



# City of Malden

Malden City Hall  
215 Pleasant Street  
Malden, MA 02148

## Meeting Minutes - Final Public Property Committee

*Chairperson Amanda Linehan  
Vice Chair Stephen Winslow  
Councillor Craig Spadafora*

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Tuesday, March 23, 2021

5:30 PM

Remote Meeting

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### Roll Call

**Present:** 3 - Amanda Linehan, Stephen Winslow and Craig Spadafora

*Also Present: Councillors Anderson, Camell, Crowe and Condon  
Ralph Colorusso-Cellco d/b/a Verizon  
Attorney John Weaver- Cellco d/b/a Verizon  
Nelson Miller-Building Director*

#### 127-21

In accordance with Governor Baker's 3/12/20 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L.c.30A,ss18, and the Governor's 3/23/20 Revised Guidance on Order by the Governor Prohibiting Assemblage of More than Ten People, this meeting will be conducted via remote participation.

In person attendance by members of the public is prohibited, and all effort will be made to permit public attendance of this meeting, in the manner specified below, via remote access by internet, telephone, and if available via public broadcast of the meeting by Malden Access Cable Television on public access television channels.

Public access will also be provided by posting draft minutes, and/or a transcript, recording, or record of the meeting on the city of Malden website at [cityofmalden.org](http://cityofmalden.org) as soon as practicable after the meeting.

Additional information/guidelines for the public can be found here:

<https://www.cityofmalden.org/DocumentCenter/View/2487/Public-information-on-Public-Meetings-and-Hearings-during-the-Declared-State-of-Emergency-related-to-COVID19PDF>

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Passcode: 112477

Or iPhone one-tap :

US: +19294362866,,94437798821#,,, \*112477#

+16465189805,,94437798821#,,, \*112477#



19. 385 Lebanon Street

20. 54 Newland Street

**Sponsors:** Amanda Linehan

Councillor Linehan called the meeting to order at 5:30 P.M. Jon Miara will be recording the meeting along with the City of Malden. Nelson Miller, Building Director gave a summary of his recommendations for the 20 proposed petitions submitted by Cellco d/b/a Verizon. He explained that this company has taken efforts to answer and give more details on the plans. The changes are the width of the array which are the three headed style as opposed to the cylindrical style in the past. All of these locations conform to our ordinance except for two things one is the height of the equipment off of ground level and the distance of the antennae from the pole. The new style of the equipment will never comply with the 4" requirement we have. They have included the letters of permission from National Grid to use the poles and included their radiation package. Councillor Winslow asked about the distance of the pole are you referring to the external part or the closest part? Nelson said if you look down at the three headed antennae the outside edge is greater than the 4" from the outside edge of the telephone pole. Paper 83-21 Petition: Cellco d/b/a Verizon to collocate small wireless facilities (also referred to as "small cells" on existing wooden utility poles located within the public right of way at the following locations: 52 Porter St, 149 Webster St, 235 Forest St, 79 Lyme St, 37-39 Willard St, 187 Harvard St, 51 Fairmount St, 133 Cross St, 11 Phillips St, 7 Broadway, 84 Boylston St, 18 Warren Ave, 555 Main St, 245 Bryant St, 52 High St, 30 Ferry St, 110 Green St, 175 Broadway, 385 Lebanon St, 54 Newland St. Councillor Camell voiced his opposition on 37-39 Willard St he received an email from a constituent where the pole is directly outside a home with children and they are concerned with health issues. He urges the committee to take this one off and consider another location. Councillor Murphy agreed with Councillor Camell she also heard from a constituent where half of the street is in Ward 5. The home across the street also has concern about the health issues concerning children. She said we should be cautious with issues with children and feels this deserves some consideration and look for an alternative spot. Councillor Crowe asked what the pole # is at 133 Cross St there is not a pole at 133 Cross St but there is a pole across the street at Walnut St and it is also a double pole and wants to make sure it's the right pole because it's not the right address. Attorney Weaver said the pole # is 4740. Councillor Crowe also noticed at 11 Phillips St it is not a double pole but there are a lot of wires on the pole as it is. She asked if it could be cleaned up before anything else is put on that pole. Councillor Spadafora asked why the pole # on 133 Cross St pole on Walnut St why is it listed like that. Attorney Weaver explained the poles for the purposes of naming are tied to the closest to the property. Motion to open the public hearing speaking in favor of the petitions is made by Councillor Spadafora and seconded by Councillor Winslow at 5:48 PM. All were in favor. Attorney Weaver, outside Council for Verizon and spoke on behalf of Verizon. He explained that the 20 petitions all comply with the ordinance and all address coverage needs that Verizon Wireless has in the locations. A typical antennae on a rooftop are 6 plus feet and they provide coverage for an area for 2 miles in every direction whereas a small cell is significantly smaller measured in inches and is an eighth of a mile around and placed on a pole. Because of the limited size of the coverage area the search area is also diminished so when you move to far from the search area you are not addressing the coverage needs the carrier has in that spot. If there is other equipment on the pole such as a transformer or another small cell the utility company will not rent space out to the carrier. The carrier goes to the utility company and lets them know the area they are trying to hit then the utility company tells them

availability by the time they are coming to the City to install a small cell the selection process has gone through several layers. He also addressed health issues and explained the FCC regulates the emissions for small cells once it gets to the ground level the emissions are negligible or not a concern the committee has imposed that no equipment cannot be installed on double poles and also this committee has brought up that Verizon negotiate with the utility company to have the double pole removed. Councillor Spadafora goes on record and asked Councillor Crowe walked by the pole and it is a double pole could Attorney Weaver confirm that all the poles in these documents are not double poles he will not approve any poles that are double and secondly speaking of double poles who is responsible for taking the small cell down if they have to replace the pole. Attorney Weaver said that Verizon would be responsible for their equipment each company on each pole is responsible for removing their equipment on the pole. He explained that he was not aware it was a double pole and is not sure the date the picture of the pole was taken.

He said with regards to Verizon they are diligent in picking up low hanging fruit they recognize that they have limited resources and pursue low hanging fruit and ones that are easier to be approved. Councillor Spadafora has not problem with the petitions that have no double poles if they can clean up the double poles he would have not problem approving those also. Councillor Linehan asked Attorney Weaver in past proposals where we placed the condition we have put on the installation on double pole is that taking place who is checking up on the double pole in that scenarios. Attorney Weaver said he does not think that the recent petitions approved with that condition have been installed he doesn't think any of them have. Councillor Camell said if some of these poles have issues they could find alternatives. He asked if we could take each one separately as he will not be supporting the location he referred to when it is referred to the Full Council. Councillor Murphy mentions that double poles are the nemesis of every Councillor in the City it is difficult to get the support of the carriers unless they do need something if a carrier decides to skip a double pole for the inconvenience that it causes them to use it we should keep a list because them going to another pole and not resolving the continual issue we as the City Council have with double poles is not acceptable to her she wants to go on record with the Public Property Committee we need to start to denying them not because they found a good pole they have not lived up to what they should be doing to make our City of Malden look esthetically pleasing. Attorney Weaver says whether there is a condition or not Verizon does not install on double poles they are the vein of the existence of Councillors and Board Members and we want to be good partners for those individuals. If the City is using carriers as a tool to remove double poles the strategy should be to grant the permit but only until the pole is removed and they satisfy the terms of the permit. In regards to Willard Street there are no other poles available. Seeing no other hands Councillor Linehan declares the in favor portion of the public hearing closed at 6:15 PM. She opens the public hearing for anyone who wishes to speak in opposition of the petitions. Lisa Piccardi, 18 Phillips Street asked what is considered a double pole because when she looks out her window she only sees one pole but does not want it on this pole because it is already a mess and along with the radiation she asks if they could move it to Eastern Avenue. Attorney Weaver has limited to no authority to move any existing wires on poles. Craig Shoemake, 42 High St, he said there are a lot of concerns and questions online regarding health effects and is this 5G. Ale Paralticci, 25 Magnolia St said her concern is in regard to health, radiation that are close to the Ferryway School and the kids who are there she would like more information on the health effects. Gayle R, Forest St, she is concerned that the small cells being placed in our neighborhood can be detrimental to our health. I would ask that the ones on Forest St not be installed. Verizon is stating the FCC deem these small cells to be safe. What studies have been done to prove that they are safe please provide us with that information. It is determined that talking on cell phones is risky although most people do it. If a family is living close to a small cell

*installation this is extra exposure besides the regular normal exposure in ones own home from normal home WIFI and cell tower/cell phone usage? I would like more information on the safety aspects please. Councillor Winslow would like to table 37-39 Willard St, 133 Cross St, 52 High St all questioning the distance, 7 Broadway which has a pole which is leaning significantly and would like to know whether that could be replaced and Councillor Spadafora would like to table 11 Phillips St which has lots of existing wires on the pole and Councillor Winslow does agree. Attorney Weaver answers the questions from the Q&A and would direct them to the emissions document Verizon submitted with the applications and the FCC website and he agrees with the comments Councillor Winslow made with regards to how the relationship to phone and antenae work. Councillor Linehan seeing no hands calls this part of the public hearing in opposition of the petitions closed at 6:28 P.M.*

**A motion was made by Vice Chair Winslow, seconded by Spadafora, to grant the following Petitions and be recommended favorably to the Full Council: 52 Porter St, 149 Webster St, 235 Forest St, 79 Lyme St, 187 Harvard St, 51 Fairmount St, 84 Boylston St, 18 Warren Ave, 555 Main St, 245 Bryant St, 30 Ferry St, 110 Green St, 175 Broadway, 385 Lebanon St and 54 Newland St. with the condition that equipment not be installed on any poles that are double poles or adjacent to double poles until National Grid replaces them and these installations do not include mechanical cooling devices or fans The motion carried by the following vote:**

**A second motion was made to table 37-39 Willard St, 133 Cross St, 52 High St pending further confirmation of the actual distance of the antenae from the homes, 7 Broadway to have Verizon come back and look at the condition of the pole and 11 Phillips St to check existing wires on the pole was made by Councillor Winslow and seconded by Councillor Spadafora.**

**Roll Call Vote: Winslow-yes Spadafora-yes Linehan-yes**

**Yea:** 3 - Chairperson Linehan, Vice Chair Winslow and Spadafora

## **Other Business**

## **Adjournment**

**A motion was made by Vice Chair Stephen Winslow, seconded by Craig Spadafora, that the meeting be adjourned at 6:30 P.M. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yea:** 3 - Chairperson Linehan, Vice Chair Winslow and Spadafora