

**CHESHIRE ENERGY COMMISSION
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING HELD ON
MONDAY, JUNE 25, 2012 AT 7:00 P.M.
CHESHIRE TOWN HALL – 84 SOUTH MAIN STREET
ROOM 210**

Commissioners Present:

Chairman Rich Ogurick, David Gavin, Paul Michalowski and Carol Wilson

Commissioners Absent:

Walter Gayeski and Joseph Nesdale

Staff Present:

George Noewatne, Operations Manager of Public Works (arrived at 7:25 p.m.)

Others Present:

Joan Szechtman of 917 Ward Lane

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Ogurick called the meeting to order at 7:05 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. March 26, 2012 – Regular Meeting
- B. April 30, 2012 – Regular Meeting
- C. June 6, 2012 – Regular Meeting

MOTION by Carol Wilson to accept the March 26th, April 30th and June 6th regular meetings' minutes with the corrections noted below. **SECONDED** by Paul Michalowski.

Corrections to Energy Commission minutes: March 26th – Page 2, votes in favor, Mr. Michalowski should be removed as he was absent from the meeting; Page 3, item 5, second paragraph, last sentence should read, "...in the Fall when the bubble enclosure is put back up."; Page 9, votes in favor, Mr. Michalowski should be removed as he was absent from the meeting. April 30th – Page 2, item A, last paragraph, second sentence should read, "...cost of the system is expensive, it generates..."; Page 3, item 3, last sentence should read, "...Ameresco have been to and they do seem to be..."; Page 7, item g), last sentence of the first paragraph should read, "During the canvass there were 12 HES..."; Page 7, item g, last paragraph the correct name is Mr. Crawford. June 6th – The correct spelling is Paul Michalowski throughout the minutes; Page 1 under those present it should read, "Staff and Others Present".

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

The motion passes 4 – 0.

V. COMMUNICATIONS

There were no communications to the Energy Commission this month.

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 30, 2012 and the Town has to "buy American", if available, for most products related to the grant projects.

- a) Virtual desktop environment - thin client devices

Chairman Ogurick thought that the thin client devices that Mr. Masciana was purchasing for the schools were all set. Mr.

Noewatne stated that a purchase order has been written for the 60 thin client devices so it is all set as far as the grant funding is concerned. It was noted that Mr. Masciana did have one of the thin client devices at the last Energy Commission meeting.

2) Exterior lighting improvements at police station, CHS and Highland School

Mr. Noewatne stated that there was extra money from the Cheshire Police Department exterior lighting project so exterior lighting was purchased for the Cheshire Public Library. The exterior lighting has already been completed at Cheshire High School.

3) Town-wide ESPC project – Ameresco Energy Audit - presentation

Mr. Noewatne stated that Ameresco is ready to come back and present its findings from the audits to the Town. A meeting will be set up with Town staff, including representatives from the Public Works Department and Education Department.

Chairman Ogurick stated that he thought an Energy Commission representative should be at the meeting, too. He also asked who will decide the scope of the work that will happen next in Town? Mr. Noewatne replied that there will probably be a subcommittee formed, with the help of some of the members of the subcommittee that help to select the performance contracting firm. Chairman Ogurick asked that members of the Energy Commission be notified when the meeting with Ameresco and the Staff is set up.

4) Community Pool – dehumidification

Mr. Gavin reported that the Public Building Commission Pool Subcommittee have debated and presented tentative plans for the Cheshire Community Pool dehumidification system. The group is working to finalize a proposal that will come in under referendum amounts that can be presented to the Town Council, most likely a non-refrigerant system will be recommended.

Mr. Noewatne stated that the Pool Subcommittee will be meeting again after July 4th. He reported that BL Construction is working on a more firm schematic design and is working with Lou Cohen to come up with the best option. Chairman Ogurick hopes to remind the Pool

Subcommittee to look at the life cycle of the proposed dehumidification system as well as the life cycle costs of the system that is chosen.

5) Energy audits at Hitchcock Phillips House

Mr. Noewatne reported that Mr. Gayeski is working with the Neighbor to Neighbor program to get an energy audit done at the Hitchcock Phillips House.

6) Redwood Lighting System – economics

Chairman Ogurick commented that his calculations of savings for the Redwood Lighting System don't match Mr. Biancur's calculations. Chairman Ogurick has calculated a 15 year payback compared to the 5 years that Mr. Biancur calculated. It was agreed that a further review will be needed to determine the correct calculations.

B. Benchmarking

1) Energy Star Portfolio Manager-database update by Ameresco

Mr. Noewatne stated that as part of the performance grade audit, Ameresco will be entering at least 1 year's worth of data for the Town buildings. After July 1st there is money in the new Operating Budget for a Finance Department member to maintain the data going forward for the Town. Mr. Noewatne is not sure if Ameresco has entered any data in the Energy Star Portfolio Manager program.

C. Publicity / Education / Outreach

1) News articles and letters to the editor

Mr. Michalowski did not have any recent energy related news articles to share with the Commissioners during this meeting.

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

Ms. Wilson stated that she did not have an update on Cheshire's points in the 30% by 2015 program. Chairman Ogurick stated that he thought there had been very little movement in this program.

- 2) Clean Energy Communities, South Central Regional Workshop – June 6

It was noted that there was not a representative from the Energy Commission at the Clean Energy Communities workshop on June 6th.

E. PBC Projects

- 1) Roof at Police Station

The Public Building Commission Subcommittee met and has recommended an R-30, ¼ inch pitch, white replacement roof at the Cheshire Police Station and has recommended Quality Roofing for the project, which was bid at \$90,000.

- 2) Roof at PW Garage

Mr. Noewatne stated that the roof replacement project at the Public Works garage will likely go forward after the Town Council completes the Capital Budget this Summer.

F. Grants, Rebates & Utility Programs

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

Mr. Noewatne noted that both CL & P and Yankee Gas have reviewed the plans for the upcoming roof projects in Town, noting that there is no additional funding available from either organization.

G. CL & P Energy Reliability Program

It was noted that the CL & P tree trimming crews are continuing work around Town and have been very responsive since the storms last year.

H. Neighbor to Neighbor Energy Challenge

There were no representatives from the Neighbor to Neighbor Energy Challenge program at this meeting of the Energy Commission.

1) Personnel / Organization - Intern

Ms. Wilson noted that the Neighbor to Neighbor contract ends on June 30th and at the last Commission meeting representatives of the program were talking about looking for volunteers to continue the program in Cheshire.

2) Strategic Outreach – update

a) *Home Energy Basics* workshops

Commissioners are not aware of any upcoming workshops. Ms. Wilson stated that there is a Chamber of Commerce meeting on July 9th with a representative from the Neighbor to Neighbor program.

b) giveHES – Realtor update

Chairman Ogurick reported that Sally Bowman Real Estate and another realtor have been participating in the giveHES program with their clients.

c) Cheshire Social Services

Commissioners believe that Ms. McAvoy has been in contact with the Cheshire Social Services Department and they are working together.

d) Oil & propane customers – deadline extended

The availability of funds for oil and propane customers has been extended to August 1st.

e) Lighting Program – ends in June

There were no new updates to the lighting program, which is ending on June 30th.

f) Neighborhood canvasses - update

There was no update available on neighborhood canvassing for the Neighbor to Neighbor program.

3) Goals

a) New HES / HES-IE audits

Chairman Ogurick stated that he thought Cheshire was close to meeting its 2nd Quarter HES and HES-IE audit goals.

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

There was no update available on post-HES work for the Neighbor to Neighbor program.

4) Score

a) Leaderboard

Chairman Ogurick believes the Leaderboard for the Neighbor to Neighbor program shows Cheshire around 6th or 7th place.

b) Community Group Cash Incentive Program

Chairman Ogurick was not sure where the Community Group Cash Incentive Program stands, at this point.

Ms. Wilson stated that the Methodist Church had received a \$1,000 award that expires June 30th but she doesn't think they will be able to use the funds in time. They would like to install a small electric water heater but due to time constraints, it may not be done in time for the deadline.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

Chairman Ogurick talked about “Solarize Connecticut” which is a group looking for 4 communities for a pilot program using pre-approved vendors for standard P.V. systems. This program is looking for communities that are willing to make the permitting process more amendable for PV System installations, with the help of Building Officials. Chairman Ogurick stated that he didn’t think this program would work in Cheshire.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Paul Michalowski to adjourn the Energy Commission meeting at 8:20 p.m.;
SECONDED by Carol Wilson.

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

The motion passes 4– 0.

Respectfully submitted:

Tracey M. Kozlowski
Recording Secretary