

Nicole Murati Ferrer
Chairperson

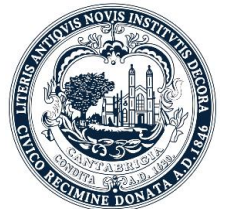
Mark Melo
City Electrician

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, May 20, 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: Elizabeth Y. Lint.

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 (119140) Comcast, 426 E. First Street, Boston, MA 02127**, for the following **196 Pearl Street** - Starting at Pole #538/38 on **Pearl Street**, trench and install (1) 2" conduit 5' +/- easterly in the public way to the property line of **196 Pearl Street**. There is a second trench on **Erie Street** to feed the property. Starting at Pole #240/28 on **Erie Street**, trench and install (1) 2" conduit 5' +/- southerly in the public way to the property line of **196 Pearl Street/174 Erie Street**. the contractor will restore the sidewalks. **(Time Stamp: 01:50)**

Present: Anthony Vatalaro and Bill Conway.

Summary: A builder is adding another building (2 buildings at 196 Pearl) want to go from aerial to underground – feed the poles from either side of the buildings. No interruption to the service as far as that is concerned – the start date, 2-3 weeks from today, and the work should be done in one day (short of the permanent sidewalk restoration).

Decision: Granted, with typical conditions, and the additional condition of permanent sidewalk restoration on Pearl Street.

2. **New Petition (116827) Crown Castle NG East, 1800 West Park Drive, Marlborough, MA 01581**, for the following: **25 Eighth Street** - Starting at Pole #37 on Thorndike Street, place (1) fiber optic cable within the existing Comcast 4" conduit to **25 Eighth Street**. No excavation involved. **(Time Stamp: 08:05)**

Present: Bob Walls and Bill Conway.

Summary: This is a follow up from the Comcast petition from April. Crown Castle is looking to place their cable in the conduit that was approved.

Decision: Granted.

3. **New Petition (117600) Crown Castle NG East, 1800 West Park Drive, Marlborough, MA 01581**, for the following: **200 Cambridgepark Drive** - Installation of 12,440' +/- of fiber optic cable from **200 Cambridgepark Drive** to the existing Crown Castle handhole on **Lowell Street** at mount **Auburn Street**; 4,251' +/- of cable will be placed in existing Eversource conduit and 6,455' +/- of cable will be placed on existing utility poles. The proposed build will also include the installation of (8) 3'x3' Crown Castle handhole's and 1,734' +/- of (1) 4" conduit and cable placed in the public way. The proposed work is needed to provide diverse service to our customer at **200 Cambridgepark Drive**. **(Time Stamp: 09:40)**

Present: Bob Walls and Bill Conway. Various residents of the area.

Additional Documents Considered: Emails from residents concerning the petition.

Summary: Numerous emails were received about this petition. It is to provide diverse service for Bristol Myers. They are currently in the Verizon system. This is the best, most efficient route they could find. They are using existing poles. There will be 9 new digs to connect Eversource where they do not have any poles. The poles are in residential areas and there will be minimal disruption. They explored a Level 3 connection. They have presence there, but this will not give a diverse path. There was discussion on the AT&T route along the river and how it should be explored as an option. Structures in the street need to be minimized. Old poles need to be removed prior to any attachment. There would be 7 new poles set by Eversource to accommodate them. DPW will meet with petitioner to explore different routes.

John and Elizabeth Gilmore said this is in an area that is being developed. There has been a lot of construction over the last five years. Poles are loaded with cable, some with red flags on them. What is the overall plan for this area?

Ms. LaMond wanted to know what does Mr. Walls mean by future needs? This would be for future commercial customers. Diverse service means it comes in a different path to go from one building to the other so if one service goes down the other would work. It is unacceptable to have miles of cables going through a residential neighborhood.

Ms. Jewett wanted to know how is it determined what part of the city is above ground and which is overground and is the city planning to go underground moving forward? Crown goes to the utilities to see what is available for them to use from other utilities.

Ms. Hawley expressed concern about having a plan that addresses the burgeoning need in the area.

Decision: Continued for meetings with the City to explore different route.

4. **New Petition (117712) Crown Castle NG East, 1800 West Park Drive, Marlborough, MA 01581**, for the following: **238 Main Street** - Starting at electric MH #780 on **Main Street**, trench and install 40'+/- of (1) 4" conduit easterly on **Main Street** to proposed 2'x3' crown castle handhole to intercept existing private property conduit to **238 Main Street Building**. **(Time Stamp: 32:00)**

Present: Bob Walls and Bill Conway.

Summary: The intent is to trench out of Verizon manhole and catching one of MIT conduits adding one handhold at grass area – some asphalt work and then grass – asphalt under construction. Intersection has been opened and there is a gas main there now – concerned about it so need a site visit and find a corridor.

Decision: Continued to do a site visit.

5. **New Petition (119429) Crown Castle NG East, 1800 West Park Drive, Marlborough, MA 01581**, for the following: **54 Essex Street** - Underground install of 1 - 4"conduit from Pole #241/15 to proposed 3' X 3' Crown Castle handhole (199'), and additional 8' from proposed 3' X 3' Crown Castle handhole to **#50 Essex Street Building**. **(Time Stamp: 35:00)**

Present: Bob Walls and Bill Conway. Warren Brown.

Summary: This is a dig off pole 15 to 54 Essex Street– there are other existing utility poles but have to replace and they are going to take 1 year and that is why they are not going that route. This street is all overhead, and the request is limited to this portion not to make it all underground. Essex Street is part of the Port separation project – showing the conduit curb line – future drainage so this would not work. Since the street is overhead there is no reason to dig up the street. Warren Brown stated there is barely three feet of space to the edge of the building. The clearance and ability to walk down the sidewalk would be affected. That structure would be underground and would be leveled up the street so you could walk up for it.

Decision: Denied.

6. **Continuation from April 15, 2021, to perform test pits to locate water main; need that corridor confirmed. (111887) Eversource Energy, 101 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143**, for the following: **Brattle Street** - Northeasterly from manhole MHC702, towards **Kennedy Road**, to install approximately one hundred fifty-eight (158) feet of conduit in **Brattle Street** (WO#4287905). **(Time Stamp: 39:15)**

Present: Jackie Duffy and Susan Barroso.

Summary: A new plan was sent today and based on it there are no issues. The conduit will be encased in concrete.

Decision: Granted with typical conditions.

7. **New Petition (118566)** Eversource Energy, 101 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143, for the following: **Bishop Allen Drive** - Easterly from MHC44, at the intersection of **Essex Street**, to private property at **#93 Bishop Allen Drive**, install approximately seventy (70') feet of conduit (WO#2408520).
(Time Stamp: 41:25)

Present: Jackie Duffy and Susan Barroso.

Summary: This is for service upgrade coming from underground – no transformer on site because it is network; one conduit to be used, another is the spare. The 4-inch conduit at the building cannot be used because it is on the other side of the building. Were able to use the customer's 8M permit.

Decision: Continued for test pits to confirm there is room on Bishop Allen to place duct bank; also need to upload 8M permit.

8. **New Petition (118574)** Eversource Energy, 101 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143, for the following: **Cambridge Street** - South Easterly from MHC105, at the intersection of **Antrim Street**, to install approximately fifty (50') feet of conduit (WO#4969187). This work is necessary to provide underground electric service for traffic signals at the intersection of Antrim Street and Cambridge Street.
(Time Stamp: 44:20)

Present: Jackie Duffy and Susan Barroso.

Summary: This is a City of Cambridge request.

Decision: Granted with typical conditions.

9. **New Petition (118583)** Eversource Energy, 101 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143, for the following: **244 Pearl Street** - South Easterly from Pole#538/45, crossing **Pearl Street** to private property at **#244 Pearl Street**, install approximately thirty-seven (37') feet of conduit (WO#5126983). This work is necessary to provide underground electric service to #246 Pearl Street
(Time Stamp: 45:25)

Present: Jackie Duffy and Susan Barroso, Eversource. Anthony Vatalaro, Comcast.

Summary: Going across the street to serve 246 on the back. Comcast has also been in contact with the customer. The utilities will coordinate one dig. Comcast spoke with the builder who did not understand the process, he said he will speak to customer. There is a fee that needs to be paid. Can also complete this on the private way.

Decision: Granted with typical conditions, and the additional conditions that there is infrared

pavement for the trench and permanent sidewalk replacement.

- 10. New Petition (119603) Eversource Energy, 101 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143**, for the following: **River Street** - Northeasterly from MHC957, at the intersection of **Franklin Street**, private property at **#5 Magazine Street**, install approximately sixty-two (62) feet of conduit. This work is necessary to provide underground electric service to **#5 Magazine Street** (WO#2409102). This work is necessary to provide underground electric service for traffic signals at the intersection of Antrim Street and Cambridge Street. **(Time Stamp: 49:48)**

Present: Jackie Duffy and Susan Barroso.

Summary: This is to supply customer from network system they have in the area. They must coordinate with Newport Construction.

Decision: Granted with typical conditions and permanent restoration of pedestrian ramps.

- 11. Approval of Meeting Minutes for February 25, 2021, March 18, 2021, and April 15, 2021.**

Decision: Approved as to all.

NMF______

Minutes Approved: August 19, 2021

MM___MM/

Minutes Posted: August 23, 2021

TJS___TJS/