

## **Minutes**

Cheshire Energy Commission  
Monday, May 18 at 7:00 p.m.  
Room 207, Town Hall, 84 South Main Street

**Commissioners Present:** Chairman Rich Ogurick  
Phil Newton  
Carol Wilson  
Walter Gayeski  
Tim White  
David Gavin

**Commissioners Absent:** Paul Michalowski

**Others Present:** Peter Talbot, District Councilman, and Dawn Guite, Recording Secretary

**I. CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Ogurick called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

### **II. DETERMINATION OF QUORUM**

A quorum was present for the meeting.

### **III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- A. February 23, 2015 – Regular Meeting  
The February 23, 2015 Regular Meeting Minutes were amended and reviewed at the March 20, 2015 meeting.
- B. March 20, 2015 – Regular Meeting  
Due to the absence of a quorum, this was an unofficial meeting. Minutes were transcribed.
- C. April 27, 2015 – Regular Meeting  
Due to the absence of a quorum, this was also an unofficial meeting. Minutes were transcribed.

Commissioner Gavin made a motion to accept the minutes as amended for February 23, 2015 and written for the March 20 and April 27<sup>th</sup> meetings. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Newton and approved unanimously.

### **V. COMMUNICATIONS**

There were no communications to the Energy Commission.

### **VI. OLD BUSINESS**

- A. Energy Efficiency Projects
  - 1. Town-wide ESPC project – There was no discussion.
  - 2. Community pool energy efficiency – HVAC options; energy code issue

There is an outstanding issue to get approval by the town's building commissioner on the energy code. The inspector has a document from Horizon explaining how the building conforms to the energy code. The outcome of the submittal of this document has not yet been determined. He said that this document does not have to be forwarded to the state for approval. The inspector asked for engineering calculations and explanation as to how the building meets code. Chairman Ogurick referenced the 2009 energy code but there is a problem because the state said that because it is such a new building, it is not sure what energy code should be applied. The 2012 energy code was agreed upon. Keith Darren, the town's building inspector, has the energy compliance. It has yet to be signed off on by him. At the last special meeting, Mr. Darren said that the energy code is agreed upon; that all involved are on the same page.

In addition to the building, the foundation failed to get an energy stamp of approval. It has been redesigned and the stamp has been issued.

### 3. LED streetlights – update

A savings of approximately \$100,000 was noted since the installation of the LED lighting. Frank (*last name*) gave a full rundown at the Energy meeting in April and this is noted in the April minutes. He did not have reports with him at the April meeting. The LED lighting in the schools has been completed and a controller is being utilized.

## B. Benchmarking

### 1. Energy Star Portfolio Manager

Electric and gas data from Eversource will be available in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter and automatically downloaded. This will keep the program easily updated. Chairman Ogurick discussed the need for someone to manage the data recordkeeping, i.e., data entry and analysis. Suggestions were made that it makes sense for Finance to take charge of the data or perhaps Mr. Gancarz. Finance can enter the data and present it to Mr. Gancarz who can decipher and then pass on to the Energy Committee for a sanity check. Another suggestion was made to consider hiring a technical person with energy experience to be a single point of contact. This discussion will be tabled to the next meeting.

## C. Publicity/Education Outreach -

### 1. New articles and letters to the editor

Mr. White reached out to the local, New Haven Papers and Chamber of Commerce regarding clean city efforts activity.

## D. Clean Energy

### 1. C-PACE – program information at [www.cpace.com](http://www.cpace.com)

There were no communications to the Energy Commission.

### 2. Solar on town-owned landfill – Solar City contract; ZREC bids due 6/18

Solar City was chosen to team with Eversource and present a ZREC bid. Assuming ZREC bid wins on behalf of the town, a letter of intent will be signed with Solar City. Bids are due on June 18, 2015.

### 3. Virtual Net Metering – Solar City handles this in its application process.

Conversations took place with Sarah Hill of Solar City on virtual net metering. The total state budget is \$10 mil (2 cents per kilowatt hour per town). United Illuminating has used up its budget

of \$2 mil and 30% of the CL&P (Eversource) budget has been used. One risk is that once ZREC bids are entered, there will be a large queue for requests. Ms. Hill said that 30% should not cause any issues. It is logical to give net metering benefits to towns. Socialized costs is a system set up for the “public good” and gives a benefit to municipal government in that it pays a lower rate.

4. Monitoring site for the solar system at Cheshire Public Library:  
<https://easyview.auroravision.net/easyview/index.html?entityId=215231&lang=en>

There were no communications to the Energy Commission.

#### E. PBC Projects

1. CHS locker room renovations – review plans and specifications

There were no communications to the Energy Commission.

#### F. Grants, Rebates, & Utility Programs

1. Early involvement of Eversource in all town building projects – Energy Blueprint

There were no communications to the Energy Commission.

2. Bright Ideas Grant(s) – status

A second grant for \$20,000 was awarded to the Town of Cheshire. The Town Council would like suggestions from the Energy Commission as to how this money should be used.

3. Rebates for WPCP upgrade

There were no communications to the Energy Commission.

#### G. CL&P Energy Reliability Program – update on tree trimming

There were no communications to the Energy Commission.

#### H. Microgrid Grant and Loan Program

There were no communications to the Energy Commission.

- I. Electric Vehicle Charging Station (EVCS) – options; Round 3 Municipal and State Agency EV Charging Station Incentive; commercial partnerships

Commissioner Newton presented an email from Commissioner Michalowski where he asks for a motion that “the Cheshire Energy Commission requests that the Cheshire Town Council’s planning committee reconsider reviewing the possibility of an Electric Vehicle Charging Station for use in Cheshire, CT. A representative of the Energy Commission requests to be present to explain all aspects of this proposal.”

Commissioner Newton made a motion based on Commissioner Michalowski's email that "the Cheshire Energy Commission requests that the Cheshire Town Council's planning committee reconsider reviewing the possibility of an Electric Vehicle Charging Station for use in Cheshire, CT". Commissioner Wilson seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

## **VII. NEW BUSINESS**

### **A. Proposal for an Electrical Vehicle Show – during the Strawberry Festival, June 20<sup>th</sup>**

Mr. White proposed an idea for an electrical vehicle show during the Congregational Church's Strawberry Festival on June 20<sup>th</sup>. He discussed this with the church which stated that they would like to receive a donation from the dealerships that have their cars on display. He will research further as to the cost of the donations. Mr. White would like the show to display an evolution of the electric car through the years. A suggestion was made that a designated area on the green serve as the site for the show. Solar City can be contacted to see if they would like to participate. This is a good opportunity to educate the public on energy initiatives and for the Energy Commission to get some positive attention.

### **B. Library Supporter Appreciation – Thursday, May 21 at 6:00pm**

Chairman Ogurick announced that the Energy Commission has been invited to the Library Supporter Appreciation event being held on Thursday, May 21 at 6:00pm at the library. This is a good way to network and to stay connected with the library and its activities.

### **C. Effective July 1, Eversource residential generation rate will decrease from 12.629 cents per kilowatt-hour (kWh) to 8.228 cents/kWh**

The rate decrease results from the January 2014 polar vortex and the dispensing of liquid natural gas.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion made by Chairman Ogurick to adjourn the meeting at 8:30pm.

Minutes typed and submitted on May 26, 2015 by Dawn Guite, Recording Secretary.