Commissioners Present:
Chairman Rich Ogurick, David Gavin, Walter Gayeski (New Member, not yet sworn in), Paul Michalowski and Carol Wilson

Commissioners Absent:
Joseph Nesdale and Peter Takizawa

Staff Present:
George Noewatne, Operations Manager for the Public Works/Engineering Department

Others Present:
Joan Szechtmann of Cheshire; James Sima, Town Council member (arrived at 7:40 p.m.)

I. CALL TO ORDER
Chairman Ogurick called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

II. DETERMINATION OF QUORUM
A quorum was present for this meeting.

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
A. January 25, 2010 – Regular Meeting

MOTION by Dave Gavin to accept the January 25, 2010 Energy Commission regular with the corrections noted below. SECONDED by Carol Wilson.

Corrections to the January 25, 2010 meeting minutes: Page 4, first paragraph – A BETTER EXPLANATION IS NEEDED FROM FRANK BIANCUR; Page 5 first sentence should read, “commented that the energy numbers…”; Page 5, item C 1 should read, “that the Energy Commission page…”
VOTE: In Favor – Gavin, Michalowski, Ogurick and Wilson
Opposed – none

The motion passes 4 – 0.

V. COMMUNICATIONS

There were no communications to the Energy Commission.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

A. Energy Management Projects

1) Community Pool – subcommittee update

Mr. Gavin reported that the Community Pool Subcommittee has met a number of times to review the 2 proposals the Town Council would like evaluated. The group has visited sites where both types of enclosures have been used. The Subcommittee will not be giving an opinion on which firm to move ahead with but will be gathering information to provide analysis and recommendations to the Town Council. The deadline for the Subcommittee to report back to the Town Council is March 15th.

2) Cheshire Public Library – status of energy upgrades

Mr. Noewatne stated that there has been no additional work done on the energy upgrades at the Cheshire Public Library; approximately 50% of the suggestions have been done to date and as the budget allows, additional items will be worked on.

3) Highland School– computer and TV time management

There was no update available on the computer and TV time management upgrades at Highland School.

4) Vending Miser / Snack Miser vending machine controls

There was no update available on the vending/snack miser controls in the schools.
5) 30% by 2015 – proposal to Town Council; baseline

Chairman Ogurick stated that there was nothing new to report on the Federal Guidelines of 30% by 2015 being adopted in Cheshire.

6) Municipal lighting issues – LED trial; sports complex lighting retrofit

Mr. Noewatne state that the four LED parking lot lights that the Energy Commission authorized the purchase of at their September 4th meeting had not been ordered yet. Chairman Ogurick asked to have the lights ordered before the next Energy Commission meeting.

7) Performance contracting – Celtic Energy; RFP for 4 to 6 buildings

Mr. Noewatne and Chairman Ogurick talked about a February 19th memo from Town Manager Milone asking that the Energy Commission make a resolution of support for the hiring of Celtic Energy to draft an RFP for performance contracting for an energy savings program for Cheshire. There is $25,769 included in the Stimulus Grant application to develop a RFP for performance contracting related to an energy savings program. Town Manager Milone would also like the Energy Commission to recommend 4 to 6 Town buildings for this project.

Ms. Wilson commented that she didn’t feel the Energy Commission should be recommending a specific contractor but felt it was OK to recommend buildings to the Town Council for this project.

**MOTION** by Rich Ogurick that the Energy Commission supports the hiring of Celtic Energy to write an RFP for 4 to 6 buildings in Town to take place in an energy savings program using performance contracting. **SECONDED by Paul Michalowski.**

**VOTE:** In Favor – Gavin, Michalowski and Ogurick

Opposed – Wilson

The motion passes 3 – 1.

Commissioners discussed options for buildings recommendations for the proposed energy savings program and made the following recommendation.

**MOTION** by Paul Michalowski that the Energy Commission recommends the Cheshire Police Station, Cheshire High School, Highland School, Town Hall, Dodd Middle School and Doolittle School for the energy savings program being considered in Cheshire. **SECONDED by Carol Wilson.**
VOTE: In Favor – Gavin, Michalowski, Ogurick and Wilson
Opposed – none

The motion passes 4 – 0.

B. Benchmarking

1) Energy Star Portfolio Manager – status of data entry

Mr. Noewatne stated that he has entered some of the oil data on the Town’s
Energy Star Portfolio Manager site since the last Energy Commission meeting.

2) Web site and log-in info:
http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=evaluate_performance.bus_portfoliomanager; user name: Cheshireps; password: Cheshirect

Chairman Ogurick encouraged Commission members to check out the Energy
Star Portfolio Manager web site when they have a moment.

C. Publicity / Education / Outreach

1) CEC web page (http://www.chshoreenergycommission.org) – Google site;
updates

Chairman Ogurick commented that Energy Commission page that is now being
hosted by Google looks great. He noted that the site is at:

2) News articles and letters to the editor

Mr. Michalowski shared a recent article with Commissioners from the Record
Journal entitled, “Cheshire energy projects receive $108,000 power surge”.

3) Earth Day events – at Cheshire Public Library?

Ms. Wilson stated that she is waiting for a call back from the Cheshire Public
Library to see about securing a date for an Earth Day event in April. She would
like to arrange for a 3 hour event that Kindergarten through 8th grade students
would be invited to attend with their parents. There would be different stations to
stop by that have different energy elements. Ms. Wilson suggested getting
Smart Living information for parents and having someone at the event to sign up
residents for clean energy. Ms. Wilson stated that she will need the help of other
Commissioners to make this event a possibility and has asked for help in
gathering handouts and promoting the event. Once a date has been locked in, Ms. Wilson will let Commissioners know.

D. Clean Energy

1) 20% by 2010 Campaign – report status to CCEF; additional clean energy purchases to reach goal (Cheshire Public Library, Norton School)

Chairman Ogurick stated that additional Town building signups are needed to reach the 20% by 2010 goal. Commissioners suggested adding the Cheshire Public Library and Norton School to the list of Town buildings that are purchasing clean energy. Mr. Noewatne stated that he would contact the Board of Education regarding signing up Norton School.

Chairman Ogurick stated that he forwarded an e-mail that includes the Connecticut Clean Energy Fund’s 2009 Annual Report to Commission members, which he reviewed during the meeting.

2) 5 kW solar system at library – performance update

Chairman Ogurick gave an update on the energy generated over the past 14 months as a result of the solar system on the Cheshire Public Library roof. As of today, 7,325 kilowatt hours have been generated, the equivalent of 50,909 TV hours or powering 56 computers for 1 year.

3) Ross Solar Group – free solar seminar

Ross Solar Group is a certified solar panel installer for businesses and residential and would like to host a solar seminar for the Energy Commission and Cheshire residents. Commissioners suggested possibly adding this seminar to the Earth Day event.

4) Clean Energy marketing workshops –
   http://www.ctcleanenergy.com/regionalworkshops

The link provided above is for the Power Point presentation from the marketing workshops that the CCEF is hosting to help Towns overcome sign up obstacles for clean energy.

E. PBC Projects
1) Dodd Food Service upgrades – Energy Star equipment

Mr. Noewatne reported that the Dodd Middle School Food Service upgrade project is currently out to bid and the bids are due back by March 16th.

F. Grants, Rebates & Utility Programs

1. Energy Efficiency & Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) Program – application approval

The Energy Efficiency & Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) Program application was approved recently for $108,489. Chairman Ogurick asked to have a copy of the final submission sent to the Energy Commission members. With regards to the EECBG program, Cheshire will have to pay out the money first and then the Federal government will reimburse the Town. The Town Council will have to vote to accept this grant award before the Energy Commission can begin spending money on any of the programs connected with this grant.

Commissioners talked about the Home Energy Solution audits that were included in this grant proposal and discussed ways to select who would receive the audits and how the sign ups will work. Mr. Michalowski stated that the Town Assessor has said that he would help to send out letters to the residence that receive assistance from the Town. Mr. Michalowski will begin drafting a letter for Chairman Ogurick to review before the next Energy Commission meeting.

2. Community Energy Savings Project (a.k.a. Neighbor to Neighbor Energy Challenge) – Cheshire commitment; grant submitted to DOE on 12/14/09 – approval mid-March

Chairman Ogurick stated that Cheshire is one of 14 communities that signed a letter of intent to participate in the Community Energy Savings Project to help with energy efficiency projects on a residential level; approvals are supposed to be announced in mid March.

3. CCEF Geothermal Heat Pump Incentive Program

Chairman Ogurick asked about using geothermal heat pumps at the Community Pool. Mr. Gavin commented that both proposals for the Community Pool have said that they are “not feasible”. Councilman Sima commented that they would need oversized units that would make them inefficient at the Community Pool.

Chairman Ogurick asked why solar thermal is not being considered for the Community Pool and was told that it was not compatible with the permanent roof shape or proposed glass-roofing material. Mr Gavin did agreed to ask the two companies being considered for solar thermal calculations.
G. CL & P Energy Reliability Program

CL & P tree trimming crews continue to work around Town in an effort to enhance the energy reliability in Cheshire.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Yankee Gas Waterbury to Wallingford pipeline project

An informative meeting will be held on February 23rd at 7:30 p.m. for the Town Council and public with Yankee Gas to discuss their planned pipeline project that calls for 16 miles of 16-inch pipe installation. The project will go from Wallingford to Cheshire, following Route 68, and will be completed by November 2010. The second part of this project will be Cheshire to Waterbury and will be completed by November 2011.

B. Recognition of New Commission members

Chairman Ogurick stated that Walter Gayeski and Joseph Nesdale have recently been appointed to the Energy Commission. Mr. Gayeski stated that he has not yet been sworn in as a member of the Energy Commission. Chairman Ogurick stated that he would send Mr. Nesdale a listing of the 2010 Energy Commission meeting dates.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Carol Wilson to adjourn the Energy Commission meeting at 9:00 p.m.; SECONDED by Paul Michalowski.

VOTE: In Favor – Gavin, Michalowski, Ogurick and Wilson
Opposed – none

The motion passes 4 – 0.

Respectfully submitted:

Tracey M. Kozlowski
Recording Secretary