

Nicole Murati Ferrer  
Chairperson

Mark Melo  
City Electrician

Terrence James Shea  
Superintendent of Streets

# CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

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## 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, June 17, 2021 at 10:00 A.M.

By Remote Participation Via Zoom

***This meeting was held remotely in accordance with Section 20 of Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2021, signed into law on June 16, 2021.***

***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.

[Meeting started without Chair Murati Ferrer.]

1. **New Petition (124979) Cambridge Department of Public Works, 147 Hampshire Street, Cambridge, MA 02139**, for the following: **1407 Cambridge Street** - New street lighting and traffic signal systems as part of **Inman Square Intersection** reconstruction project. Also includes special pedestrian plaza lighting.

**Present:** Jerry Friedman.

**Summary:** This is a City project.

**Decision:** Granted (2-0) with typical conditions.

[Chair Murati Ferrer joined the meeting.]

2. **New Petition (124171) Comcast, 426 E. First Street, Boston, MA 02127**, for the following: **187 Hampshire Street** - Intercept existing comcast conduit on **Hampshire Street** and place (1) 3'x3'x3' manhole. From newly placed manhole, trench and install (1) 4" conduit 41'+/- northeasterly in the public way to a proposed Comcast sidewalk vault placed in the back of the sidewalk at **187 Hampshire Street**. This will include the removal and replacement of 2 sidewalk panels. The purpose of the proposed work is for a new service tap for the property,

**Present:** Anthony Vatalaro, Bill Conway.

**Summary:** The Commission has an issue regarding the portion of the route that involves the sidewalk vault. Comcast represented they could complete the work without that portion of the route. Route amended.

**Decision:** Granted with typical conditions and the additional condition that the sidewalk vault is removed from the plan.

3. **New Petition (125622) Comcast, 426 E. First Street, Boston, MA 02127**, for the following: **22 Hurley Street** - Starting at pole #6 on **Hurley Street**, install (1) new sidewalk vault over existing Comcast conduit. From new sidewalk vault, trench and install (2) 4" conduits 21' northerly then 78' easterly and install (1) new 4'x4' MH #1. From MH #1, trench and install (1) 4" conduit southerly to the property line of **22 Hurley Street**. Continuing from MH #1, trench and install (2) 4" conduits 167' easterly and install (1) new 4'x4' MH #2. From MH #2, trench and install (2) 4" conduits 91' easterly and install (1) new 4'x4' MH #3.

**Present:** Anthony Vatalaro, Bill Conway.

**Summary:** This is a continuation of a previous petition. The property owner removed poles as requested and revised trench line. There is a 4-inch conduit included for the City.

**Decision:** Granted with typical conditions, and the additional conditions that there be a 4-inch conduit available for the City throughout the entire route and that the petitioner continues to coordinate with the City.

4. **New Petition (125632) Comcast, 426 E. First Street, Boston, MA 02127**, for the following: **99 Bishop Allen Drive** - Starting at Pole #241/9 on **Essex Street**, install (1) new sidewalk vault over existing Comcast conduit. From new sidewalk vault, trench and install (1) 4" conduit 9' southerly to the property line of **99 Bishop Allen Drive**. This will include the removal and replacement of (2) sidewalk panels.

**Present:** Anthony Vatalaro, Bill Conway.

**Summary:** This is a forced relocation of aerial to underground.

**Decision:** Granted with typical conditions and the additional condition that there needs to be full restoration of the sidewalk, and the 8M permit needs to be submitted.

5. **Continuation from May 20, 2021, to have meeting with DPW and Electrical to seek alternate route options. (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**.

**Present:** Bob Walls, Bill Conway.

**Summary:** This was reviewed with DPW, and after looking all possible options this is the only one that is viable. This is for Bristol Myers Swibb. The double poles will need to be removed as well as the additional handholds. The petitioner is still working on obtaining all necessary easements.

**Decision:** Continued until receive all license agreements and easements.

6. **Continuation from May 20, 2021, to have site meeting with DPW. (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**.

**Present:** Bob Walls, Bill Conway.

**Summary:** Site meeting occurred, no issues.

**Decision:** Granted with typical conditions.

7. **Continuation from January 28, 2021, for further review. (105887) Verizon New England, 385 Myles Standish Boulevard, Taunton, MA 02780**, for the following: **731 Main Street** - Proposed 121' conduit placement in front of **750 Main Street** towards MH26-13. Proposed 70' conduit placement on **Osbourne Street** from **730 Main Street** to MH26-14.

**Present:** Ross Bilodeau.

**Summary:** 121 feet from existing manhole to the property line at 750 Main Street. There are four 4 inch conduits. The site meeting occurred and it was decided that they are not going in through the sidewalk because it interferes with the City's sewers and drain lines. However, still not in agreement in terms of the route. There needs to be clarity either going in directly into the building or the street.

**Decision:** Continued until an alternate route is found – the options are either going in directly into the building or the street.

8. **New Petition (124681)** Verizon New England, 385 Myles Standish Boulevard, Taunton, MA 02780, for the following: **125 Cambridge Street** - Verizon to dig a 20' X 2' opening on the northeasterly side of **Cambridge Street** to place new 1-2" conduit from existing Verizon MH26/189 to new proposed Verizon owned hand hole.

**Present:** Ross Bilodeau.

**Summary:** One 2 inch conduit for new service to handhold on sidewalk, twenty feet from existing. This is for a small cell installation but there is no information as to the small cell attachment. This petition/application does not comply with the Siting Policy or the Small Cell Policy as presented. There needs to be a complete package presented to the Commission.

**Decision:** Denied.

9. **New Petition (124704)** Verizon New England, 385 Myles Standish Boulevard, Taunton, MA 02780, for the following: **2 Leighton Street** - Verizon to dig a 224' X 2' opening on the northwesterly side of **Leighton Street** to place new 1-2" conduit from existing Verizon MH26/195A-5 to new proposed Verizon owned hand hole.

**Present:** Ross Bilodeau.

**Summary:** Same issue as previous petition - this is for a small cell installation but there is no information as to the small cell attachment. This petition/application does not comply with the Siting Policy or the Small Cell Policy as presented. There needs to be a complete package presented to the Commission.

**Decision:** Denied.

10. **New Petition (124761)** Verizon New England, 385 Myles Standish Boulevard, Taunton, MA 02780, for the following: **69 First Street** - Verizon to dig a 194' X2' opening on the northwesterly side of **First Street** to place new 1-2" conduit from existing Verizon MH26/600 to proposed Verizon owned hand hole.

**Present:** Ross Bilodeau.

**Summary:** Same issue as previous petition - this is for a small cell installation but there is no information as to the small cell attachment. This petition/application does not comply with the Siting Policy or the Small Cell Policy as presented. There needs to be a complete package presented to the Commission.

**Decision:** Denied.

11. **New Petition (124988)** Verizon New England, 385 Myles Standish Boulevard, Taunton, MA 02780, for the following: **390 Cambridge Street** - Verizon to dig a 152' X 2' opening on the northeasterly side of **Cambridge Street** to place new 1-2" conduit from existing Verizon MH26/189 northwesterly to new proposed Verizon owned hand hole.

**Present:** Ross Bilodeau.

**Summary:** Same issue as previous petition - this is for a small cell installation but there is no information as to the small cell attachment. This petition/application does not comply with the Siting Policy or the Small Cell Policy as presented. There needs to be a complete package presented to the Commission.

**Decision:** Denied.

**12. Continuation from May 20, 2021, to perform test pits and provide 8M Permit. (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).

**Present:** Joanne Callender and Susan Barroso.

**Summary:** Need to apply MWRA permit because this is within zone of tolerance, 6 inches of asphalt on Essex Street in the trench.

**Decision:** Granted with typical conditions, and the additional conditions that must submit an MWRA permit and must have 6 inches of asphalt on Essex Street.

**13. New Petition (122901) Eversource Energy, 101 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143**, for the following: **30 JFK Street** - Northeasterly from manhole MHC207 thence turning northwesterly, approximately 75 feet north of **Mount Auburn Street** to install 21 feet of conduit.

**Present:** Joanne Callender and Susan Barroso.

**Summary:** Customer's address is 39 JFK, but the system was not allowing the address to be posted as is. The Commission will make the change. This is a service upgrade to 800 amps. Existing conduit comes from different direction and they want to go in from different side.

**Decision:** Granted with typical conditions and the additional condition that an MWRA permit needs to be submitted.

**14. New Petition (123757) Eversource Energy, 101 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143**, for the following: **167 Lexington Avenue** Easterly side approximately 35 feet north of Pole 435/25-S install guy pole.

**Present:** Joanne Callender and Susan Barroso.

**Summary:** This is for the Fire Department call box and need to add support existing pole. There is a tree nearby so there needs to be coordination with the City arborist. There is also a guy pole need to confirm sufficient ADA clearance.

**Decision:** Granted with conditions that they need to meet with the City Arborist and confirm sufficient ADA clearance.

15. **New Petition (123759)** Eversource Energy, 101 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143, for the following: **50 Thorndike Street** Northwesterly from manhole MHC3462 at the intersection of **Spring Street** install approximately 20 feet of conduit.

**Present:** Joanne Callender and Susan Barroso.

**Summary:** This petition's address is also incorrect – it should be 40 Thorndike Street; the Commission will make the change. The petition is for temporary service while they are remodeling the building.

**Decision:** Granted at 40 Thorndike Street, with typical conditions.

16. **New Petition (125330)** Eversource Energy, 101 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143, for the following: **Fulkerson Street** - Northwesterly from the MHC3465, at the intersection of **Bent Street**, install approximately 11 feet of conduit

**Present:** Joanne Callender and Susan Barroso.

**Summary:** This is for service for a new building.

**Decision:** Granted with typical conditions.

17. **New Petition (125609)** Eversource Energy, 101 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143, for the following: **First Street** – Easterly from MHC3186 at the intersection of **Cambridge Street**, approximately 86 feet to **Cambridge Street**.

**Cambridge Street** – Easterly from **First Street**, to MHC3187, approximately 147 feet, thence northerly from MHC3187 to MHC444 at **Monsignor O'Brien Highway**, approximately 108 feet.

**Monsignor O'Brien Highway** – Northeasterly to **East Street**, approximately 95 feet.

**East Street** - Northerly to where **East Street** becomes private, approximately 46 feet; Install a total distance of approximately 482 feet of conduit (WO# 2383195).

**Present:** Joanne Callender and Susan Barroso.

**Summary:** This is mostly all on DCR property. They should have a DOT license agreement, but it has not been submitted to the Commission. DPW needs additional time to review the request and the route.


**Decision:** Continue to allow DPW additional time to review, and for the petitioner to submit the license agreement.

18. **Approval of Meeting Minutes.**


**Decision:** No meeting minutes were considered.

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**Minutes Approved:** August 19, 2021

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**Minutes Posted:** August 23, 2021

TJS\_\_\_TJS/