

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



POLE AND CONDUIT COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, October 19, 2023, at 9:00 A.M.

By Remote Participation Via Zoom

This meeting was held remotely in accordance with Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2023 adopted by Massachusetts General Court and approved by the Governor.

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

License Commission Staff Present: Cristina Casilli, Administrative Assistant.

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, unless otherwise indicated. 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 (244022) - Cambridge Network Solutions, 100 Quannapowitt Pkwy, Wakefield, MA 01880, for the following: Henry Street - From Utility Pole 635/37 on Sidney Street, install 1,900 feet of aerial fiber optic cable to Utility Pole 102/78 and install (1) 4-inch by 10-foot metal riser. From Utility Pole 102/78 by 75 Henry Street, trench approximately 35 feet to Verizon manhole 26/623 and install (1) 4-inch PVC communications conduit. Install 450 feet of underground fiber optic cable in leased conduit from Verizon manhole 26/623 to private property at 640 Memorial Drive.

Present: Samantha Lennon.

Summary: Looking for a new aerial attachment from an existing attachment – it is pole 635/34 – will be corrected on a plan submitted later in the day. The dig will be on Henry Street. Reason pitched route is because they tried to lease from Verizon but only awarded sporadic sections. There was discussion on need for permanent trench repair and take it from 4-inch to 3-inch on the pole because it already has 3 risers. There is understanding that the City can use the riser too.

Decision: Granted with typical conditions and the additional conditions that the pipe be 3-inch, and that there is permanent trench repair.

2. New petition (239736) - Comcast, 426 E. First Street, Boston, MA 02127, for the following: Norfolk Street - Starting at existing utility pole #232/8 on Worcester Street, trench westerly 25 feet then southerly 4 feet to the private property line of 116 Norfolk Street, installing (1) 4-inch PVC conduit. The builder will be responsible for the excavation and restoration.

Present: Bill Conway; and Shane Flewelling.

Summary: This is for Cambridge Housing Authority and the City will need a shadow conduit.

Decision: Granted with typical conditions, and the additional condition that there be a City shadow conduit.

3. New petition (241257) - Crown Castle, 1800 West Park Drive, Westborough, MA, 01581, for the following: Main Street - Crown Caste is proposing to install approximately 163 feet of conventional fiber conduit from existing Crown Castle handhole on Windsor Street at Main Street intersection to a point A on Main Street. From point A northerly, approximately 2 feet of conventional power conduit to electrical MH #C2120. From point A northeasterly about 13 feet of conventional fiber and power conduit to proposed Crown Castle handhole on Main Street. From proposed Crown Castle handhole approximately 2 feet of conventional fiber and power conduit to new proposed light pole location. Existing city pole will be removed. Small Cell equipment on the existing pole around the corner on Windsor Street and Main Street intersection will be relocated to the new pole and will be upgraded. And from proposed Crown Castle handhole to be stubbed and capped on street side of the curb, to be connected with future proposed conduit provided by Verizon. Crown Castle is also seeking permission to install a new small cell facility in front of 575 Memorial Drive, on Amesbury Street, and a telecommunication conduit along Amesbury Street. Crown Caste is proposing to install approximately 107 feet of conventional fiber conduit from existing utility pole 690/77 on Vassar Street at Amesbury Street intersection to a proposed dual compartment handhole on Amesbury Street, and approximately 1 foot of conventual fiber conduit from the proposed handhole to proposed light pole.

Present: Ana Semashka.

Summary: Two locations – small cell nodes being relocated; one has been out of service for a while due to construction, the other is an upgrade but it would have been too close to the building, therefore, asking to relocate to another location. For the light pole on Main Street – City is replacing to aluminum pole, which eliminates the second bracket. There are new lights being put in the area. Pulling power from the manhole and already licensed at the manhole. Pulling their own fiber.

Decision: Granted with typical conditions and the additional condition that the current license they hold from Eversource be uploaded to the record.

4. New petition (241074) - Crown Castle, 1800 West Park Drive, Westborough, MA, 01581, for the following: Massachusetts Avenue - Crown Caste is proposing to install approximately 7 feet of conventional fiber conduit from existing Crown Castle handhole to proposed Crown Castle handhole on Dana Street, and approximately 5 feet of conventional fiber conduit from the same proposed Crown Castle handhole to be stubbed and capped on street side of the curb, to be connected with future proposed conduit provided by Verizon. Crown Castle is also proposing to upgrade the existing small cell

wireless facility near 975 Massachusetts Avenue to include a panel array antenna and add a larger equipment cabinet to the existing steel guyed utility pole (Node ODAS_2E-14) located near 975 Massachusetts Avenue and 2 Dana Street.

Crown Caste is also proposing to install approximately 12 feet of conventional fiber conduit from existing Crown Castle handhole to proposed Crown Castle handhole on Sidney Street, and approximately 7 feet of conventional fiber conduit from the same proposed Crown Castle handhole to be stubbed and capped on street side of the curb, to be connected with future proposed conduit provided by Verizon. Crown Castle is also proposing to upgrade the existing small cell wireless facility near 216 Sidney Street (Node ODAS_N012) to include a panel array antenna and a larger equipment cabinet at the existing steel guyed utility pole.

Present: Ana Semashka.

Summary: Just upgrading both locations and need to trench. Verizon needs to petition for the conduit on both locations, but they have not done so. There is a pole that was added as a guyed pole and the old one is still there; it need to be removed.

Decision: Continue, pending submission of conduit petitions from Verizon for both locations.

5. Continuation from June 15, 2023 to allow for telecommunications petition to be filed (225588) - Eversource Energy, 247 Station Drive, SE210, Westwood, MA 02090, for the following: Albany Street - Existing gas regulator station upgrade. Relocate/replace (1) mechanical cabinet with buried gas lines, conduit and appurtenances within Albany Street at the Main Street sidewalk. Install (1) electrical cabinet with bollards, connected with (1) buried 1 ¼-inch PVC coated RMC installed to the nearest electric pole on opposite side of Albany Street and (1) 1 ¼-inch PVC coated RMC to the nearest telecommunication manhole within the intersection of Albany Street and Main Street. Work required to improve/upgrade control monitoring protection of underground gas pipeline system.

Present: James Blais; and Phyllis Galloway.

Summary: Petitioned a whole back due to coordination efforts. Eversource will build and own the conduit, coordinating with Verizon to go into existing manhole. The coordination and petition filed. According to Blais the petition for the conduit has been submitted but did not make the agenda, it would be in November. This is for the gas portion of the installation. Roadway is under construction. Galloway stated unaware Eversource was going to submit something in November. Eversource not even aware about it until Blais testified. There was discussion on how Eversource needs to be better at communicating internally and submitting complete applications.

Decision: Continued.

6. Continuation from June 15, 2023 to allow for telecommunications petition to be filed (225596) - Eversource Energy, 247 Station Drive, SE210, Westwood, MA 02090, for the following: Cambridge Street - Beginning 150 feet +/- east of Hovey Ave, extending 6 feet +/-, along/within the north sidewalk of Cambridge Street, at existing gas regulator station, replace (1) mechanical cabinet with buried gas lines, conduit and appurtenances. Install (1) electrical cabinet with 2 bollards, connected with (1) buried 1 ¼-inch PVC coated RMC installed to the nearest electric manhole in the sidewalk and (1) buried 1 ¼-inch PVC coated RMC to the nearest telecommunications manhole located within the intersection of

Cambridge Street and Dana Street. Work required to improve/upgrade control monitoring protection of underground gas pipeline system.

Present: James Blais.

Summary: [This matter was discussed at first and second call. At second call, Chair Murati Ferrer was not present.] Electrical conduit already approved, but the same scenario, continued to coordinate with Verizon, Eversource will be coordinating. On this project, electrical got approved because needed power for this unit, and had hold in same location that would avoid digging across the street. This may be a little bigger than what approved. They are coordinating to connect to the handhold. They will own the conduit, and ownership will change to Verizon once they can provide service. The supposed related petition was 169838, but then it appeared it was not. Many questions arose as to the issue and the current petition could not be deciphered.

Decision: Continued (2-0, Chair Murati Ferrer had left the meeting when the vote was casted).

7. New petition (244932) - Eversource Energy, 101 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143, for the following: Mt. Auburn Street - Southwesterly from MHC1148, to private property at #46 JFK Street, install approximately 10 feet of conduit.

Present: Phyllis Galloway.

Summary: This is for an upgrade service asked for by the client to increase their load.

Decision: Granted with typical conditions, and the additional conditions of permanent street and sidewalk restoration.

8. New petition (244935) - Eversource Energy, 101 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143, for the following: Broadway - Southeasterly MHC2141 to MHC915 at Third Street, install approximately 427 feet of conduit.

Present: Phyllis Galloway.

Summary: This is to provide new electric service. This is for a 7-story lab office building, on top or side of duct banks. City engineers totally unaware of this work. Need to further coordinate. Greater energy project team for Eversource completely unaware of this project.

Decision: Continued for further coordination.

9. New petition (244937) - Eversource Energy, 101 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143, for the following: Binney Street - Easterly, customer handhole to MHC1384, install approximately 15 feet of conduit.

Present: Phyllis Galloway.

Summary: On behalf of customer, electric service for a crosswalk light. The customer will install the conduit and Eversource will do the rest. This is for new service.

Decision: Granted with typical conditions.

10. New petition (244983) - Eversource Energy, 101 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143, for the following: Somerville Avenue - Approximately 116 feet of conduit to be installed from MHC2050.

Present: Phyllis Galloway.

Summary: This is to provide new electric service to a new lab office building. This will require an 8M permit. Mill and overlay be performed, limits to be discussed after trench.

Decision: Granted, pending submission of 8M permit and with typical conditions and the additional condition that mill and overlay be performed, limits to be discussed after the trench.

11. New petition (244985) - Eversource Energy, 101 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143, for the following: Coolidge Hill - Easterly from MHC1704 to 181 Coolidge Hill, install approximately 5 feet of conduit.

Present: Phyllis Galloway.

Summary: 181 Coolidge Hill this is for new underground service for ice chill service and the ice rink.

Decision: Granted with typical conditions, and the additional condition of permanent sidewalk repair.

12. Consideration of Meeting Minutes September 21, 2023.

Decision: Approved.

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Minutes Approved: November 16, 2023

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Minutes Posted: December 11, 2023

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