

CITY OF NEWTON

IN BOARD OF ALDERMEN

PUBLIC FACILITIES COMMITTEE REPORT

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18, 2006

Present: Ald. Schnipper (Chairman), Weisbuch, Albright, Salvucci, Gentile, Mansfield and Lappin

Absent: Ald. Yates

City personnel: David Turocy (Deputy Commissioner of Public Works) and Shawna Sullivan (Committee Clerk)

#13-06      BOSTON EDISON COMPANY petitioning for a grant of location to install 141'± of conduit in COMMONWEALTH AVENUE running westerly thence turning northerly 334'± of Waschusetz Road.

**ACTION:**      **APPROVED 7-0**

**NOTE:**      Maureen Carroll, NStar Permit Representative, was present for the discussion of this petition. The conduit is to provide upgraded service to a newly renovated home, which includes an addition. Unfortunately, the old service did not provide enough power. The Department of Public Works has reviewed the petition and noted that previous utility excavations nearby have encountered bedrock ledge at a shallow depth. However, they have recommended approval of the petition with the standard street opening permit restrictions.

The Chair pointed out that Commonwealth Avenue is scheduled for reconstruction from Grant Avenue easterly to the Boston line. The Committee was concerned that NStar would need to blast through the ledge to install the conduit. If blasting is necessary, NStar will apply for a blasting permit before proceeding.

The public hearing was opened and Ethan Lerner, 349 Commonwealth Avenue, stated that it is his residence that requires the upgraded service. He explained that during renovations to his home bedrock ledge was encountered and instead of blasting, a jackhammer was used.

Ald. Salvucci asked when the work would take place. Ms. Carroll responded that the property owner would like the work done as soon as possible. Ald. Salvucci pointed out that there is a moratorium on street openings between November 15 and April 15. The Engineering Department's review includes conditions that backfill shall be flowable fill and steel plates be recessed between November 15 and April 15. Ald. Lappin moved approval, which carried unanimously.

#14-06      BOSTON EDISON COMPANY petitioning for a grant of location to install one stub pole in WASHINGTON STREET on the southerly side, 247'± southeast of Elmhurst Road.

**ACTION:**      **APPROVED SUBJECT TO SECOND CALL 7-0**

**NOTE:**      Maureen Carroll, NStar Permit Representative, was present for the discussion of this petition. The Committee asked for a description of a stub pole. A stub pole is used to support

the pole line. It creates tension on the end of the run to decrease leaning of the poles in the line. There is no equipment on the pole except a tension cable linking it to the next pole. The Department of Public Works has reviewed the petition and recommended approval of the petition.

The public hearing was opened and no one spoke for or against the petition. Several Aldermen questioned whether the stub pole was located near a driveway, as the plan did not depict the driveways in the area. Maureen Carroll assured the Committee that she had visited the site and the pole is not located in or near a driveway. The Chair asked that NStar provide a plan depicting the driveways relative to the pole location before the next Board meeting. It was suggested that the item be approved subject to second call in case the plan is not submitted by the next full Board. Ald. Weisbuch moved approval of the item subject to second call, which carried unanimously.

**REFERRED TO PUB. FAC. & PUB. SAFETY & TRANS. COMMITTEES**

#317-05 ALD. SCHNIPPER requesting that the following duplicate street names be changed:

Charles Street	Forest Avenue
Fuller Street	Howard Street
Lake Avenue	Maple Street
Maple Terrace	North Street
Norwood Avenue	Oakwood Road
Orchard Avenue	Pleasant Street
Rockland Street	Rogers Street
Russell Road	Upland Road
Walnut Place	Willard Street
William Street	

**PUB. SAFETY/TRANS. NAN 4-0-1 (Lennon abstaining) on 1/4/06**

**ACTION: NO ACTION NECESSARY 7-0**

**NOTE:** The Public Safety and Transportation Committee have met with the Police Department twice on this issue. The Police Department believes that they have the technology to deal with the duplicate street names. The dispatch center is now fully staffed and there will further changes in the near future, which will increase efficiency. The Public Safety and Transportation Committee voted the item no action necessary, as the issue of duplicate street names is being addressed (report attached). Therefore, Ald. Salvucci moved the item no action necessary, which carried unanimously.

**Chairman's**

**Note:** David Turocy, Deputy Commissioner of Public Works, presented the upcoming schedule of street construction. The PowerPoint presentation and a list of the 2006 Road Construction are attached.

Respectfully submitted,

Sydra Schnipper, Chairman