

CITY OF NEWTON

IN BOARD OF ALDERMEN

PUBLIC FACILITIES COMMITTEE REPORT

MONDAY, JULY 12, 2010

Present: Ald. Schnipper, Linsky, Salvucci, Crossley, Danberg, and Lappin

Also present: Ald. Linsky

City staff: David Turocy (Deputy Commissioner of Public Works) and David Olson (City Clerk)

Public Hearing

191-10 NATIONAL GRID requesting a grant of location to install and maintain 40' ± of 4" gas main in VILLAGE CIRCLE from the existing 4" gas main in Village Circle at 41 Village Circle northeasterly to 45 Village Circle.

ACTION: **HELD 7-0**

NOTE: The item was held, as a representative of National Grid was not present for the public hearing. The Committee will continue discussion on Wednesday, July 14, 2010.

Public Hearing

#204-10 COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC WORKS, ON BEHALF OF NSTAR, petitioning for a grant of location to relocate pole 128/6 to the opposite side of ELM ROAD, a distance of 50' +/- westerly from existing pole location. (Ward 2) [06/21/10 @ 5:13 PM]

ACTION: **APPROVED WITH CONDITION 6-0 (Albright not voting)**

NOTE: Arletha Wade, NStar Permit Representative, and Deputy Commissioner of Public Works David Turocy presented the request for a grant of location to relocate and install a pole and guy wire and anchor on a pole on Elm Road. The guy wire and anchor are necessary to support equipment from NStar and other utilities located on the pole. The City requested the relocation of the pole, as the existing pole and wires create a potential hazard to busses and trucks due to low wires crossing over Elm Road. When construction of the new high school began, it was necessary for the construction company to provide support to the existing pole in order to allow enough clearances for trucks to drive under the wires on Elm Road. NStar eventually replaced the pole in the original location with a larger pole to eradicate the low-hanging wires; however, the new pole was guyed and anchored to counteract the weight of utility equipment and wires attached to the pole. The proposed relocation of the pole eliminates the wires crossing the roadway. The proposed pole, guy wire, and anchor would be located in a grassy area away from pedestrian traffic.

The Committee was concerned about placing a guy wire near a school where there is a significant amount of pedestrian traffic. Committee members felt that a brand new pole should not require a guy and anchor. It was requested that NStar provide the reason for the guy and anchor. The NStar representative agreed to provide the information. The Deputy Commissioner pointed out that the guy and anchor are located in a planted area, 3' from a proposed fence. Committee members stated that the guy wire needs to be very

visible at all times with a padded wrapping to prevent injury to someone walking into the wire. The NStar representative stated that she would talk with the NStar Engineers regarding placing reflective padded material on the wire.

The public hearing was opened and no one spoke for or against the petition. The Deputy Commission informed the Committee that the pole should be relocated before the beginning of the school year to avoid any issues with busses on Elm Road. Ald. Gentile moved approval of the item with the condition that the guy wire be marked and padded to the specification of the Department of Public Works. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Sydra Schnipper, Chairman