

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 MEETING MINUTES For Thursday, September 17, 2020 at 10:00 A.M.

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, Thomas Grande, and Terrence James Shea.

Staff Member Present: Elizabeth Y. Lint.

Advisor: Stephen Lenkauskas, Retired City Electrician

As to all matters:

Decisions: 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.

All decisions, unless otherwise noted, were 3-0, and by roll call vote.

1. New Petition (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: 03:21]**

Present: Anthony Vatalaro, on behalf of the petitioner.

Documents Considered: Application and documents attached thereto.

Summary: The petitioner has to add a 4 inch conduit for the City. Harvard has responded and might want a conduit as well. A site visit to confirm test pit locations is required.

Decision: Continued for additional common trench paperwork, test pits and site visit.

2. New Petition (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: 07:00]**

Present: Anthony Vatalaro, on behalf of the petitioner.

Documents Considered: Application and documents attached thereto.

Summary: This petition is for the fiber group. The poles must be connected for the network. Crown Castle has 3 vacant conduits. Per city ordinance, they are required to buy or lease from them. If they have to excavate, they will need an MWRA 8M permit, as well as test pits as Magazine Street is very crowded.

Decision: Continued to verify availability of conduits and for test pits.

3. New Petition (91139) Comcast, 426 E. First Street, Boston, MA 02127, for the following: 1498 Cambridge Street - From Pole #19 on Highland Avenue, trench easterly 4' +/- in the public way. Installing 1-2" PVC conduit to the property line. This will include the removal and replacement of 1 sidewalk panel. [Time Stamp: 10:06]

Present: Anthony Vatalaro, on behalf of the petitioner.

Documents Considered: Application and documents attached thereto.

Summary: There are two new houses at this location. The builder will install conduit from the pole to the property line. He owns part of the sidewalk.

Decision: Granted with typical conditions.

4. Continuation from August 20, 2020, for more information. (85836) MCI/Metro Access Transmissions Inc, 82B Northside Road, P O Box 600, Charlton, MA 01507, for the following: 500 Main Street - Starting at existing Verizon/MCI Metro MH on Galileo Galilei Way, trench and install (2) 4" conduits (1 conduit for city shadow) 475' +/- south/southeasterly on Main Street to the existing Verizon/MCI Metro handhole in the sidewalk at 500 Main Street. [Time Stamp: 12:03]

Present: Bill Conway, on behalf of the petitioner.

Documents Considered: Application and documents attached thereto.

Summary: When there was a site visit, the handhole could not be located. It is there and has an electrical cover over it. It was located by electrical.

Decision: Granted with typical conditions.

5. New Petition (85468) Cambridge Network Solutions, 35 McGrath Highway, Somerville, MA 02143, for the following: Spring Street - Starting at Utility Pole #130/22 on Sciarappa Street, install 468' +/- of fiber optic cable on existing utility poles to Spring Street, and continue 809' +/- easterly on Spring Street to Second Street, and continue 265' +/- northerly on Second Street to Utility Pole #12/12 at the intersection of Second Street and Thorndike Street. [Time Stamp: 14:22]

Present: Jeff Harrington, on behalf of the petitioner. Heather Hoffman, resident.

Documents Considered: Application and documents attached thereto.

Summary: They have gone from underground to an aerial solution on First Street. This is for diversity. This route was chosen to stay away from an existing circuit as they are looking for redundancy. It will end up on private property. They will be submitting permissions from Eversource and Verizon and will upload the licenses when they are received. Ms. Hoffman

raised concerns about double poles. There is one existing double pole. They are working on having it removed. The utilities must remove their lines before this can be done. This will be a small cable running up the side of the building and will be fairly hidden.

Decision: Granted with the condition that any double poles must be removed.

6. New Petition (88926) Century Link/Level 3, 300 Bent Street, Cambridge, MA 02141, for the following: Portland Street - Starting at Verizon MH #26/544 on Broadway, trench and install 50'+/- of (1) 4" conduit southerly to the building located at 141 Portland Street. [Time Stamp: 24:51]

Present: Bill Conway, on behalf of the petitioner.

Documents Considered: Application and documents attached thereto.

Summary: They had been approved out of this manhole in July, but the job was cancelled. Instead going 25 feet in to 201 Broadway they will go 50' in to 141. They City requested a conduit be installed.

Decision: Granted subject to adding a conduit for the City and typical conditions.

7. New Petition (91075) Crown Castle NG East, 1800 West Park Drive, Marlborough, MA 01581, for the following: Charles Street - Intercept existing Crown Castle conduits in the sidewalk on Charles Street and place a proposed 36"x36" handhole. From the proposed handhole, trench and install (1) 4" conduit 65'+/- in a northwesterly direction on Charles Street to existing utility pole # 130/23. this new request replaces #67192. [Time Stamp: 27:15]

Present: Bill Conway on behalf of the petitioner. Heather Hoffman, resident.

Documents Considered: Application and documents attached thereto.

Summary: This plan had to be revised as they were trying to go to 130/23A. This did not work out so they will go to 130/23. They must get out of the manhole in the parking lot. This is the next closest pole. Ms. Hoffman asked if there are any double poles. No new attachments are allowed on double poles.

Decision: Granted with typical conditions and removal of any double poles.

8. Continuation from July 16, 2020, for new design/drawing showing recommended location, removal of pole installed without Grant of Location. (75215) Verizon New England, 385 Myles Standish Boulevard, Taunton, MA 02780, for the following: 29 Charles Street - Verizon to relocate pole, P130/7, 40' from its existing location on Charles Street (4A0MOKW). [Time Stamp: 32:45]

Present: Rick Forman on behalf of Verizon.

Documents Considered: Application and documents attached thereto.

Summary: The pole has been removed. The plan has been revised to show the pole will be relocated 11' SE from its' current location. The new plan has been uploaded. Dig safe was notified.

Decision: Granted with typical conditions, sewer mark out with DPW and verification that pole has been removed.

9. New Petition (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: 38:10]**

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

Documents Considered: Application and documents attached thereto.

Summary: This is a pole attachment. This is a side mounted installation. It will not increase the height of the pole. It was selected as it is the only available pole in the area. The fee has not been paid. It must be paid, per small cell policy, when it is submitted. These are either on poles that have fiber or fiber will be connected. This pole doesn't have fiber and it would have to be brought over from the other pole. The route has not been established. Meter sockets are not allowed on the poles- it is flat rate only. Ms. Hoffman inquired about double poles. Jay Wasserman expressed concern about the noise levels from the mountings. There will be no noise from these mountings as there is no fan system. It is air cooled.

Decision: Continued and enter into a tolling agreement to verify route, antenna size and for fees to be paid. Abutters would need to be noticed if there are new attachments as a grant of location would be needed.

10. New Petition (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: 1:14:40]**

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

Documents Considered: Application and documents attached thereto.

Summary: This is a top mounted set of antennas. The meter socket will come off the pole. This will need fiber brought on to pole.

Decision: Continue and enter into a tolling agreement to complete route, new plan showing meter socket removed and to make sure no new grants of location are needed which would require abutter notification.

11. New Petition (88233) Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless, 118 Flanders Road, Westborough, MA 01581, for the following: 14 – 16 Laurel Street - Proposed installation of a small cell wireless antenna and associated equipment on an existing Eversource utility pole. **[Time Stamp: 57:50]**

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

Documents Considered: Application and documents attached thereto.

Summary: This is a top mounted antenna and involves capping the antenna. The meter will have to come off the plans. There is fiber on this pole. There are different types of installations. It depends on where the wires are located on the pole. Some are side mounted, and some are top mounted. The antenna is the same on all. Mr. Schmidt, resident, asked what the size of the antenna is and inquired what the fiber looks like. The size conforms with the city small cell policy. There are no new lines being connected to this pole. Everything is self-contained within the antenna. Mr. Boehm expressed concern about proximity to residents and health risks to the public. Dr. Swanson stated that 8' is not a health risk. The FCC heavily regulates this. 8' is a 2%

risk, well below FCC requirements. The small cell policy does address distance, but we are tied by FCC regulations. River Street is getting a major reconstruction and is concerned as to whether this pole will be relocated due to this. He also expressed concern about how municipal broadband is affecting P&C's approval of new infrastructure. FCC regulations must be complied with.

Decision: Granted subject to payment of the application fee and revised plan showing meter socket removed.

12. New Petition (88234) Celco 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: 1:17:26]**

Present: Michael Giaimo Derek Mayhew on behalf of the petitioner.

Documents Considered: Application and documents attached thereto.

Summary: This is also top mounted.

Decision: Continued and enter into tolling agreement.

13. New Petition (88235) Celco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless, 118 Flanders Road, Westborough, MA 01581, for the following: 12 Emily Street - Proposed installation of a small cell wireless antenna and associated equipment on an existing Eversource utility pole. **[Time Stamp: 1:19:11]**

Present: Michael Giaimo Derek Mayhew on behalf of the petitioner.

Documents Considered: Application and documents attached thereto.

Summary: This is side mounted with existing fiber. The meter socket must be removed. This pole has a lean. They did a structural test and a new pole will be installed. The double pole must be removed before the installation.

Decision: Granted with the condition that the double pole be removed before any installation and that the meter socket is removed, and the fee is paid.

14. New Petition (81873) Picardi Electric, 14 Greystone Road, Saugus, MA 01906, for the following: 8 – 10 Arlington Street - Install (2) - 1-1/4 inch conduits for low voltage and one 4 inch conduit for power. **[Time Stamp: 1:22:52 second call at 1:30:05]**

Present: Sarah Picardi.

Documents Considered: Application and documents attached thereto.

Summary: The conduits have been installed incorrectly without a grant of location. An electrical contractor cannot apply, it must be a utility. The conduits are undersized and are in the wrong location. Someone must own them in the public way. Marcia Harris is the owner of 8 Arlington Street. She notified the contractor to get on the line. Picardi will get notice of denial and an explanation via email. Typically, the general contractor will make the arrangement with Eversource and Comcast or other communications network. The electrical contractor is only responsible for what is in the private way and requires a wiring permit. The conduits installed in the public way must be removed.

Decision: Denied for reasons discussed including the installation was done improperly without a grant, the conduits installed were the wrong size and the applicant is not the proper grant holder.


15. New Petition (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: 1:24:00]

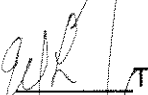
Present: Jackie Duffy and Susan Barosso on behalf of the petitioner.

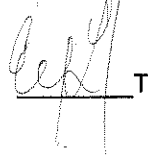
Documents Considered: Application and documents attached thereto.

Summary: Ms. Duffy was reminded that the renewal is due and must be completed. This is a full service upgrade for 31 residential units. The sidewalk must be fully compliant. Paperwork was required to be submitted for an emergency repair that took place on Linskey Way, but it has not been received.

Decision: Continued for with the paperwork for Linskey Way to be submitted and that the renewal of the flammable license is completed.


NMF


TJS


TG

Minutes Approved: **NOV 19 2020**

Minutes Posted: **NOV 25 2020**