

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, July 15, 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:*** Mark Melo (present), Terrence James Shea, and Nicole Murati Ferrer (absent).

***License Commission Staff Present:*** Dana Clarke, Administrative Assistant.

***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 2-0. 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. **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 Mt. **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: 1:44)**

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

**Summary:** This petition was continued for submission of all license agreements and easements. Per Bill Conway, agreements and easements have not yet been submitted. They are waiting on the Conservation Commission (they are submitting plans to them). Per Bob Walls, they are looking to amend route to extend down Cambridge Parkway to Alewife Brook Parkway, because the property

owner would not allow them to trench at 143 Alewife Brook Parkway due to future projects at that site. They will petition MASSDOT, as well.

**Decision:** Continued, for submission of all license agreements and easements, and amended plan/design.

2. **New Petition (130204) Crown Castle NG East, 1800 West Park Drive, Marlborough, MA 01581**, for the following: **55 Franklin** - Starting at University Park MH #6 on **Franklin Street**, trench and install (1) 4" conduit 201'+/- easterly to the building located at **55 Franklin Street**. the purpose of the proposed work is to provide diverse service to Biomed Realty. **(Time Stamp: 5:22)**

**Present:** Bob Walls and Bill Conway, Crown Castle. Anthony Vatalaro, Comcast.

**Summary:** Comcast is also looking to do a joint trench with this petition, as they do not have a connection to this building. Bill will upload the common trench letter from Comcast. Crown Castle met with Emily (from DPW), and also met with Newport Construction who said they could help with coordination for this work. DPW will require Comcast and Crown Castle to do Compaction Testing by a third-party and restore the roadway and binder to the condition that it's currently in.

**Decision:** Granted, with typical conditions, and the additional conditions that a common trench letter will be submitted, that Crown Castle and Comcast must have compaction testing done by a third-party, and that they must restore the roadway and binder.

3. **New Petition (129428) Level 3, 300 Bent Street, Cambridge, MA 02141**, for the following: **301 Binney Street** - Trench and install (3) 4" conduits (1 for city shadow), 220' +/- northerly from existing Level 3 MH#0515-2900 on **Galileo Galilei Way** to private property MH on **Fulkerson Street** belonging to **325 Binney Street**.  
Trench and install (3) 4" conduits (1 for city shadow), 165'+/- westerly from existing Level 3 MH#0515-0003 on **Bent Street**, then southerly on **Fulkerson Street** to private property MH on **Fulkerson Street** belonging to **325 Binney Street**. **(Time Stamp: 8:28)**

**Present:** Bill Conway.

**Summary:** Alexandria Properties has agreed to install (2) 4-inch conduits to allow them into the building. There are 8 joint trench participants (AT&T, Cambridge Network Solutions, Verizon Business, ZAYO, Crown Castle, Comcast, RCN, and FirstLight). There were some concerns raised with an existing Verizon conduit/connection on the design/drawing and there was a recommendation that the petitioner reach out to Verizon for clarification of this conduit/connection.

**Decision:** Granted with typical conditions and the additional condition that the petitioner obtain clarification of the Verizon conduit/connection.

4. **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. **(Time Stamp: 15:25)**

**Present:** Verizon was not present for this matter.

**Decision:** Continued as petitioner did not appear.

5. **Continuation from June 17, 2021, for further review and license agreements. (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). **(Time Stamp: 17:36)**

**Present:** Jackie Duffy and Susan Barroso.

**Summary:** Eversource is still waiting for the MASSDOT's access agreement to cross Monsignor O'Brien Highway. There were issues raised with approving prior to obtaining/having the MASSDOT agreement. However, Eversource explained that they cannot go in or do any work without the agreement.

**Decision:** Granted with typical conditions, pending the submission of the MASSDOT access agreement.

6. **New Petition (131212)** **Eversource Energy, 101 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143**, for the following: **Smith Place** - Westerly side, opposite **Fawcett Street**, relocate JO Pole 640/22 approximately 25 feet north of it's current location (WO# 4274041). **(Time Stamp: 20:00)**

**Present:** Jackie Duffy and Susan Barroso.

**Summary:** The pole is being relocated because a new building is going up at 101 Smith Place. They are putting in a new driveway and the pole is in the way of the driveway. There are risers on the existing pole that need to be evaluated.

**Decision:** Continued to allow Electrical to visit the site and evaluate the risers on the existing pole.

7. **New Petition (131213)** **Eversource Energy, 101 Linwood Street, Somerville, MA 02143**, for the following: **Orchard Street** - Northeasterly from pole 523/13, approximately 156 feet east of **Blake Street**, to private property at **#45 Orchard Street**, install approximately 6 feet of conduit (WO# 5818617) **(Time Stamp: 22:57)**

**Present:** Jackie Duffy and Susan Barroso. Abigail Lipson (owner of the property).

**Summary:** This work is being done to feed the barn in the back, they are going to make it another unit. There has to be coordination between Verizon and Comcast if they are planning to run conduit to this location. There will need to be permanent brick sidewalk replacement, once the work has been completed.

**Decision:** Granted with typical conditions, and the additional conditions that there must be coordination with the utilities if there is a plan to run conduit to the location, and permanent brick sidewalk replacement.

**8. Approval of Meeting Minutes for 5/20/21 (Time Stamp: 25:20)**

**Decision:** Approved.

**9. Utilities Report-Out on Upcoming and Future Projects (Time Stamp: 26:00)**

**Present:** Stanley Usovicz (Verizon) and Angela Holm (Comcast).

**Summary:** Stanley spoke about their continued deployment of 5G in Cambridge that will result in petitions we've seen in the past and will continue to see. Currently there are a 2 dozen general locations that are now undergoing a complete review by the Electric Company and Verizon.

Angela Holm spoke about their network, Fiber Rich, and pushing it deeper into neighborhoods and deeper to residential addresses. They continue to monitor what developments are happening and have conversations with global leaders in terms of what they see going on in cities so that they are prepared with their own infrastructure. They usually start their build about 18 – 24 months before the capacity is needed. Comcast recently had a meeting with Lee Gianetti and Steve Smith (School District Representative) and they are going to look to open some of their Comcast Lift Zones in Cambridge, Which essentially will provide the highest speed WI-FI Internet in partnership with community based organizations to provide a safe space for either remote learning or remote work for those who are still not able to access internet at home. They are very active in the community, closely monitoring where the new development happens, and constantly enhancing their network.

**Decision:** No action taken by the Commission.

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**Minutes Approved:** August 19, 2021

MM  \_\_\_\_\_

**Minutes Posted:** August 23, 2021

TJS  \_\_\_\_\_