

Nicole Murati Ferrer
Chairperson

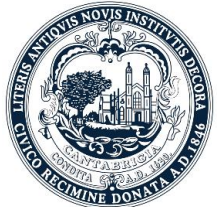
Tom Grande
Acting City Electrician

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

POLE AND CONDUIT COMMISSION'S MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, November 19, 2020 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 10, 2020, suspending certain provisions of M.G.L. ch. 30A due to COVID-19.

Commission Members Present (All Present): Nicole Murati Ferrer, Tom Grande, 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 applications, the Board considered the application submitted and all documents attached thereto.

Decisions: All votes, unless otherwise specified below, were by roll call vote (3-0).

All matters which were granted with "typical conditions," those conditions 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 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: 02:20]

Present: Anthony Vatalaro, on behalf of the petitioner.

Documents Considered: Application and documents attached thereto.

Summary: A new sketch was uploaded, and it is fine. Further coordination is needed with Public Works.

Decision: Granted with typical conditions.

2. **New Petition (99176) Comcast, 426 E. First Street, Boston, MA 02127**, for the following: **65 Bishop Allen Drive** - Place new Comcast manhole over existing conduit on **Bishop Allen Drive** to access conduit. From newly placed MH, trench northeasterly +/- 11', installing 1-2" PVC conduit to the property line of **65 Bishop Allen Drive**. This will include the removal and replacement of 2 sidewalk panels. [Time stamp: 04:02]

Present: Anthony Vatalaro, on behalf of the petitioner.

Documents Considered: Application and documents attached thereto.

Summary: Electrical and Public Works have no problem with this petition.

Decision: Granted with typical conditions.

3. **New Petition (99181) Comcast, 426 E. First Street, Boston, MA 02127**, for the following: **160 Norfolk Street** - From pole 510/27 on **Norfolk Street**, trench easterly +/- 5' in the public way to the property line of **160 Norfolk Street**. Installing 1-4" PVC conduit. This will include the removal and replacement of the brick sidewalk by the builder. [Time stamp: 05:15]

Present: Anthony Vatalaro, on behalf of the petitioner.

Documents Considered: Application and documents attached thereto.

Summary: This pole is congested. An MWRA 8M permit must be submitted. A 3-inch conduit will be used, rather than a 4-inch.

Decision: Granted with the amendment that the conduit will be 3-inches, subject to the 8M permit and typical conditions.

4. **Continuation from October 15, 2020, to have test pits performed. (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: 08:48]

Present: Anthony Vatalaro, on behalf of the petitioner.

Documents Considered: Application and documents attached thereto.

Summary: This route has changed since the site visit. They did not do test pits as it was determined that they don't have to cross 3rd Street. The vault will be on the same side of the road. This would eliminate trenching on 3rd St. They must coordinate with the developer for the Volpe Center. The new drawing has been uploaded.

Decision: Continued for further review to January meeting.

5. **Continuation from July 16, 2020, to have test pits performed. (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: 13:40]

Present: Ross Bilodeau on behalf of the petitioner.

Documents Considered: Application and documents attached thereto.

Summary: This matter is tied to #4. The general contractor will be doing the test pits.

Decision: Continued for further review, review of test pits and coordination with VHP for the 3rd Street crossing.

6. **New Petition (99273) Verizon New England, 385 Myles Standish Boulevard, Taunton, MA 02780**, for the following: **Bigelow Street** - Verizon proposes to extend 2-4" conduits from MH 202 **Massachusetts Avenue** to P. 2 on **Bigelow Street**. [Time stamp: 15:45]

Present: Ross Bilodeau on behalf of the petitioner.

Documents Considered: Application and documents attached thereto.

Summary: They have no cable on the poles on Bigelow Street. This is related to a proposed small cell petition which is not before the Board. The application is incomplete.

Decision: Denied. Refer to the original petition for the small cell installation.

7. **New Petition (99263) Harvard University, Infrastructure Technology Services, N-211H 784 Memorial Drive - 2nd Floor, Cambridge, MA 02139**, for the following: **Story Street** - Construct approx. 251 ft 2-4" of PVC conduit concrete encased duct bank within **Story Street**. The duct bank will be constructed from an existing Harvard manhole in the sidewalk adjacent to **14 Story Street** to a new manhole in **Brattle Street**. [Time stamp: 18:08]

Brattle Street - Construct approx. 33 ft 2-4" PVC conduit concrete encased duct bank within **Brattle Street** (westerly) to meet up with the proposed new Comcast duct bank currently being considered

by the Commission.

Construct approx. 201 ft 3-4" PVC conduit concrete encased duct bank within **Brattle Street** (easterly) from new manhole at intersection of **Brattle Street and Story Street** to new manhole on **Church Street** near curb in front of **66 Church Street**.

Church Street - Construct approx. 332 ft 2-4" PVC conduit concrete encased duct bank on the south side of **Church Street** from a new manhole, in front of **66 Church Street**, to a new second manhole, in front of **50 Church Street**, and ending at **26-28 Church Street** where the conduits will enter the building. The new manhole in front of **50 Church Street** will be connected to an existing Comcast manhole with a 1-4" PVC conduit.

Present: Mark O'Brien and Terry Toloska on behalf of the petitioner.

Documents Considered: Application and documents attached thereto.

Summary: This should be a common trench. Harvard confirmed that common trench letters were sent out. The City requires a conduit.

Decision: Continued to review test pit data.

8. **New Petition (99704) Eversource Energy, 10 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143, for the following: 284 Vassar Street - Installing electric service conduit to the manhole. [Time stamp: 21:27]**

Present: Jeff Evans-Mongeon on behalf of the petitioner.

Documents Considered: Application and documents attached thereto.

Summary: There are no issues with this petition.

Decision: Granted with typical conditions.

9. **Continuation from October 15, 2020, to find alternate route in the street because of the tree line. (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: 24:21]**

Present: Jackie Duffy on behalf of the petitioner.

Documents Considered: Application and documents attached thereto.

Summary: Revised drawings need to be submitted.

Decision: Granted pending submission of new drawings showing the route through Prospect Street and typical conditions.

- 10. Continuation from October 15, 2020, to look for alternate location for the manhole; start test pits on Gurney. (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.

Huron Avenue - Easterly near the intersection of **Gurney Street**, to install approximately 105 feet of conduit. Install one (1) new MHC30792. **[Time stamp: 25:48]**

Present: Jackie Duffy on behalf of the petitioner.

Documents Considered: Application and documents attached thereto.

Summary: The manhole should be moved on to Gurney Street. No excavation on Huron Ave.

Decision: Granted with typical conditions.

- 11. New Petition (97357) Nstar Electric Company, 10 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143,** for the following: **Shepard Street** - Southerly from pole 62/9, at the intersection of **Avon Street**, to install approximately 103 feet of conduit. Install one (1) new Manhole MCH31125. **[Time stamp: 27:14]**

Present: Jackie Duffy on behalf of the petitioner.

Documents Considered: Application and documents attached thereto.

Summary: The double pole must be removed prior to installing the riser. Test pits for the manhole area are required.

Decision: Granted with typical conditions, double pole removed and test pits for manhole capacity.

- 12. New Petition (98997) Nstar Electric Company, 10 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143,** for the following: **Broadway** - Northwesterly from MHC2718, near the intersection of **Broadway Terrace**, to install approximately 33 feet of conduit. **[Time stamp: 29:05]**

Present: Jackie Duffy on behalf of the petitioner.

Documents Considered: Application and documents attached thereto.

Summary: The drawing doesn't show the actual sewer main line – it shows the manhole but not the line so there needs to be confirmation that the proposed route will not disturb it.

Decision: Granted with typical conditions and a site visit with DPW.

- 13. New Petition (98998) Nstar Electric Company, 10 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143**, for the following: **Cambridgepark Drive** - Westerly from MHC3208, 1223 feet west of **Alewife Brook Parkway**, to install approximately 56 feet of conduit. [Time stamp: 30:17]

Present: Jackie Duffy on behalf of the petitioner.

Documents Considered: Application and documents attached thereto.

Summary: A site visit with DPW is required.

Decision: Granted with typical conditions and a DPW site visit.

- 14. New Petition (99000) Nstar Electric Company, 10 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143**, for the following: **100 Holworthy Street** - Southerly from Pole 370/19, thence turning southwesterly, near the intersection of **Holmes Street**, to install approximately 84 feet of conduit. [Time stamp: 30:10]

Present: Jackie Duffy on behalf of the petitioner.

Documents Considered: Application and documents attached thereto.

Summary: The petition lists 100 Holworthy but it is 110-112. This must be amended.

Decision: Granted with typical conditions and update to the record that it is 110-112 Holworthy Street.

- 15. New Petition (99003) Nstar Electric Company, 10 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143**, for the following: **28 Holworthy Street** - Southerly from Pole 370/4, thence turning easterly, near the intersection of **Spruce Avenue**, to install approximately 95 feet of conduit. [Time stamp: 32:37]

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

Documents Considered: Application and documents attached thereto.

Summary: Pole 3 is right at the sidewalk, without having to cross the street. They should go to pole 3 instead of 4. There are some abandoned conduits. This is for a control box. There would have to be coordination with Cambridge Water if they do cross the street.

Decision: Continued.

- 16. New Petition (99005) Nstar Electric Company, 10 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143**, for the following: **Spinelli Place** - Northerly from MHC3036, thence turning westerly, approximately 368 feet north of **Concord Avenue**, to install approximately 41 feet of conduit. [Time stamp: 35:37]

Present: Jackie Duffy on behalf of the petitioner.

Documents Considered: Application and documents attached thereto.

Summary: Test pits are required, as well as a site visit and coordination with VHB.

Decision: Continued.

- 17. New Petition (99278) Nstar Electric Company, 10 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143,** for the following: **Arlington Street** - Southerly from Pole 23/8, approximately 270 feet west of **Massachusetts Avenue**, to install approximately 6 feet of conduit. [Time stamp: 38:00]

Present: Jackie Duffy and Susan Barroso.

Documents Considered: Application and documents attached thereto.

Summary: There are several conduits on the pole that were installed without approval. The developer must remove them. They installed a 4" on the wrong side of the pole. Communications conduits were also installed. Comcast has not been contacted about the project.


Decision: Continued.

- 18. Un-noticed Discussion:** Electrical has found that there are more conduits being installed than were requested and approved. It is a concern as there is conduit in the street that no one owns. Specifically, petition #94206. Pursuant to our policies, they have lost their grant and they have to remove the conduits. They have not filed their acceptance without reservation, so the grant never issued. This is an automatic revocation. Comcast would apply for the 2" conduit. The owner told Eversource that he would also be using Comcast and Verizon and that they would follow up. There must be better coordination with the contractor so that they are only installing what is on the plan. Electrical inspectors must make it clear to contractors that their permit.


- 19. Meeting Minutes** – February 27, 2020, July 16, 2020, August 20, 2020, September 17, 2020, and October 15, 2020.

Decision: Approved as to all.


- 20. Late Discussion on Petition #90278.** Daniel Stodolsky, owner of property at Arlington property, 90278, inquired as to what needs to be removed from the pole. He was advised that everything needs to be removed and that each utility company has to petition separately.

NMF____

Minutes Approved: January 28, 2021

TG____TG/

Minutes Posted: August 23, 2021¹

TJS____TJS/

¹ The minutes had been posted on March 3, 2021 but they were uploaded incomplete and without the date stamp of approval or posting. Therefore, they were re-posted with the date stamps on this date.