

Office of Outdoor Advertising
Public Meeting

June 14, 2018

11:00 AM

State Transportation Building

10 Park Plaza

2nd Floor

Boston, MA 02116

Present:

John Romano, Executive Director

Office of Outdoor Advertising June 14, 2018

1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2

3 JOHN ROMANO: Good morning, everybody.
4 Welcome to the June 14th meeting of the Office of
5 Outdoor Advertising.

6 This meeting is accessible to people
7 with disabilities and individuals with limited English
8 proficiency. If you filed a request with us for
9 assistive technology, sign language, alternative
10 format documents, an interpreter, translated
11 documents, or other such services to be available here
12 today, please see Lydia. I don't believe anybody
13 requested anything ahead of time, right?

14 LYDIA QUIRK: No.

15 JOHN ROMANO: If you haven't yet
16 received the assistance you need, we also have
17 amplification devices, which can be available from
18 Lydia for anyone who needs them. If you need any
19 other similar assistance to participate today, please
20 let Lydia know, and we will do our best to help you.
21 We are obviously able to help easier if we know ahead
22 of time and we make sure that any assistance that is
23 requested will be provided.

24 Thank you.

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1 If you haven't signed in, there is a
2 sign-in sheet over on the table to my left. There's
3 copies of last month's meeting minutes as well as a
4 copy of today's agenda.

5 Any questions, comments, concerns on
6 last month's meeting minutes from May?

7 (No response.)

8 JOHN ROMANO: Seeing none, we will mark
9 those approved.

10 The first item up on the agenda today
11 is an application for a permit transfer. It is Jokam,
12 LLC transferring Permit Number 2008029 and 2008030.
13 And they are located at 200 Old Colony Ave. in South
14 Boston. They are being transferred to Notre Dame
15 Education Center.

16 Are anybody here from either party?

17 (No response.)

18 JOHN ROMANO: We have reviewed all of
19 the transfer paperwork. All of the paperwork is in
20 order.

21 Chris, would you like to quickly go
22 over the inspection report?

23 CHRIS CHAVES: Sure. It is a
24 nonconforming sign on rooftop. They are not attached;

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1 therefore, they are subject to spacing. Other than
2 that, there are no issues with this transfer, just a
3 note that it is a nonconforming permit.

4 JOHN ROMANO: And grandfathered as
5 well.

6 CHRIS CHAVES: And, grandfathered.
7 Yes, sir.

8 JOHN ROMANO: Okay. Any comments,
9 questions, concerns from anyone?

10 (No response.)

11 JOHN ROMANO: Okay. We will take that
12 under advisement.

13 The next item up is another transfer
14 from ION The Ball, LLC, Permit Number 2017D017 and
15 2017D018, 63 Maple Street, West Bridgewater. They're
16 being transferred to Clear Channel Outdoor. These
17 signs have not been yet built, so this is a strict
18 permit transfer. And the new signs will be built by
19 Clear Channel.

20 We have reviewed all of the paperwork.
21 All of the proper paperwork has been submitted at this
22 time as well as the fee, same as the other one.

23 Where's Marc?

24 MARC PLANTE: Right here.

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1 JOHN ROMANO: Oh, in the second row.
2 You're hiding. Marc, do you want to give your
3 inspection report on this?

4 MARC PLANTE: Sure. This is an
5 application of a monopole, a two-sided digital
6 application. It has not been built yet. But, the
7 area, and lease, and inspection is still conforming to
8 the regulations. So, the transfer from ION The Ball
9 to Clear Channel is --

10 JOHN ROMANO: Clean?

11 MARC PLANTE: -- clean.

12 JOHN ROMANO: Very good. Any
13 questions, comments, concerns on this?

14 (No response.)

15 JOHN ROMANO: Seeing none, we will take
16 this one under advisement.

17 Next, we have an application for
18 electronic permits, Outfront Media, LLC. These are
19 Permit Numbers 2018D004 and D005. A notice was sent
20 by my office to the Town Administrator and Town Clerk
21 on 5/11/2018.

22 Is the applicant present?

23 JOHN MAHONEY: John Mahoney here for
24 Outfront Media.

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1 JOHN ROMANO: Is there anyone here
2 representing the municipality?

3 MATT HANSON: Matt Hanson, the
4 Tyngsborough Town Administrator.

5 JOHN ROMANO: Thanks, Matt. Nice to
6 meet you.

7 MATT HANSON: Yes.

8 JOHN ROMANO: Put a name with an email,
9 a face, and a name.

10 Are there any abutters present today?

11 (No response.)

12 JOHN ROMANO: Is there anyone here from
13 the District Office?

14 (No response.)

15 JOHN ROMANO: Traffic Operations?

16 Thao.

17 THAO TRAN: Okay.

18 JOHN ROMANO: Thao, can you just
19 identify yourself for the record?

20 THAO TRAN: I'm Thao Tran from the
21 Traffic and Safety Engineering Section of the MassDOT.

22 JOHN ROMANO: Thao, we received a memo
23 from you guys, and there is no requirement for a
24 traffic study.

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1 THAO TRAN: There is no traffic study
2 required.

3 JOHN ROMANO: Great. Thank you. And I
4 have that over here.

5 Okay. Mr. Mahoney, was certified mail
6 notice to abutters sent out by you at least 30 days
7 prior to submitting your application to us?

8 JOHN MAHONEY: Yes, it was.

9 JOHN ROMANO: Thank you. And I do have
10 a copy of a letter that you sent and the post office
11 receipt. So, thank you for those.

12 Have you received any written comments
13 in support or opposition to this?

14 JOHN MAHONEY: I believe you have a
15 letter of support. But everything we've received has
16 been in support.

17 JOHN ROMANO: Okay. Yes, and we do
18 from Matt Hanson, the Town Administrator from
19 Tyngsborough, and also an Adriana Gioumbakis, Chair of
20 the Zoning Board, jointly signed a letter of support.
21 So, we do have that. Thank you.

22 JOHN MAHONEY: Okay.

23 JOHN ROMANO: John, a variance and
24 special permit was obtained from the Town for this,

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1 correct?

2 JOHN MAHONEY: Yes, it was.

3 JOHN ROMANO: And we do have a copy of
4 that.

5 JOHN MAHONEY: Yes.

6 JOHN ROMANO: So, thank you.

7 Matt, I didn't ask you earlier. Did
8 you want to say anything on the record? I do have
9 your letter, but --

10 MATT HANSON: I can just very quickly.
11 Do you need me to come up to the --

12 JOHN ROMANO: No, you can stand up.
13 Just identify yourself for the stenographer.

14 MATT HANSON: Sure. Matt Hanson, the
15 Tyngsborough Town Administrator.

16 Just on behalf of the applicant and on
17 behalf of the Town, I'm speaking in support of the
18 application. The Town worked for three to four years
19 to go through this process. And we're very happy to
20 be at this point, and just want to note that it was
21 unanimously supported at our Town Meeting as well as
22 unanimously supported by our Board of Selectmen and
23 Zoning Board of Appeals. So, it has wide support
24 amongst the community. We do feel it's the best

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1 location in Town for this type of signs.

2 Thank you.

3 JOHN ROMANO: Thank you very much.

4 Jason, would you like to give your
5 inspection report on this, please?

6 JASON BEAN: Yes. Thank you, John.

7 This is a digital application located
8 at 120 Westford Road in Tyngsborough. It's going to
9 be facing Route 3, facing north and south. This will
10 be a double-sided monopole located where the yellow
11 pushpin is up there.

12 This is a new structure. There's
13 nothing existing at the location. It's a 14x48 size,
14 both -- going both directions.

15 We reviewed any of the criteria. At
16 this time, there appears to be no issues.

17 The only thing I do want to say is in
18 the picture there, you really can't see it, but
19 there's a no access line to Route 3. You can't
20 encroach upon that. So, just make sure you're not in
21 the right of way layout.

22 Other than that, you know, just the
23 standard stuff. You know, get the right permit
24 numbers, facing the right direction, and that's it.

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1 So, at this time, there appears to be no issues.

2 JOHN ROMANO: It meets everything.

3 JASON BEAN: Yes.

4 JOHN ROMANO: Great. Thank you very
5 much.

6 Let's see. Mr. Mahoney, anything you'd
7 like to add to your application at this time?

8 JOHN MAHONEY: No, sir.

9 JOHN ROMANO: Any comments, questions,
10 concerns from the public?

11 (No response.)

12 JOHN ROMANO: Okay. I just want to
13 remind you, as I know you're well aware, with this
14 being an electronic sign, there is a requirement of 15
15 hours of public service announcement time on each
16 face. Gerry Kelleher, you're very familiar, and he's
17 familiar with you guys, but will coordinate with you
18 once -- you let us know once the sign is up and
19 running, and then we'll make sure we get you those on
20 a monthly basis.

21 JOHN MAHONEY: We fully understand.

22 JOHN ROMANO: Great. With that, I will
23 take this under advisement. We will get back to you.

24 Thank you, John.

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1 Next up on the agenda, I'm going to do
2 this grouping in one bunch, unless I hear any specific
3 objection. I will call out each individual location.
4 If someone has a question about the specific location,
5 feel free to ask it, but I'm going to do them as a
6 group.

7 So, this is JC Decaux in Boston, and
8 they're applying to convert five existing locations of
9 street furniture, of the information panels, the two-
10 sided panels, from static to digital. This is a pilot
11 program with the City of Boston for these five
12 locations. And they are Permit Numbers 2018148
13 through 152. And they are all listed here on page two
14 of the agenda. The locations are 776 Boylston Street,
15 365 Washington Street, 453 Washington Street, 1 Summer
16 Street, and Stuart Street at 155-165 Dartmouth Street,
17 all in the City of Boston. And, again, they are all
18 existing permits, which are also listed on the page.
19 And even though these are digital, they are street
20 furniture. As of this date, we've not come up with a
21 separate nomenclature for digital street furniture.
22 So, we may, at some point, use a like "DSF" in the
23 middle of these numbers. But, for now, we are going
24 to go with a straight number.

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1 Because they are a conversion, we are
2 giving them new permit numbers so that we will know as
3 of this date when it was changed.

4 So, notice was sent by my office on May
5 15th to the Mayor and Clerk at the City of Boston.

6 Is the applicant present?

7 GERRY TUCKE: Yes, Gerry Tucke from JC
8 Decaux.

9 NICOLAS CLOCHARD: And Nicolas Clochard
10 with JC Decaux. Nicolas Clochard.

11 JOHN ROMANO: Is there anyone here
12 representing the municipality where the sign is being
13 proposed? No?

14 PETER O'SULLIVAN: Peter O'Sullivan
15 with the City of Boston.

16 JOHN ROMANO: Oh, Pete. Just walked
17 in. All right. Sorry about that, Pete. After all
18 this, I would have been disappointed if you weren't
19 here.

20 Are there any abutters present here
21 today?

22 (No response.)

23 JOHN ROMANO: No. Anyone here from the
24 District Office?

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1 (No response.)

2 JOHN ROMANO: Thao, traffic, do you
3 want to give a report on this?

4 THAO TRAN: We have five locations on
5 the street furniture. These locations were approved
6 by our traffic section on January 31, 2018 memo. So,
7 we have no problem with it. No traffic study is
8 required for this.

9 JOHN ROMANO: Great. Thank you. And I
10 do -- I have a copy of the May 23rd memo, and also the
11 January memo, the initial evaluation that they did.
12 So, we have that one.

13 Thank you, Thao.

14 Okay. So, notice to abutters is not
15 applicable for street furniture.

16 Have you guys received any written
17 comments in support or opposition?

18 GERRY TUCKE: No, we have not.

19 JOHN ROMANO: Okay. The only thing I
20 will say is that we did get a letter from the Mayor's
21 Office of Neighborhood Services. Jerome Smith has
22 worked closely with Peter, his office, and are on
23 board with this pilot program. So, we did get that
24 letter and I do have that as well.

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1 GERRY TUCKE: Okay. Thank you.

2 JOHN ROMANO: And, being street
3 furniture, there is no special permit or variance.
4 They comply with the current regulations. Is that
5 correct, Pete?

6 PETER O'SULLIVAN: Yeah, correct.

7 JOHN ROMANO: Okay. With that, so for
8 four of them, Chris did the inspection, and then the
9 fifth one Jason did. So, I'll have Chris go first for
10 the first four locations.

11 CHRIS CHAVES: Sure.

12 JOHN ROMANO: You can do them as a
13 group, Chris, if that's all right.

14 CHRIS CHAVES: Yeah. So, I did the
15 first four locations: Boylston Street, 365
16 Washington, 453 Washington, 1 Summer. All these are
17 existing static panels, the sidewalks. As you
18 mentioned, they are street furniture, so they are not
19 subject to spacing or any of the criteria, business,
20 parks, etc.

21 Just a reminder that one side needs to
22 have a public information as part of the street
23 furniture program. But, other than that, no issues.

24 JOHN ROMANO: Jay, do you want to do

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1 yours?

2 JASON BEAN: Yeah. Sure. So this is
3 the Stuart Street and Dartmouth Street location.

4 As the other inspector said, some of
5 the criteria doesn't pertain to the street furniture.

6 So, the last one is a CIP, city
7 informational panel, that's being converted to these.
8 So, there's no issues currently with this one as well.

9 As stated, make sure that there's
10 public service on the back. And make sure that your
11 permit number is affixed to it. And so at this time,
12 I don't see any issues.

13 JOHN ROMANO: Great. Gerry, anything
14 you want to add, or, Nicolas, to the application at
15 this time?

16 GERRY TUCKE: No.

17 JOHN ROMANO: Peter, anything from the
18 City's side?

19 PETER O'SULLIVAN: No. It's going to
20 be in the existing spaces or locations.

21 JOHN ROMANO: Okay. Any questions,
22 comments, or concerns from the public?

23 (No response.)

24 JOHN ROMANO: Okay. Seeing none, we

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1 will take these five applications as a group under
2 advisement and we will get back to you.

3 JERRY TUCKE: Great. Thank you.

4 NICOLAS CLOCHARD: Thank you.

5 JOHN ROMANO: Thank you, Gerry.

6 Does anybody have any questions or
7 concerns on either the application for renewal or any
8 of the for the record actions taken since the last
9 public hearing?

10 (No response.)

11 JOHN ROMANO: Seeing none. That's
12 good.

13 The last thing is public comment in
14 general. Any other public comment, questions,
15 concerns related to anything?

16 (No response.)

17 JOHN ROMANO: Seeing none, we are
18 adjourned. Thank you all very much for coming.

19 Whereupon, the proceedings were concluded on
20 June 14, 2018 at 11:18 a.m.)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Judith Luciano, do hereby certify that the foregoing record is a true and accurate transcription of the proceedings in the above-captioned matter to the best of my skill and ability.

Judith Luciano

Judith Luciano

**All names not provided were spelled phonetically to the best of my ability.