

**CHESHIRE ENERGY COMMISSION – Meeting Minutes**  
**Monday, August 31, 2015**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**7:00 P.M. – Room 210, Town Hall**

Commissioners Present: David Gavin  
Paul Michalowski  
Walter Gayeski  
Phil Newton

Commissioners Absent: Chairman Rich Ogurick  
Carol Wilson

Others Present: Tim White  
Walter Gancarz

Others Absent: Peter Talbot, Town Council

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 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 July 27, 2015 minutes. Seconded by Mr. Newton and passed unanimously.*

## **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 about 94% complete. Mr. Gancarz reported a meeting date to discuss supplemental projects is in the process of being set up.

- 2) Community Pool Energy Efficiency

Mr. Gavin reported he requested a report on the projected energy efficiency for the new pool dome based on the current design, but has not received any report yet. Mr. Gancarz reported weekly updates are being received and progress meetings are being held every three weeks. Mr. Gancarz reported an issue arose with the helical pier foundation anchors and this issue is being evaluated and resolved. There was a brief discussion.

- 3) LED streetlights

Mr. Gancarz reported he received the new buyout number from Eversource which came in significantly higher. Mr. Gancarz is in contact with Eversource regarding the error in the number of lights and poles included in the new buyout amount. Mr. Gancarz reported he will be proactive with the Town Council by presenting the options and benefits of this project. Once a new, accurate buyout number is received, the Town will have 90 days to make a decision.

### **B. Benchmarking**

- 1) Mr. Gancarz reported he plans to sit down with Eversource for assistance on the energy usage downloads.

### **C. Publicity / Education / Outreach**

- 1) News articles - Mr. Michalowski shared three articles with the Commission. The first article was about the amount of electric vehicle rebates that have been claimed in Connecticut. The second article was about the Town of Newington extending free charges at its newest charging station. The third article was about the Town of Plainville installing streetlights with Wi-Fi.
- 2) Fall Festival - Mr. Gayeski reported the Town passed a resolution for \$10,000 for a lightbulb giveaway at the Fall Festival. Mr. Gayeski reported he needs to clarify the exact parameters of the matching program with Eversource. Mr. Gayeski reported postcards will be sent out to Cheshire residents for the lightbulb giveaway. Mr. Gayeski reported that Eversource has a vendor who will handle the giveaway. There was a lengthy discussion about the details of how this program will roll out, including verification, distribution, sponsorship, signage and booth coverage.
- 3) Mr. Michalowski reported he plans to contact Kara LaDore at Norton School in mid-September to discuss this year's program for Energy Awareness month in October.
- 4) Mr. Gayeski shared his draft flyer for a presentation he is planning at the Cheshire Public Library on September 23, 2015.

#### D. Clean Energy

- 1) Solar on town-owned landfill

Mr. Gancarz reported he is still waiting to hear on the virtual net metering.

#### E. PBC Projects – CHS Locker Room renovations

There was nothing to report on this project.

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

- 1) Early involvement of Eversource in all town building projects - Energy Blueprint

There was nothing new to report on this matter.

2) Bright Idea Grants

Mr. Gayeski reported Eversource asked if the Town wants to receive the \$10,000 directly. It was agreed the accounting should be handled internally by Eversource.

3) Mr. White proposed ideas for other solar possibilities on town operated buildings such as the Historical Society, the Food Pantry and the Yellow House. After a brief discussion, Mr. Gancarz said he will find out the consumption at the Yellow House and report back at the next month's meeting.

G. CL&P Energy Reliability Program - Tree Trimming

Mr. Gancarz reported there is a meeting on September 2, 2015 to discuss tree trimming this fall on Mountain Road and North Brooksvale Road.

H. Microgrid Grant and Loan Program

There was nothing new to report on this matter.

I. Electric Vehicle Charging Station (EVCS)

Mr. Newton reported he will meet this week with the Director of the YMCA to see if this an EVCS has any value at the YMCA. There was a brief discussion about the viability of pursuing a commercial partnership for an EVCS in Cheshire.

**VII. NEW BUSINESS**

There was a brief discussion about the New Business items on the Agenda.

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

*Motion to adjourn at 8:30 by Mr. Michalowski. Seconded by Mr. Gavin and passed unanimously.*

Respectfully submitted,

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Karen M. Gill