

**CHESHIRE ENERGY COMMISSION MEETING
AUGUST 31, 2020 - VIRTUAL ZOOM MEETING**

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM.

II. DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

A quorum was determined to be present.

Commission Members Present: Richard Ogurick (Chairman), David Gavin, Walter Gayeski, Dan Knudsen, George Romania

Staff Present: Daniel Bombero

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

All present pledged allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. June 29, 2020 - Regular Meeting

1. VI. A, 1- Community pool – The unit being referred to is the “Aegis” unit.
2. VI. A, 2- Clarify that Mr. Masciana did not want to complicate negotiations and correct spelling of DATCO to DATTCO and Masciano to Masciana.
3. VI. B, 1- Clarify that consumables provided, which are not from Eversource, will not automatically update and must be manually input.
4. VI.C, 1- Clarify that there were two meters and the meters displayed different production amounts.

MOTION by Mr. Knudsen

SECONDED by Mr. Gavin

The motion passed unanimously.

B. July 27, 2020 - Regular Meeting

V. Communications – “energy star portfolio” to read “energy star portfolio manager.”

1. VI, A, 2 -Bus Depot-Clarify that additional upgrades include insulation to the school bus trailer.
2. VI, 3 -Dodd & Highland Schools-change wording “annual cost savings to Town” to read “energy savings to Town.”
3. VII, C -New Business- Clarify that the Energize Connecticut home audit program provides “additional” incentives and there may be costs associated with the program.

MOTION by Mr. Knudsen to approve the minutes.

SECOND by Mr. Gavin

VOTE The motion passed unanimously

V. COMMUNICATIONS

No new communications were discussed.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

A. Energy efficiency Projects

1. Bus Depot – Energy efficiency of new trailer and equipment; blower door test

Mr. Gayeski reported on the status of his offer to perform the blower test on the bus trailer. He stated that he has not been contacted to date to perform the test.

2. Dodd & Highland Schools – JK Energy Solutions energy analyses

No updates

3. Highland School – “Government Freezer” project

No updates

4. MaClary Athletic Complex – RFP for LED lighting

Mr. Gavin stated that 50% of the projects on the agenda are Board of Education projects and that representation at the Energy Commission meetings from the Board of Education would be beneficial. Mr. Ogurick will send a correspondence to Mr. Masciana requesting a replacement for the current liaison from CPS, who has been unable to attend the last several Energy Commission Meetings.

5. Energy Consumption at Bartlem Park concession stand

Mr. Bombero reported that the gas account meter on the concession stand is no longer in service and the account is paid for by the Friends of Cheshire Youth Baseball. John Gawlak, Director of Recreation explained to Mr. Bombero that the account description is for an unmetered municipally-owned light facility or facility lighting in the park. Mr. Bombero will continue to follow up on the energy consumption at the concession stand.

6. Updated/free HES program for residential buildings –

www.EnergizeCT.com

Mr. Ogurick shared an email from the website written by a Manchester, Connecticut resident and asked if the Energy Commission felt this program was appropriate for Cheshire. A discussion ensued about the most effective avenue to inform Cheshire residents about the program which guides homeowners through the audit process, and increases their awareness of potential rebates. Mr. Gavin suggested the Facebook Forum as a potential avenue to get the program information out to residents. Mr. Gayeski added that HES most likely has a standard press release which the Commission could utilize.

7. I Heart My Home – no cost one-on-one coaching for home energy upgrades

Mr. Gayeski questioned whether the I Heart My Home Program was similar to the HES Program. The group discussed similarities and differences between the two programs. Mr. Knudsen shared that the I Heart My Home Program begins with a HES audit and that this program helps residents to construct home energy plans and apply for rebates which may apply to them. Mr. Knudsen will resend the I Heart My Home link to the other Commission members.

B. Benchmarking

1. Energy Star Portfolio Manager - status of UCONN database update

Mr. Bombero will follow up with Professor Thompson from UCONN and forward a link to Mr. Knudsen so he can set up a "read- only" access to the data base. Mr. Gavin said that he does not feel comfortable entering Town data onto the site and would rather have the Town liaison enter the information, which requires manual input. Mr. Bombero shared that these administrative duties are the responsibility of the Energy Commission. A group discussion was led by Mr. Ogurick about changing the parameters and using baseline data to draw meaningful conclusions from the database.

2. Portfolio Manager WebEx Presentation – Wednesday, August 12, 2020

Mr. Ogurick shared that several Commission members were able to participate in the WebEx presentation put on by Professor Thompson and her assistant. Information was provided about the energy star portfolio manager software. Dan Bombero will schedule a second session with Professor Thompson.

C. Publicity/Education/Outreach

1. **News articles and letters to the editor** – none

D. Clean Energy

1. Greenskies 100 kW solar carport at Cheshire Police Station-monitor performance at:
<http://s51582.mini.alsoenergy.com/Dashboard/2a5669734a66577a4941304b772b71513d>
Mr. Bombero reported that the meter issue has been resolved. The bad wire termination has been fixed.

E. PBC Projects

1. **Improvements to the existing locker rooms and the HVAC system at the at the Cheshire Police Station**
Mr. Bombero agreed to provide an update at the September regular meeting.
2. **Boiler Installation at the Fire HQ Annex**
An update was provided through a memo from George Noewatne, Director of Public Works. The design is complete and the contractor has been selected. Mr. Gavin reported that the boiler in the specifications was energy star rated, 94% energy efficient and would qualify for \$4,000.00 in rebates.

F. Grants, Rebates & Utility Programs

1. **Early involvement of Eversource in all Town building projects**

There was no discussion on this item.

G. Energy Reliability Program-update on tree trimming

There were no updates on tree trimming provided.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Eversource response to Tropical Storm Isaias

Mr. Romania began a discussion about Eversource's response to Tropical Storm Isaias. Members of the Committee shared their observations of the cleanup efforts and Eversource response time during and after the storm. Mr. Gavin shared that there is a State investigation regarding the matter. The group agreed that tree trimming efforts have resulted in reduced outages.

The group discussed energy storage options such as micro-grids, islanding and other storage options to lessen the dependency on Eversource. The group discussed demand charges from the utility and ways to limit exposure during peak demand situations.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Gavin and seconded by Mr. Gayeski. The meeting was adjourned at 8:38 PM.

ATTEST

Anne McBain