

**Planning & Development Committee**  
Wednesday, March 6, 2019 – 5:30 p.m.  
**1<sup>st</sup> Fl. Council Committee Room – City Hall**  
-Minutes-

**Present:** Chair, Councilor Valerie Gilman; Vice Chair, Councilor Jen Holmgren; Councilor Lundberg  
**Absent:** None.

**Also Present:** Vanessa Krawyck

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.

1. *PP2019-001: Request by Comcast to install +/-27 Ft. UG Conduit from Comcast vault in sidewalk to provide service to 4 Bass Rocks Road - to be held as a Public Hearing*

**This public hearing is opened at 5:30 p.m.**

**Those speaking in favor:**

**David Flewelling**, Specialist 2 Construction, Comcast, explained that about two years ago the vault referenced in the application was built into the sidewalk on Bass Rocks Road in order for Comcast to service a customer on Atlantic Road. This new request by Comcast is to extend one 2" PVC underground conduit from that vault +/-27 feet onto 4 Bass Rocks Road in order to provide service to that customer.

**Those speaking in opposition:** None.

**Communications:** None.

**Councilor Questions:** None.

**This public hearing is closed at 5:31 p.m.**

**MOTION:** On a motion by Councilor Holmgren, seconded by Councilor Lundberg, the Planning & Development Committee voted 3 in favor, 0 opposed, to permit Comcast starting at a Comcast vault in the sidewalk to place one (1) 2" PVC Conduit 27' +/- and continuing onto private property at 4 Bass Rocks Road including the necessary sustaining and protecting fixtures as shown on "Proposed Comcast Underground Conduit Plan to Service 4 Bass Rocks Road, Gloucester, MA" dated February 13, 2019 with the following conditions:

1. Notification to the Department of Public Works 72 hours in advance of the proposed work. A construction schedule and resurfacing plan will be prepared by the applicant for review and acceptance by the Department of Public Works.
  2. Proposed excavation may only occur during accepted road opening and construction season, 15 March - 15 November. No winter construction will be permitted.
  3. In the absence of a detailed construction plan, the Department of Public Works requests: all proposed conduits and appurtenances shall be placed so as to cause minimum conflict with existing underground utility services.
  4. All excavated trenches shall be patched flush with the surrounding asphalt using hot mix asphalt binder at the end of each work day to minimize pedestrian hazards. Asphalt shall be applied in two lifts of 2 (two) inches totaling 4 (four) inches.
2. *RZ2019-001: Rockport Road #28, Map 178, Lot 28 from EB (Extensive Business to R-10 (Medium/Nigh Density Residential) - Also referred to the Planning Board (Cont'd from 02/20/2019) (TBC 04/03/19)*

It was noted by Councilor Gilman that the Attorney for the Applicant confirmed notices were sent to abutters advising them of this automatic continuation. This matter will return to the P&D Committee's agenda April 3, 2019.

3. *CC2019-003(Gilman): refer MGL Ch. 40, §8J to the P&D & O&A Committees to consider the establishment of a Disabilities Rights Commission and members to be appointed by the Mayor (Cont'd from 02/06/19 to 2/20/19 to current date)*

Councilor Gilman asked why the Councilor Order was referred to both the O&A and P&D Committees, noting typically any amendments to the Code of Ordinances goes to O&A. Councilor Lundberg suggested that in viewing the Council Order, they've set aside for the time being for discussion because of the message they received from the

Mayor about the Human Rights Commission which already exists in the Code of Ordinances, a Commission currently defunct. The Mayor conveyed it is her wish to revive the Commission in order to move it forward to take up issues of the disabled community as they arise. He conveyed his reason for the Council Order going to both Standing Committees was that the Order would establish a new entity in the city of wide-ranging impact and have enforcement authority under the state statute. He added that it's also something from a planning and operations standpoint that would be a significant addition to the city. He recounted that **Donna Leete**, Human Resources Director, wrote a memo covering the existing ordinance (on file) which will be discussed at O&A's next meeting and at that time they'll hear from the Administration as to their plans to move the Commission forward.

**Councilor Gilman** conveyed she would submit a Request to the Mayor to be allowed to meet with Ms. Leete to share with her information and how this issue would fall as a subset under the Human Rights Commission.

**Councilor Lundberg** offered his agreement. **Councilor Holmgren** pointed out that disability rights are human rights.

**A motion was made, seconded and voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 5:38 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

*Dana C. Jorgensson*

Clerk of Committees

**DOCUMENTS/ITEMS SUBMITTED AT MEETING: None.**