

**AGENDA
CHESHIRE ENERGY COMMISSION
MONDAY, JULY 26, 2021, 7:00 PM**

Via Zoom

(PER EXECUTIVE ORDER OF THE GOVERNOR OF CONNECTICUT)

Public access made available through live streaming on YouTube at

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Video will be available on Channel 14 and on demand at www.cheshirect.org as soon as possible.

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. June 28, 2021 – Regular Meeting

V. COMMUNICATIONS

VI. OLD BUSINESS

A. Energy Efficiency Projects

1. I ♥ My Home – update
2. Year 5 Annual M&V Inspection - status

B. Benchmarking

1. Energy Star Portfolio Manager – database input and maintenance
2. New municipal energy efficiency/cost savings opportunities

C. Publicity/Education/Outreach

1. News articles and letters to the editor
2. Energy Fairs – at elementary school open houses
3. Cheshire Fall Festival – HES Audits, other ideas

D. Clean Energy

1. Opportunities for additional solar car ports or PV arrays

E. PBC Projects

F. Grants, Rebates, & Utility Programs

1. Early involvement of Eversource in all town building projects

G. Energy Reliability Program

1. Update on tree trimming

H. Coalition for Sustainable Cheshire

1. Feedback to coalition

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Net Zero Energy School Buildings – communication with Jim Jinks and Vin Masciana

CHESHIRE ENERGY COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
June 28, 2021 – VIRTUAL ZOOM MEETING

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Ogurick called the meeting to order at 7:07 PM.

II. DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

A quorum was determined to be present.

Commission Members Present: Richard Ogurick (Chairman), Chris Smith, Dan Knudsen, David Gavin, Walter Gayeski, Ryan O’Grady

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. May 24, 2021 – Meeting Minutes as amended.

Page 1, remove Daniel Bombero from “Commission Members Present.”

Page 3, Item D,2., under “MOTION by Mr. Knudsen” – remove the word “allow.”

Page 3, Item D,3., change “energy efficient projects” to “energy efficiency projects.”

Page 4, Item D,3., change “BOA” to “BOE.”

MOTION by Mr. Smith to approve the meeting minutes.

SECONDED by Mr. Gavin.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously.

V. COMMUNICATIONS

None to report

VI. OLD BUSINESS

A. Energy Efficiency Projects

1. MaClary Athletic Complex – status of LED lighting project; cost/benefit summary

Mr. Bombero reports that the project is substantially complete. He stated that the lights were successfully used during the “All Night Graduation Party” at the High School. This item will be removed from the agenda.

2. My Home – update

There were no updates to report.

3. Year 5 Annual M & V Inspection

Mr. Bombero will reach out to Mr. Clavet, Facilities Manager at the Board of Education and to Mr. Noewatne, Director of Public Works and Engineering, to clarify whether the inspections are complete.

4. Year 6 Q-1 Quarterly EMS Report

Mr. Bombero will provide a copy of the EMS report to Mr. Ogurick, when it is available.

5. CHP system at Cheshire Community Pool – uptime; Aegis reports

Mr. Gavin reported that the system is operating at 25% capacity, indicating a possible boiler problem. Mr. Bombero confirmed that there were problems with the boiler from January to May, which have since been remediated and he reported that the unit is currently functioning at 100 % capacity. Mr. Gavin reported that Aegis Energy is no longer forwarding their monthly report. Mr. Bombero concurred that he has not received the report for several months and will follow up with the company. The group discussed who is responsible for controlling and monitoring energy systems for the community pool, the Town and the Board of Education.

B. Benchmarking

1. Energy Star Portfolio Manager – database maintenance

Chairman Ogurick reported that Mr. Romania resigned from the Commission and requested that another member volunteer to input the #2 heating oil information into the database. Mr. Bombero stated that once the data is current, it can be input on a quarterly basis. Mr. Smith agreed to coordinate with Mr. Bombero to obtain and input the necessary data.

2. Chris Smith – new municipal energy efficiency /cost savings opportunities.

Mr. Ogurick shared that Mr. Smith and Mr. Gavin are continuing to look for opportunities and have several resources available to them including: the EMS Report, Energy Star Portfolio Manager and the M & V Inspection Report. Mr. Smith shared his observation that at the current time, more cost savings opportunities exist on the Board of Education side rather than the Town side. Mr. Bombero shared that the BOE applied for two (2) medium-sized ZREC's for carport projects at Highland and Doolittle schools. Mr. Gavin shared that data indicates that we are not reaching energy star performance levels at Highland School and this may be from running the air conditioning unit. Mr. Bombero reports that the addition of the government freezer at Highland School may be a factor. Mr. Bombero shared that AMERESCO may be able to explain why Highland School is not functioning at the expected energy star performance level.

Mr. Smith discussed how the commission might be able to get involved in some of the BOE projects, in an advisory capacity. The group noted the apparent lack of willingness on the part of the BOE to include the Energy Commission in projects where they could have valuable input. A group discussion ensued. Mr. Bombero agreed to continue to apprise the commission of BOE projects.

C. Publicity/Education/Outreach

1. News articles and letters to the editor

No news articles or letters to the editor were shared.

2. Energy Fairs – consider at elementary school open houses

Mr. Ogurick polled the group's interest in volunteering at the Fall Festival and School Open House events this fall. Mr. Ogurick suggested that the group generate ideas by the July meeting. Mr. Knudsen suggested "energy life cycle of schools" as a possible theme for the Open House event. Mr. Gavin suggested that the Chairman conduct a formal survey of the members to determine their interests, expectations and availability for such events. Dan Knudsen agreed to contact Fiona Pearson from Sustainable CT, regarding possible opportunities to pool their resources. The group discussed connecting with other energy commissions in other towns to share ideas and explore opportunities with them.

D. Clean Energy

1. Opportunities for additional solar car ports or PV arrays (discussed under item #2)
2. Solar Marketplace Assistance Program (MAP) – update; ZREC successor program

Mr. Ogurick discussed the Letter of Intent (LOI) that was forwarded to the Town Council from the Energy Commission after the May 24th Energy Commission meeting. At the May meeting, the commission made a motion to recommended that the Council authorize Town Manager, Sean Kimball, to sign the LOI which would have allowed CT Green Bank to secure ZREC credits from Eversource by the June 14th deadline. Mr. Ogurick reports that the Council deferred the request to their Planning Committee. Mr. Ogurick shared that the LOI was “non-binding.” He also shared that the June 14th deadline to secure the ZREC credits could no longer be met. Chairman Ogurick noted that Ms. Basham and her team from CT Green Bank were prepared to present to the Council. It was conveyed to the Energy Commission that no presentation would be necessary. The group discussed the matter further.

Mr. Smith suggested utilizing the “public comment” platform to address the Council at a future meeting. Mr. Ogurick agreed to reach out to the Town Council liaison, Peter Talbot, to further discuss the matter.

E. PBC Projects

Mr. Bombero reports that the architect is reviewing bid submittals for the HVAC and Locker Room Improvement project at the Police Department and Jacunski Humes Architects will share their recommendations with the subcommittee on Wednesday, June 30th at 6:00 PM.

F. Grants, Rebates & Utility Programs

1. Early Involvement of Eversource in all Town building projects

Mr. Bombero reported that as part of Highland School Boiler project, the Board of Education received just under \$48,000 in Eversource Energy Efficiency rebates.

G. Energy Reliability Program

1. Update on tree trimming

There were no updates reported.

H. Coalition for Sustainable Cheshire

1. Feedback to coalition

Mr. Ogurick and Mr. Knudsen shared that there was an article in the Cheshire Herald indicating that the coalition had achieved Silver Status, the highest achievable level at this time.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Education Department designated representative to the Energy Commission

Mr. Ogurick summarized the response he received from Mr. Masciana at the BOE regarding the designated representative to the Energy Commission. He shared that Mr. Bombero represents both the Town and the Board of Education in matters relating to the Energy Commission.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Gavin, seconded by Mr. Knudsen and the meeting was adjourned at 8:27 PM.

ATTEST


Anne McBain, Acting secretary