

CHESHIRE ENERGY COMMISSION – Meeting Minutes
Monday, March 30, 2015
Regular Meeting
7:00 P.M. – Room 210, Town Hall

Commissioners Present: Chairman Rich Ogurick
Phil Newton
Walter Gayeski

Commissioners Absent: Joseph Nesdale
David Gavin
Carol Wilson
Paul Michalowski

Staff Present: Walter Gancarz

Others Present: Frank Biancor
Tim White

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Ogurick called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

A quorum was not determined for this meeting.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairman Ogurick indicated there were changes that needed to be made to the minutes from the February 23, 2015 meeting. The first was regarding the Town-wide ESPC project. The minutes indicated all lighting had been completed, which is not true. As reported by Mr. Biancor at the February 23, 2015 meeting, the lighting had not yet been completed at Highland School. The second change was regarding the Community Pool Energy Efficiency: Mr. Kunde's name was misspelled. Chairman Ogurick requested the minutes be revised to clarify that the "all-in" term used regarding the LED streetlights includes the cost of purchasing the infrastructure and retrofitting. The final change requested to be made was regarding the EVCS. The minutes should reflect that the EVCS must be offered for free for the first three years only if the Town uses the Bright Idea Grant for this project. The February 23, 2015 minutes as amended are attached hereto as Appendix A.

Due to the lack of a quorum, a motion to approve the minutes could not be made.

V. COMMUNICATIONS

There were no communications.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

A. Energy Efficiency Projects

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

Mr. Gancarz reported this project is 75% complete and is expected to be completed by the end of September 2015. Mr. Biancor indicated the LED lights at Highland will be commissioned on April 13, 2015 and he expects the heating and cooling at Highland to be completed by the end of May. There was a discussion about the function and timing of the occupancy sensors. Mr. Biancor was not able to provide a report from Enlight for this meeting, but expected to have a report that includes all eight schools for next month's meeting. Mr. Biancor indicated the numbers look good so far.

Mr. Gancarz reported vetting and final pricing is being done for potential projects for the ESPC \$850,000 surplus. Mr. Gancarz reported most of the projects being considered involve building management systems and coordination of different managements systems that currently do not talk to each other. Chairman Ogurick reported he sent an email regarding the Energy Commission's opinion that a portion of the ESPC surplus should be used for a dehumidification system for the pool dome structure. He has not received a response. Mr. Gancarz reported he expects the numbers will be finalized this week and then this matter will go to the Town Council.

2) Community Pool Energy Efficiency

Mr. Gancarz reported ground breaking on the pool is expected by the middle of April and explained to the Energy Commission the building code issue which has been resolved.

3) LED streetlights

Mr. Gancarz reported that four of the five vendors who submitted proposals for this project have been interviewed. They are currently being reviewed and a recommendation is expected to be made in the next week. Mr. Gancarz explained this is a two-step process. The first step is to evaluate and test a few streetlights. The second step is to tweak the final numbers based on actual specifications. There was a discussion regarding the specification and exact number and location of streetlights to be purchased. Mr. Gancarz clarified the "all-in" price includes the cost of purchasing the infrastructure and retrofitting.

B. Publicity / Education / Outreach

- 1) Chairman Ogurick shared two articles from the March 19, 2015 edition of *The Cheshire Herald*. The first article was regarding the possibility of a solar farm in Cheshire's future. The second article discussed an appropriation approved by the Town Council to pursue the purchase of streetlights from Eversource (formerly CL&P and Yankee Gas). Chairman Ogurick extended appreciation to Walter Gancarz, the Town liaison, on behalf of the Energy Commission for all of his hard work on these two projects.
- 2) **Outstanding Energy Achiever Award**
Chairman Ogurick presented an Outstanding Energy Achiever Award to Ramona Burkey at the Cheshire Public Library. Chairman Ogurick shared the data he was able to obtain on the solar panels at the Cheshire Public Library and shared the link.
<https://easyview.auroravision.net/easyview/index.html?entityId=215231&lang=en>

C. Clean Energy

- 1) **C-PACE**
Mr. Gancarz reported that Jerry Sitko has received some inquiries on this program.
- 2) **Solar on town-owned landfill**
Mr. Gancarz reported Solar City was unanimously selected for this project. Solar City had the lowest cost and the biggest benefit. The Town Council approved a non-binding letter of commitment for Solar City to attend the ZREC auction on behalf of the Town. The Town attorney, who has previously worked on a project with Solar City, will review the contract. There was brief discussion regarding virtual net metering.

D. PBC Projects – CHS Locker Room renovations

Mr. Biancor reported there is a meeting on March 31, 2015 on this project. Mr. Biancor reported asbestos will be identified in April and not remediated until July since abatement cannot occur while the students are in school. Chairman Ogurick asked about a final design for the new locker room. Mr. Biancor reported he has seen a small print copy. Chairman Ogurick asked the minutes to reflect that the Energy Commission is waiting to review the plans and specifications for energy efficiency for the locker room renovations.

E. Grants, Rebates & Utility Programs

- a. Early involvement of Eversource (formerly CL&P and Yankee Gas)
Mr. Gancarz reported the Waste Water Treatment Plant is expecting a rebate and hopes to have a letter regarding the exact amount of the rebate by next month's meeting.
- b. Bright Idea Grant
There was nothing to report on this matter.

F. CL&P Energy Reliability Program - Tree Trimming

Mr. Gancarz reported the tree trimming is a continuing program.

G. Electric Vehicle Charging Station (EVCS)

There was lengthy discussion regarding the pros and cons of an EVCS in Cheshire and the possibility of pursuing it again in the future.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting ended at 8:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen M. Gill

APPENDIX A

**CHESHIRE ENERGY COMMISSION – Revised Meeting Minutes
Monday, February 23, 2015
Regular Meeting
7:00 P.M. – Room 210, Town Hall**

REVISED MINUTES

Commissioners Present: Chairman Rich Ogurick
Paul Michalowski
Phil Newton
Walter Gayeski

Commissioners Absent: Joseph Nesdale
David Gavin
Carol Wilson

Staff Present: Walter Gancarz

Others Present: Frank Biancor
Tim White

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Ogurick called the meeting to order at 7:02 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

Mr. Michalowski indicated there were two changes that needed to be made to the minutes from the November 24, 2014 meeting. The first was regarding the artwork for the Outstanding Energy Achiever Award which is being handled by Phil Newton, not Paul Michalowski. The second was that Chairman Ogurick did not, and could not, make the motion to adjourn. The motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Michalowski, seconded by Mr. Newton and carried unanimously. The November 24, 2014 minutes as amended were approved by the Commissioners. The amended minutes are attached hereto as Appendix A.

Motion by Mr. Newton to approve the minutes of the November 24, 2014 minutes, as amended. Seconded by Mr. Michalowski and carried unanimously.

V. COMMUNICATIONS

There were no communications.

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VI. OLD BUSINESS

A. Energy Efficiency Projects

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

Mr. Gancarz reported this project is 74% complete and expected to be done by the end of September 2015. The boilers at Town Hall and the pool have been replaced. Mr. Talbot asked what was left to be done. Mr. Gancarz indicated the chillers at the Town Hall and Police Department on the town side. Mr. Biancor indicated two-thirds of the heating and cooling at Highland still needs to be completed, as well as the LED lighting, which should be started in the next week. Mr. Gancarz reported there is a surplus of approximately \$850,000 and the Steering Committee has met and identified potential projects of approximately \$680,000. The next step is to get more detailed specifications and quotes for each project and then reconvene the Steering Committee.

Mr. Biancor shared a spreadsheet showing significant energy savings on the LED lighting with data from only two schools. There was a brief discussion about the significant savings this project has provided. Mr. Biancor will bring a detailed report from Enlight to the next meeting.

2) Community Pool Energy Efficiency

Based on a memo from Mr. Gavin, Chairman Ogurick wanted the minutes to reflect that the Energy Commission does not endorse the approach that is being taken for ventilation of the new pool dome structure. Arizon lowered the air exchange rate from 2.65 exchanges per hour to only 1 exchange per hour. Mr. Gavin and Mr. Kunde voted against this change. The ASHRAE standard is 4-6 exchanges per hour. After a lengthy discussion, it was decided the best course of action is for the Energy Commission to reach out to Arizon, Arcadis and the Town Council pool subcommittee to get answers to questions regarding the ventilation plan for this project. Chairman Ogurick will send a memo to the appropriate people.

Chairman Ogurick asked about the chlorine levels and whether they could impact the tension membrane or its warranty. Mr. Gancarz will find out the disinfection method and report back to the Energy Commission.

There was a brief discussion about the possibility of using a portion of the ESPC surplus to supplement the ventilation budget for the new pool dome structure.

3) LED streetlights – CCM program

Mr. Gancarz reported five proposals were received in response to the RFP sent out in November. Those proposals are currently being reviewed with the help of ECG. Mr. Gancarz reported this matter is still being reviewed, but the rough buyout number from CL&P for 1772 lights and 490 single service poles is \$442,000. The “all-in” (includes purchase price of the infrastructure and retrofitting) price is approximately \$1,200,000. This project has great potential savings. The next step is to finish vetting and make a recommendation to the Town Council. Mr. Michalowski asked where the \$442,000 to pay for this project would come from. Mr. Gancarz said a program similar to the ESPC or by referendum.

E. Publicity / Education / Outreach

1) News articles

Mr. Michalowski shared several articles with the Commissioners. The first article was about Cheshire looking into expanding its use of solar energy. The others had to do with other LED lighting and EVCS in other towns.

2) Outstanding Energy Achiever Award

Chairman Ogurick presented an Outstanding Energy Achiever Award to Mr. Biancor and will hand deliver the same award to the other recipient, Ramona Burkey. Mr. Gancarz pointed out the money left over in the budget is “use it or lose it” and recommended the Energy Commission buy 6-8 more blank awards for future recipients. It was agreed to do so.

D. Clean Energy

1) Solar on town-owned landfill

Mr. Gancarz reported this project is on a parallel track to the streetlights. An RFP was sent out, five proposals were submitted and are currently being reviewed with the help of ECG.

This matter is time sensitive and a Letter of Intent is needed by the end of March in order to meet the ZREC auction application deadline of April 15, 2015.

Motion by Mr. Newton that the Energy Commission is recommending the Town Council select a developer to make an application for the CL&P (Eversource) ZREC program on behalf of the Town of Cheshire for town-wide solar project(s), to be submitted no later than April 15, 2015. Seconded by Mr. Gayeski and carried unanimously.

E. PBC Projects

Mr. Biancor reported the contract for this project was awarded to a local company and expects there will be a meeting in the next 3-4 weeks. Mr. Biancor had no other information. Chairman Ogurick asked the minutes to reflect that the Energy Commission would like to see the design details for the primary purpose of looking for energy efficiency opportunities.

F. Grants, Rebates & Utility Programs .

a. Early involvement of CL&P (Eversource) and Yankee Gas

Mr. Gancarz reported the Waste Water Treatment Plant was eligible for a rebate and expects to have that amount to report at the next meeting. Mr. Gancarz also reported this project is 72% and expected to be fully completed by the end of September 2015.

b. Bright Idea Grant

Mr. Gancarz reported ECG was hired to consult on the LED streetlight and solar projects. Chairman Ogurick said the Bright Idea Grant cannot be used for solar projects, but the LED streetlight project would qualify. Mr. Gancarz expects to have an update by the next meeting.

G. CL&P Energy Reliability Program

Mr. Gancarz reported the tree trimming is a continuing program. There was a brief discussion about the noticeable benefits so far.

H. Electric Vehicle Charging Station (EVCS)

Mr. Michalowski reported there have been conversations with Pat Bowman from Hines Hardware Store and Sally Bowman from Sally Bowman Real Estate regarding the possibility of partnership on an Electric Vehicle Charging Station. There was a brief discussion about gathering

more information and continuing to talk about partnership possibilities. Mr. Michalowski agreed to continue working on this and will report back at the next meeting. Mr. Gancarz noted the EVCS must be offered at no cost for the first three years, only if a Bright Idea Grant is used to fund this project.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Proposed Energy Commission 2015 meeting dates. *Motion by Mr. Newton to approve the proposed 2015 Energy Commission meeting dates which are the last Monday of each month, except in May and December. Seconded by Mr. Michalowski and carried unanimously.*
- B. Chairman Ogurick reported that any conflict of interest disclosures must be submitted by January 31, 2015. This information was not brought to the Commission sooner because the January meeting was cancelled due to inclement weather.
- C. There was a brief discussion regarding small, grass roots organizations who want CL&P and UI to stop raising customer service charges on residential and small businesses.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 8:50 by Mr. Michalowski. Seconded by Mr. Gayeski and carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen M. Gill