision: Granted with typical conditions, and additional condition that there is continued coordination with Electrical for fixture type. Administratively, the address for the location of the petition will be changed to 322 Binney Street.

- 2. New Petition (110885) Cambridge Electrical Department, 250 Fresh Pond Parkway, Cambridge, MA 02138**, for the following: **325 Main Street** - Installation of new City standard streetlights and underground lighting conduit related to streetscape improvements along **Galileo Galilei Way between Broadway and Binney Street**.

Present: Rob Cahoon (on behalf of City of Cambridge).

Summary: This is part of the aforementioned project. The existing cobra head lights will be replaced with new City standard lights, also will include narrowing of roadway to add cycle tracks.

Decision: Granted with typical conditions, and additional condition that there is continued coordination with Electrical for fixture type. Administratively, the address for the location of the petition will be changed to 322 Binney Street.

- 3. New Petition (110807) Boston Properties, 800 Boylston Street, Suite 1900, Boston, MA 02199**, for the following: **325 Main Street** - Install +/- 260 LF of (1) 2" conduit from the new building constructed at **325 Main Street** to a sewer manhole within **Main Street** related to power and communications for a sewer sensor, required by Cambridge DPW.

Present: Jonathan Moser.

Summary: This project involves 1-2 inch conduit that is separate and is at 325 Main Street – 2 inch conduit to an existing manhole, to install a sewer sensor, which is required by DPW. Since the City owns the conduit once installed, the petitioner should be City of Cambridge, Public Works.

Decision: Granted w typical conditions, and administratively change the applicant to City of Cambridge Department of Public Works.

- 4. Continuation from February 25, 2021, to notify abutters. (108520) Crown Castle NG East, 1800 West Park Drive, Marlborough, MA 01581**, for the following: **8 Museum Way** - Crown Castle is proposing to trench to bring fiber and power to a[n] approved DCR node at **North Point Park**. Crown Castle will install fiber & power from its existing manhole along **Museum Way** to the existing node. The project will consist of a dig to lay conduit for both fiber and power. The power feed will come from an existing manhole EMH #2481 and run 34' south to point A in the drawing, continuing 231' feet to the proposed 33" x 33" handhole. Fiber will run from a Crown Manhole run 76' feet to point A and continuing 231' feet to the proposed 33" x 33" handhole.

Present: Paul Costa, and Peter Szczepanik.

Summary: Proposing to put the conduit and joint trench – part of it is on DCR property and will restore the entire street. There was questioning on why going through the entire street when there is also a duct bank that can provide a route. However, the existing conduit on Museum Way is live and very difficult to tie it in. If want to use existing conduit have to place manhole on location A and intersection of Museum and Education. Then they would have to trench from across the street. Use the electric manhole because it provides it power, it was designated by Eversource. They also cannot use Museum and Education because it has no secondary. They could enter the park directly from the electrical manhole but they would still have to dig Museum Way. Further discussion on digging from electrical across the street, entering the park and picking it up from there, rather than going all of the way around the park – thereby shorting the route and the amount of dig. Public Works raised concerns about going in from Museum Way since it was paved about 1 ½ years ago. Although the petition involves small cells, those would be on DCr property and therefore no petition for that has to be submitted to the Commission. This would be a similar installation as the one on Memorial Drive.

Decision: Continued to have further coordination with Public Works and Electrical to find alternate routes.

5. **New Petition (110759) Verizon New England, 385 Myles Standish Boulevard, Taunton, MA 02780**, for the following: **150 Gore Street** - Verizon to relocate 4 poles on the southerly side of **Gore Street** and 1 pole on the northwesterly side of **Gore Street**.

Present: Ross Bilodeau.

Summary: Looking to relocate 5 poles all new 45 poles, to accommodate a City street improvement project. Double poles need to be removed. This is being coordinated with DPW to pay attention of overhead on Lambert and Gore Streets. After reviewing the drawing Verizon does not address the location of the proposed relocation – Verizon needs to identify the proper poles by number and show the curb line relocation.

Decision: Continued, to allow further coordination and consultation to ensure the petition shows the proper relocation of the poles.

6. **New Petition (110802) The Dow Company, 1112 Broadway Road, Dracut, MA 01826**, for the following: **238 Main Street** - Remove asphalt sidewalk and dig trench for new conduit. After conduit is installed sidewalk will be replaced in kind. Work begins April 1st and will last three days. Police detail is on site and will assist as needed. The extent of excavation is thirteen feet off the face of **238 Main Street**, to the handhold. Replace (2) existing 4" Verizon duct bank conduits that are failing with (2) new conduits to MH26/22 add (1) additional 2" conduit raceway for new installation of City Fire Loop wiring to CFD Master Box. Core and stub into MH26/24 for new fire alarm loop to new master box.

Present: Glenn Ritter, and Dan Murray.

Summary: New building – inside the basement of the existing site. Installing two 4 inch conduits to existing already installed to manhole 26 – 24 (correct manhole). They found that the conduit is

pretty crushed up, Turner asked that the conduit be replaced with two new 4 inch in PVC. Add one additional 2 inch conduit to the duct bank to the manhole for the City fire alarm loop. Site work – Turner has contracted with Dow Company to do the work.

The Commission discussed that the petition should be submitted by Verizon because Turner or Dow have no authority over the public way. Also the new filing should include an additional conduit for the City. If the petitions reflect the City conduit only and that is coordinated with electrical, that would be referred to the contractor and then turned over to the City, but it would only be for the City conduit only. The drawings would be modified and the applicant changed to City of Cambridge. This is an MIT building, so it would be their decision.

Petitioner suggested just doing the installation of the City conduit, which would just require transferring over the petition to the City of Cambridge once it is approved and installed. That way there would be no delay in the work since the intent is to finish this 3-day project which was meant to start on April 1. Then, Verizon could see if they wanted/needed the conduits to be replaced.

Decision: Denied (2-1, Chair Murati Ferrer voted to continue).

7. **New Petition (109651) Eversource Energy, 101 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143**, for the following: **1573 Cambridge Street**- Northeastly from MHC100, at the intersection of **Dana Street**, install approximately thirty (30) feet of conduit (WO#4274252).

Present: Jacqueline Duffy and Susan Barroso.

Summary: Gas control bar on Cambridge Street. It may be possible to pick up the 2 inch conduit that is already there, rather than crossing the street.

Decision: Continue to look whether can get it from existing conduit/alternate route.

8. **New Petition (110520) Eversource Energy, 101 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143**, for the following: **87 Fawcett Street** - Southwesterly from MHC29462 , approximately one thousand one hundred eighty-two (1182) feet north of **Smith Place**, install approximately forty-five (45) feet of conduit (WO#2409100).

Present: Jacqueline Duffy and Susan Barroso.

Summary: This is for 95 Fawcett for residential with parking underneath.

Decision: Granted with typical conditions.

9. **Approval of Meeting Minutes**

Summary/Decision: Commission not ready to approve minutes.

NMF  _____

Minutes Approved: May 20, 2021

MM MM 

Minutes Posted: August 23, 2021¹

TJS TJS 

¹ The minutes had been posted on June 17, 2021 but they were uploaded without the date stamp of approval or posting. Therefore, they were re-posted with the date stamps on this date.