

CHESHIRE ENERGY COMMISSION – Meeting Minutes
Monday, January 25, 2016
Regular Meeting
7:00 P.M. – Room 210, Town Hall

Commissioners Present: Chairman Rich Ogurick
Walter Gayeski
Paul Michalowski
Rob Brucato

Commissioners Absent: David Gavin
Carol Wilson
Phil Newton

Others Present: Tim White
Walter Gancarz, Town Engineer
Peter Talbot, Town Council
Alison Jackman, Eversource

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

A quorum was determined for this meeting.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Mr. Michalowski to approve the minutes from the November 23, 2015 meeting. Seconded by Mr. Gayeski and opened for discussion. Corrections were noted:

- 1) Under Others Present, it should list Tim White, not John White.
- 2) Under Town-wide ESPC Project, the correct amount is \$850,000, not \$800,000 and it should read the CT Energy Efficiency Fund, not CT Energy.
- 3) Under Community Pool Energy Efficiency, in the first paragraph, the words “per footprint” should be removed and the word “coring” should be changed to “chlorine.” In the second paragraph, the word “compression” should be changed to “compressor.” The only sentence of the third paragraph should be removed.
- 4) Under LED Streetlights, the last sentence should read, “The LED streetlights will begin with an initial savings of \$9,000 per month, followed by a savings of \$50,000 per year for the first ten years and \$190,000 per year thereafter.
- 5) Under Energy Achiever Awards Presentation, it should read Mr. White, not Commissioner White.

- 6) Under Bright Ideas Grants, it should read Clean Energy Communities unit of Eversource, not “Bright Ideas people.”
- 7) Under Electric Vehicle Charge Station (EVCS), it should read YMCA, not YUMCA.
- 8) Under New Business, New Electric Vehicle Charging Station Opens in Wallingford, the sentence, “This was discussed under Microgrid Grant and Loan Program - Round 3 Application - Item I.” should be removed.
- 9) Under Adjournment, the motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Michalowksi, not Chairman Ogurick, seconded by Mr. Gayeski and passed unanimously.

The minutes were unanimously accepted with the noted corrections.

V. COMMUNICATIONS

There were no communications to the Energy Commission.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

A. Energy Efficiency Projects

- 1) Town-wide ESPC (Energy Saving Performance Contract) project

Mr. Gancarz reported this project is substantially complete. Mr. Gancarz reported the discussion about supplemental projects is ongoing. There was brief discussion.

- 2) Community Pool Energy Efficiency

There was a brief discussion about the community pool project, but no formal report.

- 3) LED streetlights

Mr. Gancarz reported that as of on January 11, 2016 the Town owns 1772 streetlights, which includes 490 single service poles. Mr. Gancarz reported that sample lights have been installed at three locations on Cornwall Avenue and expects the new light fixtures to be ordered and installed in the next 6-8 weeks.

B. Benchmarking

- 1) Energy Star Portfolio Manager

Mr. Gancarz reported most of the data has been entered and once it is all up to date, reports can be generated to track trends, analyze the data and look at demand curves.

- 2) Automated Energy Usage Downloads

Mr. Gancarz reported the automated energy usage downloads are not yet available.

C. Publicity / Education / Outreach

- 1) News articles and letters to the Editor

Mr. Michalowski shared an article about the Town of Plainville signing a 25-year pact to buy a solar panel farm in Windham.

- 2) Energy Achiever Awards presentation
Mr. Michalowski reported the Record Journal and Cheshire Herald should be printing the presentation of the Energy Achiever Awards soon.

D. Clean Energy

- 1) Solar on town-owned landfill
Mr. Gancarz reported Solar City is moving ahead with permitting and design at its own risk given the uncertainty of the virtual net metering. A remedy for the issue of virtual net metering is being sought at the State level. There was a brief discussion.
- 2) Solar possibilities on other Town-operated buildings
There was nothing new to report on this matter.

E. PBC Projects

There was nothing to report on PBC projects.

F. Grants, Rebates & Utility Programs

- 1) Bright Idea Grants
Alison Jackman from Eversource presented options for how the Bright Idea Grants can be used. Miss Jackman detailed the process for redeeming a grant, reported the Bright Idea Grants do not expire and answered questions from the Commissioners. There was a lengthy discussion.
- 2) Renewable Energy track (Clean Energy Communities - \$18,000)
Miss Jackman encouraged the Town use the \$18,000 Renewable Energy funds as the opportunity to do so will expire, unlike the Bright Idea Grants. Miss Jackman reported this grant can be used for the retrofitting of the streetlights.
- 3) Early Involvement of Eversource in all Town building projects
Chairman Ogurick asked Miss Jackman about the Energy Blueprint program. Miss Jackman reported that municipal engineers are available to consult with the Town on energy efficiencies for Town building projects.

Miss Jackman left the meeting at 7:39 p.m.

G. CL&P Energy Reliability Program - Tree Trimming

Mr. Gancarz reported the tree trimming is completed.

H. Electric Vehicle Charging Station (EVCS)

Mr. Michalowski reported that in his continued effort to get approval and funding for an Electric Vehicle Charging Station in Town, he reached out to the property owner of the Big Y plaza to discuss the possibility of a commercial partnership. The property owner filed an application with the

DEEP and was awarded an \$8,025.00 grant to install an EVCS in the parking lot of Big Y. There was a brief discussion about potential roadblocks and additional funding.

Motion by Mr. Michalowski to request that \$4,000 be allocated from the Renewable Energy track to be used towards the installation of an Electric Vehicle Charging Station at the Big Y plaza. Seconded by Mr. Gayeski and passed unanimously.

I. Concession Stand Renovations

Mr. Gancarz reported this project is plugging along as much as is possible in the winter. Chairman Ogurick reiterated the Energy Commission would like to see the plans to consider energy efficiency measures.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

There was no New Business to discuss.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn by Mr. Michalowski at 9:16 p.m. Seconded by Mr. Brucato and passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen M. Gill