



CITY OF CONCORD
NEW HAMPSHIRE
Community Development Department
Engineering Services Division

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Edward L. Roberge, PE
City Engineer

**CITY OF CONCORD
POLES AND WIRES COMMITTEE**

MEETING MINUTES

APRIL 5, 2013 – 2:00 PM
2ND FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM, CITY HALL

ATTENDEES

Ed Roberge, City Engineer
Gloria McPherson, Planning Director
Rick Wollert, Concord Fire
Sue Golden, Appraiser
Paul Gendron, City Surveyor
Jay Dunn, Waveguide

CALL TO ORDER

Ed Roberge called the meeting to order and stated that Chip Chesley is not attendance and would join the committee if time permitted after his other meeting. He stated that there was a quorum with him and Gloria McPherson.

APPROVAL OF 12/14/12 MEETING MINUTES

Mr. Roberge opened the item. Ms. McPherson moved to approve the 12/14/12 Poles and Wires Committee meeting minutes. Seconded by Mr. Roberge. The motion to approve the minutes was unanimously approved.

Mr. Roberge asked Paul Gendron to briefly outline the agenda. Mr. Roberge then asked if the committee would take the Waveguide application out of order, so that Jay Dunn would not have to wait until the end of the meeting to discuss his project. Ms. McPherson stated that she was not opposed.

OLD BUSINESS

1. New Hampshire Optical Systems, Inc., and Waveguide, Inc., request for licensure of attachments to and utilization of existing poles and underground conduit, all within the City right-of-way.
Pleasant Street.

Mr. Roberge opened the item. Mr. Gendron briefly explained that this item was related to the Waveguide project as approved by the Committee at its May 18, 2012, meeting. He indicated that this application is an amendment to the previously approved Pleasant Street route. He stated that Jay Dunn had indicated that Fairpoint was requiring Waveguide to go underground for a portion of Pleasant Street from approximately Rum Hill Road, and then westerly to approximately Langley Parkway. Mr. Gendron indicated that Fairpoint had submitted a sketch showing the proposed construction. He also stated that they had not yet finalized a petition and license document, but that he was working with them to complete it.

Mr. Gendron stated that Fairpoint currently has conduit installed up to the easterly driveway of the Carmelite Monastery, which is also the driveway for the Unitil substation. The proposal will extend the conduit approximately one hundred thirty (130) feet to riser / support pole # 59S on the south side of Pleasant Street. Waveguide's fiber will come out of the ground at pole 59S and cross Pleasant Street aerially to pole # 59 on the north side of the road, and then proceed westerly.

Mr. Gendron recommended that the committee conditionally approve the Fairpoint request subject to finalizing their paperwork. He also recommended that the committee conditionally approve the Waveguide request subject to the completion of the Fairpoint paperwork.

Mr. Roberge stated that the reconstruction of the Pleasant Street / Langley Parkway intersection is a future capital project, which might require the relocation of the support pole that Waveguide wants to utilize.

Mr. Roberge also asked Mr. Gendron to research when Pleasant Street was last paved, as the City has a moratorium on the excavation of roadways paved within the previous five years. He stated that this information would be taken into account at the time Fairpoint applies for an excavation permit to conduct the work within the public right of way.

Mr. Roberge made a motion to approve Mr. Gendron's recommendation subject to the following condition: 1) that at such time as the reconstruction of Pleasant Street requires the relocation of riser / support pole # 59S, which is owned by Unitil and / or Fairpoint, or the conduit within the public right of way, the owners of the pole and conduit and any attachers to the pole or conduit will relocate at their own expense. The motion was seconded by Ms. McPherson. The license petition was conditionally approved subject to the paperwork being completed.

PRELIMINARY / FINAL APPLICATIONS

FINAL APPLICATIONS

1. Unitil Energy Systems, Inc. and Fairpoint New England, Inc. , Request for Licensure of one (1) new pole on Mountain Road, within a City Right-of-Way.
Mountain Road.

Mr. Gendron explained that the application is for the placement of one pole on the west side of Mountain Road in front of the Bridges House, also known as the Governor's residence. He stated that major renovations had been conducted on the residence. A pole that had been located on the property closer to the house was removed as part of the renovations, and a new pole had been placed in the right of way near the property corner. Ms. McPherson asked whether it was necessary to put a new pole within the right of way when the current one is on private property. Mr. Gendron stated that the main line along Mountain Road is on the east side of the street, therefore a pole is necessary on the west side for the service connection to span the road, whether the new pole is on private property or within the right of way. Mr. Gendron recommended that the application be approved. Ms. McPherson made a motion to accept the recommendation. Seconded by Mr. Roberge. The license petition was approved.

2. segTEL, Inc., request for licensure of attachments to and utilization of existing poles and underground conduit, all within a City right-of-way.
North Main Street and Dixon Avenue.

Mr. Gendron explained that the application is for an underground installation at the intersection of North Main Street at Loudon Road. He explained that segTEL is utilizing the underground fiber that it purchased from a company called Fibertech. Fibertech originally installed the fiber in Fairpoint conduit to connect the State Hospital complex to the State Office Park on Hazen Drive. segTEL is starting at Fairpoint manhole # 6 at the southwest corner of North Main Street and Loudon Road, then proceeding easterly to the building at the southeast corner of North Main and Loudon. He reminded the committee that segTEL had not finalized the license petitions for the portion of the Fibertech route it had purchased. He indicated that he had recently sent two emails to Kath Mullholand, with the second also going to Jeremy Katz, asking for that info, and that neither email was acknowledge by either person. He stated that despite not having licenses for the Fibertech route, the total length had been attributed to segTEL and that that information had been given to the Assessing Department. The committee asked Mr. Gendron to contact Ms. Mullholand again to request that info.

Mr. Gendron recommended that the application be approved.

Mr. Roberge stated that the reconstruction of Main Street is a major capital project approved for 2013 and 2014, and that the final design is underway. He made a motion to approve Mr. Gendron's recommendation subject to the following condition: 1) that at

such time as the reconstruction of Main Street requires the relocation of utilities, the owners of the utilities will be required to relocate their facilities at their own expense. Seconded by Ms. McPherson. The license petition was approved.

OLD BUSINESS

2. State of New Hampshire Department of Transportation fiber optic cable installation project along Interstate Route 93 corridor, all within the City right-of-way.
Manchester Street.

Mr. Roberge opened the item. Mr. Gendron explained that this item was related to the State's project as discussed and approved at the September 21, 2012, Poles and Wires meeting. At that meeting three locations for City streets were approved: 1) South Main Street at I-93, 2) Hall Street at I-93, and 3) then leaving I-93 at Exit 13 and continuing along Manchester Street to its intersection with Old Turnpike Road and Black Hill Road to existing infrastructure. He explained that Liddell Brothers, Inc., the State's contractor, had approached the City to inquire into modifying the Manchester Street submission. They stated that instead of attaching to the bridge over the Merrimack River, as previously approved, they now wanted to directional bore under the river south of the bridge. Mr. Gendron showed the committee the design plans that had been prepared by Holden Engineering and submitted by Liddell, and an aerial photograph on which he added the proposed location of the conduit. He also stated that he has seen other applications in which the State Public Utilities Commission (PUC) has exercised authority and jurisdiction related to public water crossings.

Mr. Roberge stated that he generally supports the request because of excavation issues at the Exit 13 interchange and the difficulties that may occur while boring into the bridge abutment. Ms. McPherson stated that she also supported the concept. She stated that this type of project would typically require several permits that would include, but not necessarily be limited to, the City Planning Board issuing a conditional use permit for any disturbance in a shoreland protection zone and floodway, the State DES issuing a shoreland protection zone permit, and the PUC approving a public water crossing. The Committee questioned whether the State would be exempt from obtaining these permits. Mr. Gendron reminded the Committee that the State will own the conduit, and the fiber that will be installed within it.

Mr. Roberge also stated that a City ordinance requires that when a conduit is installed within a public highway, that a second conduit be installed for the exclusive use of the City. Ms. McPherson agreed that a second conduit should be installed for the benefit of the City, however, no action was taken related to this discussion.

The Committee asked Mr. Gendron to contact Denise Markow at the State and discuss with her the permitting discussion that took place.

Mr. Gendron stated that the approved and executed license for the Manchester Street crossing states that the new conduit will be attached to the bridge. He indicated that

he would work with Ms. Markow to update the license document to reflect the directional boring.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Roberge stated that he wanted to bring to the attention of the Committee the poles and wires research that Mr. Gendron had conducted from the town of Concord, Massachusetts. He stated that Concord, MA has a “No New Construction of Utility Poles and Overhead Wires Bylaw” and a “Progressive Removal of Utility Poles and Overhead Wires Required Bylaw.” He stated that the purpose of the bylaws is to ensure that new utilities are buried, and that existing poles and overhead wires are eventually removed and buried.

Mr. Roberge asked Mr. Gendron to make copies of the research for the Committee and make a folder on the intranet with a scanned version.

INFORMATION

None.

NEXT MEETING

Mr. Gendron noted that the next meeting is scheduled for June 21, 2013, at 2:00 PM.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further items to discuss, Ms. McPherson made a motion to adjourn and was seconded by Mr. Roberge.