

Town of Scipio July 2023 Town Board Meeting Minutes

The July meeting of the Town of Scipio Town Board, Cayuga County, State of New York was held at the Scipio Town Office, 3705 Rte. 34, Scipio Center, NY 13147, on Wednesday, July 12, 2023 at 7 pm.

Present: Gary Mutchler, Supervisor
Susan Allen, Councilperson Jason Botsford, Councilperson
Melinda Pitman, Councilperson

Excused: Mark Ferrari, Councilperson
Bill Hall, Highway Superintendent

Others attending: Jeff Eaton, Ann Robson, Rolland Dodge, Nancy Hart, Chet McLaughlin, Jason Dickey, Tripp Bordiere, Chris Haff.

1. The Town of Scipio Town Board meeting was called to order by Supervisor Mutchler at 7:01pm. Followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.
2. Motion to approve the agenda was made by Councilperson Allen, seconded by Councilperson Botsford. All in favor. 4/0
3. Issues from town residents - Chris Haff, 1793 Fleming-Scipio Townline Rd. spoke of the localized flooding event on July 3, 2023 along the Scipio side of the road, across from his property. He brought to the board's attention the need for storm water run-off remediation with the property owner of that parcel and the town's maintenance of the roadside ditch.
4. **Resolution 2023-47** Approve June 14, 2023 Town Board Meeting Minutes. Motion made by Councilperson Allen, seconded by Councilperson Pitman.
Adopted Ayes 4 Mutchler, Allen, Botsford, Pitman
 Noes 0
5. SunEast Scipio Solar Project Manager Chet McLaughlin, along with Jason Dickey and Tripp Bordiere inquired on the status of the Special Use Permit, and Site Plan Review application with the town. Town Attorney Jeff Eaton voiced there were lingering concerns with the Host Community Agreement which is linked to the Special Use Permit. Town Engineer Tim Buhl will be contacting them to address the points in question.
6. Official Reports
 - a. Assessor – No report
 - b. CEO – Printed report attached to end of meeting minutes.
 - c. Clerk – The June disbursements to the town supervisor was \$2,046. The deadline for submitting articles for the town's Fall Newsletter will be August 21, 2023.
 - d. Highway Superintendent – Superintendent Bill Hall submitted a report highlighting the ongoing shared services project for road paving and maintenance with the towns of Venice, Genoa, Ledyard, Aurelius, Moravia, and Springport which helps to keep the cost of the work down. There was a close call with town flagmen along Rte. 34 in Scipio on July 11, 2023 when an 18-wheeler

ignored a closed road undergoing repair with proper signage, flags, and flashers. He stressed the need for everyone to obey the Move Over Law and Work Zone Laws. A rainstorm event in early July caused flooding along a section of the Fleming-Scipio Townline Rd., the farm field and farm driveway and a combination of over 3" of rain caused the road to flood. He is working with the farm to see how to eliminate this problem. He has signed the insurance settlement agreement on the Grady litigation. Discussion has started with the Town of Fleming on splitting the responsibility of town highway responsibilities on the Fleming-Scipio Townline Rd. Scipio has been maintaining the road for many years and it is his belief that the Town of Fleming should be responsible for half of this road.

- e. Town Attorney - reviewed points from a prepared printed report
 - i. Grady Litigation – Settlement was reached with the insurance companies totaling \$8,900. (\$5900 for road damage and \$3000 to offset attorney fees).
 - ii. Healy Litigation is progressing with real estate transfer documents being agreed upon by all parties totaling \$9,000 for 1.036 acres.
Resolution 2023-48 Approve Settlement of Lawsuit. Motion was made by Councilperson Pitman, second by Councilperson Botsford.
Adopted Ayes 4 Mutchler, Allen, Botsford, Pitman
 Noes 0
 - iii. Zoning Ordinance – currently reviewing the definition of a camp, seeking CEO perspective on the Zoning Ordinance and other needed amendments. An introductory resolution should be presented at the August 2023 Town Board meeting.
 - iv. SunEast Solar Project – see comments made in item 5 of the meeting minutes.
 - v. Abandon Cemeteries – Section 291 of Town Law requires a Town of remove grass and weeds twice a year and maintain fencing to preserve the cemetery. The Town must appropriate annual funds for this upkeep.
 - vi. Animal Control Services RFP – a draft proposal was given to town board members for review.

7. Board Member Reports

- a. Susan Allen – Announced Transfer Station hours will be shortened on Saturday, July 29, 2023. Signage has been posted to alert residents of this change. The summer Swim and Recreation Program has started at the Southern Cayuga School with two sessions in the morning at 9 am and 10:30am. Children get 45 minutes in the pool and 45 minutes at the playground. S. Allen will report more next month on this service that the town helps fund.
- b. Jason Botsford – The 4-H Livestock Auction will take place at 3pm on August 5, 2023 at the Union Springs Fire Station. Youth in 4-H will be auctioning beef,

lamb, pork, and poultry to the highest bidder. Finishing services will be available to process the animal.

- c. Mark Ferrari – excused. Discussion was had on progressing with Phase 1 of the building repair to mend the south wall of the town office building and replace the windows. The next steps are to hire an engineer to write up the specs and to prepare for the bidding process. Town Attorney J. Eaton offered Town Supervisor G. Mutchler his firm’s services in contracting with an engineer who will reference the Project Manual created by Architect Kathleen Connelly.
- d. Melinda Pitman – no report

8. Supervisor’s Report

- a. Financial Report – The June statement report was sent to town board members for review.
- b. NYSEKDA – It was reported that the town will be receiving \$5,000 from earned credits with the NYSEKDA Clean Energy Communities Program. \$4,000 will be budgeted to replace the lights in the Highway Barn.

9. Other Business

- a. The NYSDEC brochure on identifying Giant Hogweed was included in the meeting packet to build awareness of this local concern.

10. Review and payment of vouchers

- a. **Resolution 2023-49** Approve Abstract 7 General Fund - vouchers 112-125.Total \$12,673.85. Motion made by Councilperson Pitman, second by Councilperson Botsford.

Adopted Ayes 4 Mutchler, Allen, Botsford, Pitman
 Noes 0

- b. **Resolution 2023-50** Approve Abstract 7 Highway Fund– vouchers 46-52 Total \$12,673.85. Motion made by Supervisor Mutchler, second by Councilperson Botsford.

Adopted Ayes 4 Mutchler, Allen, Botsford, Pitman
 Noes 0

- 11. Adjournment – A motion was made at 9:18pm by Councilperson Pitman, second by Councilperson Botsford. All in favor 4/0.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Robson
Town of Scipio Clerk

**Town of Scipio
Code Enforcement Office
P.O. Box 71
Scipio Center, New York 13147
315-364-5740**

Monthly Report – July 2023 Town Board Meeting

PERMITS ISSUED:

23-19 Justin Sedorus, 3439 State Route 34B, demo/remove single-family dwelling.

23-20 Dillwyn Otis, 3067 State Route 34B, 30' x 28' detached garage with 4' x 10' porch.

23-21 Eric & Tina Bunnell, 1807 Sherwood Road, demo/remove debris left from house fire and fill basement with clean fill.

23-22 Greg Rejman (Liberty Renewables), Sherwood Road, temporary meteorological mast for wind measurement.

Scipio Planning board review:

June 28, 2023, meeting: Sun East Solar Farm Site Plan – project engineer working on site plan details requested by Town Engineer and Town Attorney. Shirley Potter – 2552 Mosher Road and June Janssen – Mosher Road – minor lot alteration approved by Planning Board.

Next meeting scheduled for July 26, 2023.

ZBA review:

No applications received and no meeting held on July 4, 2023 due to holiday.

COMMENTS/QUESTIONS/CONCERNS:

None

Respectfully submitted 07/12/2023.

J. Patrick Doyle, Code Enforcement Officer 
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