Commissioners Present:
Chairman Rich Ogurick, David Gavin, Walter Gayeski, Paul Michalowski, Joseph Nesdale, Peter Takizawa and Carol Wilson

Commissioners Absent:
None

Staff Present:
George Noewatne, Operations Manager for the Public Works/Engineering Department; Frank Biancur, District Maintenance Foreman for the Education Department

Others Present:
Joan Szechtman of Cheshire

I. CALL TO ORDER
Chairman Ogurick called the meeting to order at 7:00 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. May 24, 2010 – Regular Meeting

There was no quorum, which resulted in no minutes for the May 24, 2010 regular meeting of the Energy Commission. It was determined that the minutes from the April 2010 Energy Commission meeting had not been approved yet.

MOTION by Carol Wilson to accept the April 26, 2010 Energy Commission regular as submitted. SECONDED by Paul Michalowski.
VOTE: In Favor – Gavin, Gayeski, Michalowski, Ogurick, Nesdale, Takizawa and Wilson
Opposed – none

The motion passes 7 – 0.

V. COMMUNICATIONS

Chairman Ogurick stated that he was contacted by someone from the Sharon, CT Energy Task
Force regarding Cheshire’s Home Energy Solutions project.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

A. Energy Management Projects

1) Community Pool – energy reduction

Mr. Gavin noted that the Community Pool would probably end up as a Summer
only facility when the current bubble fails, as a result of the failed referendum for
a permanent structure last week.

Mr. Noewatne stated that he sent an e-mail regarding the 2010 Capital Budget,
specifically about the proposed reverse flow system for the Community Pool that
was valued at $125,000. Chairman Ogurick noted that former Commissioner Bill
Kunde had initiated that project and there were no new quotes on this proposed
project. He suggested that this item be removed from the Capital Budget,
adding that it could be revisited at a future date.

2) Cheshire Public Library – status of energy upgrades; 50% complete

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. Ms. Wilson noted that the Library staff should be educated on how
to properly control the lights in the Mary Baldwin Room of the Cheshire Public
Library.

3) 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; he and Councilman
White need to work on a presentation together for the Town Council.
4) Energy Efficiency & Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) projects

As part of the grant rules, the EECBG grant of $108,000 that was awarded to Cheshire needs to be spent by June 2012 and the Town has to “buy American”, if available, for all products related to the grant projects.

a) Computer time management software

Mr. Biancur had no update available on the computer time management upgrades at Highland School. He stated that Mike Papa is currently working on a software program for the school network to do work orders and then he will be working on the computer equipment time management software that is proposed as part of the EECBG projects, of which $12,000 has been allocated.

Chairman Ogurick commented that the Commission and Staff have been talking about this project for at least a year and expressed his concern that priority has not been given to this project to save money and energy consumption.

b) TV monitor controls

Mr. Biancur commented that he was having a hard time finding a timer that was made in the USA for the TV monitor controls in the schools. Highland School is currently using Intermatic mechanical timers that are made in Mexico. Mr. Biancur stated that he will have to get letters from his supplier stating that the timers are not available from an American company, for the Grant. The schools will need 280 timers in order to have one for each of the TV monitors in all the schools.

c) Vending machine controls

Mr. Biancur noted that he is also having a problem finding a vending machine miser that is made in the USA and may have to buy a foreign product for this project, too. He noted that there are 16 vending machines in the school that the vending misers will be purchased for.

d) CHS auditorium lighting – design review

Mr. Biancur stated that he has been meeting with lighting representatives regarding upgrading options for the auditorium lighting at Cheshire High School. There is currently 1 LED in place at the Auditorium in the upper section and a plug in florescent will be installed in the lower section tomorrow. It took 30 minutes to install the LED fixture. The Grant budget for this project is $12,000. Mr. Biancur would like to have an Auditorium Lighting Committee and the Energy Commission review the options for their
recommendations. He did note that all of the lighting options are American made and can be installed by Town employees. Mr. Biancur noted that the LED light is nice and bright, uses a dimmer and is not yellow at all.

e) Street / Parking Lot lighting retrofits – LED / Induction trial

Mr. Biancur stated that he has a proposal for induction fixtures for 46 poles from Standard Electric to retrofit and replace all of the “shoe box” style lights at Dodd Middle School, Doolittle School and Norton School. The other exterior lights at the schools are floodlights, which cannot be retrofit. There is a projected energy savings of 45% by switching to the induction fixtures. The induction bulbs should last 100,000 hours or approximately 68 years. Mr. Biancur noted that there is a CL & P rebate available for these fixtures so the net cost of the materials for this project is $10,695, which will leave a balance of approximately $15,000 of the Grant funding. Commissioners commented that the remaining balance could be spent on replacing other “shoe box” style lights in Town, at other locations.

Chairman Ogurick commented that the Town should find out if CL & P’s rebate will cover installation costs, too.

f) Subsidize 150 Home Energy Solutions audits - status

Chairman Ogurick stated that there was a meeting earlier today with CL & P and representatives from the 2 home energy audit contractors, New England Conservation Inc. and CRI, as well as Town Staff. As of today, there are a total of 652 homes signed up for audits.

The Grant allocation for this project is $27,750 and the invoices from the energy audit contractors is estimated at $17,000 to date, leaving a $10,000 balance. The balance could be used toward another 400 home energy audits, with the Town paying the $25 towards each of the audits.

CL & P and the Town will be sending out a follow up letter to those residents that have already participated, offering an incentive if they refer others to the program. The incentive would be an entry in a drawing for an Energy Star appliance, up to a $1500 value. The contractors would hold the drawing, not the Energy Commission. CL & P would like to get to 1,000 home energy audits in Cheshire.

Councilman White commented that residents may not be aware that the discounted home energy audits are still available and suggested writing a letter to the Editor of the Cheshire Herald or contributing an article to bring it to the residents’ attention. Ms. Wilson stated that she agreed.

Chairman Ogurick stated that he would like to do both a letter to the Editor / article and the CL & P letter to the completed audits so that the residents of
Cheshire are aware that the home energy audit program has been extended until September 30, 2010. Ms. Szechtman suggested including the details of a home energy audit in the article for the residents to see.

Ms. Wilson expressed her concerns about holding a drawing for an appliance. Mr. Noewatne noted that drawings like this have been done in other towns and it was noted again that the Energy Commission would not be doing the drawing; the home energy audit companies would be holding it.

**MOTION** by Dave Gavin that the Energy Commission move ahead with the amendments to the Home Energy Audit program as outlined by Chairman Ogurick. SECONDED by Joe Nesdale.

**Discussion:**
Commissioners noted that all referrals, from residents that have had their audits completed now or during the next few months, are eligible for the free Energy Star appliance drawing.

**VOTE:** In Favor – Gavin, Gayeski, Michalowski, Ogurick, Nesdale and Takizawa
Opposed – Wilson

The motion passes 6 – 1.

Chairman Ogurick noted that CL & P will also be doing a press release on the referral drawing and program extension.

**g) RFP for town-wide ESPC project – Celtic Energy**

There was a meeting on June 22nd with Celtic Energy representatives and Town Staff in which the RFP paperwork was reviewed. It was recommended that the Town start with 4 buildings initially instead of the 6 that were recommended, to make it scaleable to the whole Town. The 4 buildings would now be Town Hall, Cheshire Police Headquarters, Cheshire High School and Dodd Middle School. The RFP should be ready to go out by the end of July; responses will be reviewed and analyzed by the end of September. The contractor selected for the 4 initial buildings would then continue with the other Town buildings afterwards. Celtic Energy is scheduled to visit the 4 buildings on July 12th with their assessment team to develop a skeleton project so that the RFP can be finalized.
5) WRAP – Status of Cheshire mailing

Chairman Ogurick noted that 37 residents have signed up for the WRAP home energy audit program, as of today 30 homes have been completed by New England Conservation Services, Inc.

B. Benchmarking

1) Energy Star Portfolio Manager – status of data entry

Mr. Noewatne stated that there has been no change to the Town’s Energy Star Portfolio Manager site, adding that the Town side of data is about 1 year behind but the schools are keeping up with their data entry.

Chairman Ogurick again expressed his disappointment and concern stating that something needs to be done and that this project really needs the Town Manager’s support.

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.cheshireenergycommission.org) – Google site; updates

Chairman Ogurick commented that the web site for the Energy Commission looks awesome, thanks to Mr. Takizawa.

2) News articles and letters to the editor

Commissioners talked about the recent Cheshire Herald article about the Community Pool vote and Grant article.

Councilman White noted that he has started a Facebook page with articles regarding the Neighbor to Neighbor Energy Challenge.

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

Ms. Wilson did not have an update on the number of clean energy sign ups for Cheshire, adding that she does believe Cheshire is out of the top 20 in the rankings of Connecticut towns. Mr. Noewatne stated that the Cheshire Public Library has been signed up for clean energy. Mr. Nesdale offered to look at the Education Department’s electricity budget for 2010 and 2011 for Norton School to confirm that it would be OK to sign up Norton School for clean energy purchasing.

2) 5 kW solar system at library – performance update

Chairman Ogurick gave an update on the energy generated over the past 18 months as a result of the solar system on the Cheshire Public Library roof.

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3) Cheshire High School – Solar Powered Classroom Project

Chairman Ogurick stated that he received a note from Vincent Masciana, Director of Management Services for the Education Department regarding a teacher at Cheshire High School who would like to create a solar powered classroom. It was noted that if 100 more clean energy sign ups are generated in Cheshire, a free 2-kilowatt system could be installed; Amity has already done this with a 4 or 5-kilowatt system through their clean energy sign ups. Chairman Ogurick commented that he would be happy to support this, but noted that the Education Department had initially turned the idea down when the Town was
awarded its first PV panels, so it was installed at the Cheshire Public Library. To purchase a PV system, it would cost approximately $10,000 per kilowatt. Chairman Ogurick suggested that Mr. Biancur invite Mr. Masciana and the Cheshire High School teacher to attend an Energy Commission meeting to discuss this project. Commission members also stated that they would be interested in talking to the Amity teacher for their input and ideas. Ms. Wilson suggested that a letter be drafted from the Energy Commission.

E. PBC Projects

There were no PBC projects discussed at this meeting.

F. Grants, Rebates & Utility Programs

1. Neighbor to Neighbor Energy Challenge – $4.1 million grant approval

Chairman Ogurick reported that the Community Energy Savings Project grant application has been approved for $4.1 million for the 14 town partnership. The purpose of the partnership is to promote clean energy and energy efficiency and will target homeowners. Councilman White commented that the program has not been explained very well yet adding that it is still in development. Chairman Ogurick explained that the purpose of the program is to educate and promote community outreach on these topics.

G. CL & P Energy Reliability Program

1. Lewis Tree Service tree trimming project – status

CL & P tree trimming crews continue to work around Town in an effort to enhance the energy reliability in Cheshire, most recently on East Johnson Avenue and in the center of Town.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Collaborative Committee – energy and environment

Chairman Ogurick mentioned that the Environment Commission Chairman had contacted him about forming a joint committee of the Energy Commission and Environment Commission to discuss related issues such as renewable technology job growth.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT
MOTION by Peter Takizawa to adjourn the Energy Commission meeting at 9:10 p.m.; SECONDED by Joe Nesdale.

VOTE:  In Favor – Gavin, Gayeski, Michalowski, Ogorick, Nesdale, Takizawa and Wilson
   Opposed – none

The motion passes 7 – 0.

Respectfully submitted:

Tracey M. Kozlowski
Recording Secretary