

**CHESHIRE ENERGY COMMISSION
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING HELD ON
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2011 AT 7:00 P.M.
CHESHIRE TOWN HALL – 84 SOUTH MAIN STREET
ROOM 210**

Commissioners Present:

Chairman Rich Ogurick, David Gavin, Walter Gayeski, Paul Michalowski, Peter Takizawa (departed at 9:10 p.m.) and Carol Wilson

Commissioners Absent:

Joseph Nesdale

Staff Present:

Frank Biancur, District Maintenance Foreman for the Education Department (departed at 7:40 p.m.)

Others Present:

Shannon McAvoy of Clean Water Action (departed at 8:45 p.m.); Stacy Stone of Clean Energy Corp / Student Conservation Association (departed at 8:45 p.m.); Joan Szechtman of 917 Ward Lane; Stephanie O'Connell of Record Journal (departed at 9:00 p.m.)

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Ogurick called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

II. DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

A quorum was present for this meeting.

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. September 26, 2011 – Regular Meeting

MOTION by Paul Michalowski to accept the September 26, 2011 Energy Commission regular meeting minutes as submitted. **SECONDED** by Peter Takizawa.

VOTE: In Favor – Gavin, Michalowski, Ogurick, Takizawa and Wilson
Opposed – none

The motion passes 6 – 0.

B. October 24, 2011 – Regular Meeting (No Quorum)

Chairman Ogurick noted the following corrections should be made to the October 24, 2011 Energy Commission regular meeting summary: Page 2, item 3, should read, "Induction wall-packs are being installed at CHS. Nine fixtures...for a total of 18."

V. COMMUNICATIONS

There were no communications to the Energy Commission.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

A. Energy Management Projects

- 1) Remaining Energy Efficiency & Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) projects

As part of the grant rules, the EECBG grant of \$108,000 that was awarded to Cheshire needs to be spent by June 2012 and the Town has to "buy American", if available, for all products related to the grant projects.

- a) Computer time management software – status

Mr. Biancur stated that the computer time management software is still pending with the schools. Mr. Masciani has told Mr. Biancur that it will be done in time to meet the Grant guidelines. All the wiring has been done at the schools.

- 2) HES audits at Hitchcock-Phillips House, Lock 12 house - status

No update was available regarding signing up the Lock 12 house by its tenant for a HES audit. Chairman Ogurick would like to have an HES audit done at the Hitchcock Phillips House, which houses the Cheshire Historical Society, but he is not sure what program it would fall under. It is

a house but it is not a residence. Chairman Ogurick has said that the Energy Commission will pay to have the Home Energy Solution type audit done, no matter what program it falls under.

- 3) Exterior lighting improvements at police station, CHS and Highland School – savings calculations

Mr. Biancur stated that the exterior Cheshire High School induction lights (18 total wall packs) are being installed at Cheshire High School. The induction pole lights will be installed within the next few weeks at the High School.

Chairman Ogurick stated that Mr. Noewatne told him that the paper work to transfer the grant funding so that the Cheshire Police Department exterior lighting can be done has been submitted. Exterior lighting at Highland School has been put on hold for now due to the work being done for mold remediation at Cheshire High School.

- 4) Town-wide ESPC project – status of Investment Grade Audit (IGA) agreement (\$49,611); decision on independent “owner’s representative” for ESPC projects

Chairman Ogurick stated that there was supposed to be a Town Council meeting on November 16th but it was canceled due to no quorum. The town wide Investment Grade Audit will cost the Town \$49,611 and Chairman Ogurick believes it should be recommended to the Town Council by the Planning Committee to move ahead with it. Chairman Ogurick agreed that some of the Councilors still don’t appear to be totally comfortable with the concept so he has said he will continue to work to educate them on all the benefits this could have for the Town and how this program works.

- 5) Allerton remote boiler management system – Norton, Chapman, Highland, Darcey; CHS?

Mr. Biancur stated that Norton School, Chapman School, Highland School and Darcey School all use Allerton remote boiler management system so that his staff can monitor and review the systems via the internet. Cheshire High School will be installing Automated Logic Corporation’s product to do the same thing, which was the lowest bidder for this project and will cost \$82,000.

B. Benchmarking

- 1) Energy Star Portfolio Manager-database maintenance by Finance Department

There was no update on the Energy Star Portfolio Manager database maintenance.

C. Publicity / Education / Outreach

Chairman Ogurick commented that the Energy Commission web site looked good.

- 1) News articles and letters to the editor

Two recent articles related to the Energy Commission were reviewed during this evenings meeting: "Consumer Reports Tests CFL, LED Lighting" and "Reap Green Rewards on Energy Saving Upgrades".

D. Clean Energy

The Connecticut Clean Energy Fund is now known as the Connecticut Clean Energy Finance and Investment Authority, which is a result of the State restructuring implemented by Governor Malloy, effective July 1, 2011.

- 1) 30% by 2015– status

An update on Cheshire's points in this program was not available.

- 2) Connecticut Energy and Sustainability Symposium – report on 11/19/11 meeting

Ms. Wilson stated that she attended the Symposium and there was a real good turn out there and not just those involved with Neighbor to Neighbor; there were a lot of towns represented. This may turn into a quarterly meeting for groups, like the Cheshire Energy Commission, to meet and share ideas.

E. PBC Projects

- 1.) CHS roof replacement – monitoring effect of white roofs; data loggers

Mr. Biancur stated that the HOBO Data Loggers, which had been suggested to use to track the Cheshire High School roof temperatures by

the Energy Commission members, have not been purchased yet. Mr. Gayeski shared a news article about data loggers with Mr. Biancur.

F. Grants, Rebates & Utility Programs

- 1) Early involvement of CL & P and YGS in all upcoming energy projects – Energy Blueprint

There was no further discussion regarding having all Town projects reviewed by CL & P's Energy Blueprint program.

G. CL & P Energy Reliability Program

- 1.) Lewis Tree Service tree trimming project – part of \$21 million / year level set by the State

The CL & P's Energy Reliability program was not discussed at this meeting.

H. Neighbor to Neighbor Energy Challenge

- 1.) Personnel changes – Shannon McAvoy replaces Jessica Bergman and Stacy Stone replaces Crystal Nosal.

The new representatives for Cheshire for the Neighbor to Neighbor program were both at tonight's meeting.

- 2.) Strategic Outreach – update

Ms. McAvoy stated that Neighbor to Neighbor is adding 2 additional HES vendors for Cheshire, who are very eager to get going. Neighbor to Neighbor now has 2 energy advisors to help with the HES audits and to provide 3rd party explanations to what is being done at the audit and why certain recommendations are being made.

- a) Home Energy Basics workshops

A Home Energy Workshop is planned for December 14th at Artsplace that will cover energy basics and will address tier 2 upgrades / benefits.

Ms. McAvoy suggested holding a combination workshop at a future date that would have a kids workshop happening at the same time / place as an adult workshop.

b) Energy Workshop for children – Cheshire Public Library

The energy workshop for kids that was planned for October 29th at Cheshire Public Library was snowed out. The workshop was to target Kindergarten through 5th graders. All involved would like to try to re-schedule the kids workshop, possibly for during school break.

c) Cheshire Social Services – HES - IE audits

Ms. Stone stated that she has left messages for the Director of Youth and Social Services, Ms. Piccerillo, but has not heard back. She was hoping to work with the residents that come in to sign up for energy assistance from the Town so that they could be signed up for the HES-IE audits, which is a free Home Energy Solutions audit for those that meet the lower income eligibility.

d) Goal: 300 new HES / HES-IE audits by 1/1/12

Ms. Stone talked about of the 176 projects in the Neighbor to Neighbor program, 82 have been lost, which means the resident has either changed their mind after signing up or never scheduled their visit. There currently are 6 pending projects and 3 tier 2 upgrade projects. With regards to the HES-Income Eligible audits, there have been none complete and only 3 inquiries made.

Chairman Ogurick noted that Cheshire would likely not meet the 300 new HES or HES-IE audits by January 1st goal that was set by Ms. Nosal and asked Ms. McAvoy what the new goal should be for March 31st? Ms. McAvoy talked about needing to have more adult volunteers involved in the program and who will continue the program after she and Ms. Stone are gone, in September. Ms. Wilson suggested targeting the boy scouts to help with the Neighbor to Neighbor program.

Chairman Ogurick questioned if instead of upgrading the exterior lighting at the Police Department, should the Energy Commission supplement more Home Energy Solution audits?

3.) Leaderboard

The updated Leaderboard for the Neighbor to Neighbor program shows Cheshire in 3rd place with 30,000 points behind 2nd place Ridgefield with 41,700 points. First place currently belongs to Westport with 96,000 points. Following Cheshire is Glastonbury in 4th place with 26,000 points and Wethersfield in 5th place with 25,800 points.

- 4.) Community Group Points – Friends of Cheshire Public Library is state-wide grand prize winner

The first round of the Community Group competition found the Friends of Cheshire Public Library as the Statewide grand prize winner, so they will receive \$5,000 worth of energy related products. In addition, Cheshire's winners were the Cheshire Methodist Church, who received a \$1,000 prize; Temple Beth David, who received a \$500 prize; Cheshire Newcomers / Neighbors, who received a \$250 prize. The second round started November 1st and runs until April 30th.

Ms. McAvoy would like to hold a ceremony soon to celebrate the Cheshire Public Library's great success. She suggested the award could be presented at a planned community event or she could work with Library Director, Ms. Burkey to schedule something.

- 5.) Personal Energy Dashboard – Snugg Home

The Personal Energy Dashboard came out in September, it is introduced in a rolling e-mail to those that have had a HES audit done and helps residents track their electrical energy consumption. Ms. McAvoy stated that it takes about 30 – 60 days to be activated on the Dashboard after an audit is completed.

- 6.) Post – HES work (insulation, water heating, etc.) – “deeper energy savings”

Ms. McAvoy explained how the Neighbor to Neighbor program is looking to focus on “deeper energy savings” at this month's Energy Commission meeting, which Chairman Ogurick would like to see more of.

- I. Waste Water Treatment Plant upgrade – energy savings opportunities

The referendum question about the proposed Waste Water Treatment Plant upgrade at the Water Pollution Control Authority was defeated during the recent Town elections.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

MOTION by Walter Gayeski that the Energy Commission adds the following topic to tonight's agenda: “item E. HVAC Zones at Senior Center by Public Works.” **SECONDED** by Dave Gavin.

VOTE: In Favor – Gavin, Gayeski, Michalowski, Ogurick and Wilson
Opposed – none

The motion passes 5 – 0.

- A. Cheshire Community Pool – cost of adding dehumidification and increasing blower output might double the cost of the project

Mr. Gavin reported that the Community Pool's original blower is 25 horsepower. The new bubble vendor, Arizon, has said that it will need two blowers but they will combine for 10 horsepower. The Engineer hired by the Town to oversee the new bubble, Denis Rioux of BL Companies, has concerns that the new proposed blower system may actually be underpowered, with regards to the air circulation exchange requirements. Mr. Gavin stated that he is not sure what is now being proposed for the blower(s). He noted that according to the Public Building Commission minutes from last month, the projected re-open date is around December 23rd. There has also been talk of needing to install a dehumidification system for use with the new bubble, which could cost \$150,000 according to Mr. Gavin. He also noted that the new bubble will recover 50 – 60% of the heat loss at the pool.

- B. zREC program – funding for large municipal PV systems

Chairman Ogurick stated that this zero emission credits program is being run by the former Connecticut Clean Energy Fund for large municipal PV systems and will be available in mid 2012.

- C. Budderfly total energy management solution – evaluate at Cheshire Public Library?

Chairman Ogurick stated that he sent the Cheshire Public Library Director information about Budderfly total energy management solution and suggested that the Library may want to try it out using it's \$5,000 prize pay out, but she has not heard back from Ms. Burkey.

- D. 2012 Meeting Dates

MOTION by Carol Wilson that the Energy Commission approves the 2012 regular meeting dates as presented. Each month, except May and December, the Energy Commission will meet on the last Monday of the month at 7 p.m. in Cheshire Town Hall room 210. The May 2012 meeting will be held on Monday, May 21st and there will not be a meeting in December 2012. **SECONDED** by Paul Michalowski.

VOTE: In Favor – Gavin, Gayeski, Michalowski, Ogurick and Wilson
Opposed – none

The motion passes 5 – 0.

6. HVAC Zones at Senior Center by Public Works

Ms. Wilson commented that there is a room at the Cheshire Senior Center where exercise classes are held. Ms. Wilson would like zone heating added by the Public Works department crews at the Senior Center because the room is 72° and is too warm for exercise.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Carol Wilson to adjourn the Energy Commission meeting at 9:25 p.m.;
SECONDED by Dave Gavin.

VOTE: In Favor – Gavin, Gayeski, Michalowski, Ogurick and Wilson
Opposed – none

The motion passes 5 – 0.

Respectfully submitted:

Tracey M. Kozlowski
Recording Secretary