

Town of Scipio June 12, 2024 Board Meeting Minutes

The June meeting of the Town of Scipio, Cayuga County, State of New York was held at the Town Office, 3705 Rte. 34, Scipio Center, NY 13147, on June 12, 2024.

Present: Gary Mutchler, Town Supervisor
Jason Botsford, Councilperson (arrived 7:50pm)
Melinda Pitman, Councilperson

Susan Allen, Councilperson
Nancy Hart, Councilperson

Others: Ann Robson, Bill Hall, Rolland Dodge, Eron Klipple, Nicole Campbell, Larry Bell, Carl O'Neill, Juliana Heffern, Layla Blask, Scott Biggar, Tim Weir, Jr.

At 6:30pm members of the Town Board assembled for the semi-annual review of municipal financial records of the Town Court Clerk, Town Bookkeeper and Town Clerk.

1. The June 2024 Town Board meeting was called to order by Supervisor Mutchler at 7:01 pm, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. Motion to approve the agenda for the June 12, 2024 Town Board meeting was made by Councilperson Allen, second by Councilperson Hart. All in favor. 4/0
3. Issues from town residents – Nicole Campbell, former resident of Scipio spoke of her concern with the deteriorating condition of headstones in the Sherwood Cemetery, part of the Historic Equal Rights National Register in the Hamlet of Sherwood. Discussion followed on the Town's responsibility of an abandoned public cemetery and deed title of the property. Town Resident Larry Bell, who is associated with the Howland Stone Store Museum (HSSM) spoke on the interest in reserving local history and he would like to see the headstones in the cemetery repaired. He offered the assistance of the Opendore Museum/HSSM volunteers to do some straightening up and cataloguing, though they would not be able to fund the restoration of the headstones. Supervisor Mutchler approved Larry Bell's request. Nicole Armstrong offered to research potential grant opportunities. Town Attorney Jeff Eaton stated a title search should be conducted.
4. **Resolution 2024-52** Approve the May 8, 2024 Town of Scipio Town Board Meeting minutes. Motion made by Councilperson Allen, second by Councilperson Hart was:
Adopted Ayes 4 Mutchler, Allen, Hart, Pitman
 Noes 0
5. Agricola Wind Project Update – Liberty Renewable representatives Juliana Heffern, Layla Blask and Scott Biggar informed the town board of advancement with their permitting process. Copenhagen Infrastructure Partners (CIP) is now the investment owner of the Agricola project with Liberty Renewable. Repair was made to the lights on the Sherwood Rd. wind measuring tower as per FAA requirements. The Agricola project surveys have been completed, and the preliminary facility siting map has been released. Meetings have been held to discuss safety and emergency services planning as well as staging areas and local town road use. Liberty Renewable will host an Open House later this summer to inform the public of the status of planning and preparation.
6. Officer Reports
 - a. Assessor – No report.

- b. CEO – Prepared report attached to meeting minutes.
 - c. Clerk - \$3,130 were disbursed to the Town Supervisor for the month of May 2024. There have been above average responses to the town-wide Dog Enumeration efforts with twenty new licenses to date. Dates were announced when the Town Clerk will be out of the office. Notice will be posted on the Town’s website and on the office door. The Town’s Board of Assessment Review was conducted on June 6, 2024. The town did receive a FOIL request by one property owner that was directed to the Assessor’s attention.
 - d. Highway Superintendent – It was announced that one highway employee is on medical leave. The Highway crew recently paved Rice Rd. and are helping area towns with paving projects. Recognition was given to the County Sherriff Deputy who assisted with traffic safety on the closed roads. The superintendent attended Cornell University’s Local Roads Program. His crew will take the week of July 4th off.
 - e. Attorney – The GML 239 application for county approval of the Amendments to the Town of Scipio Zoning Ordinance was submitted to the County Planning Department. Once approved the next step is to adopt Local Law #1 of 2024 in July 2024. Regarding changes to the Greater Tompkins County Municipal Health Insurance Consortium resolution passed in 2023, further communication is needed. A draft basic contract for the Southern Cayuga Sports Conference was distributed for review. An agreement between the Scipio Fire Department and the Southern Cayuga Sports Conference needs to be formalized.
7. Board Member Reports
- a. Susan Allen – No transfer station news. She did receive a phone call pertaining to vehicles speeding on Hunter Rd. They were directed to the state. A town resident contacted her suggesting the municipality develop a playground.
 - b. Jason Botsford – No report.
 - c. Nancy Hart – Reported on her monthly participation with CWIO, OLWMA and OWLA. She and Councilperson Pitman agreed to work together on a grant application to fund the reconstruction of the boat launch and dock area on Ensenore Rd. to provide local Rescue Vehicle access to lakeshore residents.
 - d. Melinda Pitman – Reported the Scipio Fire Department did purchase a used heavy rescue vehicle that is in service.
8. Supervisor’s Report
- a. **Resolution 2024-53** Amend Budget. Motion made to amend the budget as follows was made by Supervisor Mutchler, second by Councilperson Hart was:

Adopted	Ayes	5	Mutchler, Allen, Botsford, Hart, Pitman
	Noes	0	

Debit A4089 ARPA Revenue \$36,852.47
Credit A599 Fund Balance
 - b. **Resolution 2024 – 54** Approve Semi-Annual Financial Records Review. Motion made by Councilperson Allen, second by Councilperson Pitman was:

Adopted	Ayes	5	Mutchler, Allen, Botsford, Hart, Pitman
	Noes	0	

- c. Building Renovation Update – Bill Hall reported on the building repair. The contractors will be installing five new windows and complete the pointing and exterior painting. They discovered blocks filled with water and are recommending drainage ditching around the foundation to remove the standing water. Equipment will need to be rented for the ditching project.

Resolution 2024-55 Approve the job change to rent the ditching equipment and complete foundation drainage work. Motion made by Councilperson Hart, seconded by Councilperson Botsford was:

Adopted Ayes 5 Mutchler, Allen, Botsford, Hart, Pitman
 Noes 0

Discussion was had on sealing the blocks on the interior walls and painting the interior walls of the town office.

9. Other Business - None

10. Review of 2024 Abstract 6

- a. **Resolution 2024 – 56** Approve General Fund vouchers 95-117, total \$106,082.80.

A motion made by Councilperson Pitman, second by Councilperson Allen was:

Adopted Ayes 5 Mutchler, Allen, Botsford, Hart, Pitman
 Noes 0

- b. **Resolution 2024 – 57** Approve Highway Fund vouchers 34-40, total \$128,126.87.

A motion made by Councilperson Allen, second by Councilperson Pitman was:

Adopted Ayes 5 Mutchler, Allen, Botsford, Hart, Pitman
 Noes 0

11. Next meeting: Wednesday, July 10, 2024, 7pm

12. Adjournment at 9:18pm: Motion by Councilperson Pitman, second by Councilperson Botsford was approved. 5/0

Respectfully submitted,

Ann M. 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 – June 2024 Town Board Meeting

PERMITS ISSUED:

24-13 Christopher Allen (Allen Farms Realty, LLC), 2885 Skillet Road, addition/alterations to single-family dwelling.

24-14 Judith Rowlands, 3858 Wyckoff Road, tear-off and re-shingle roof.

24-15 Craig Kopp, 3416 State Route 34B, 16' x 22' addition to existing garage.

Scipio Planning board review:


May 22, 2024, meeting – reviewed site plans from Don & Cindy Edwards, 78 Fire Lane 21, for an addition and a deck and from William & Donna Moore to remove an existing garage and construct a new garage. Review of both applications to continue at the next meeting scheduled for June 24, 2024.

ZBA review:

June 4, 2024, meeting – public hearing - Greg Snyder property, 4486 State Route 38 (West Lake Road), requesting an area variance to construct a single-family dwelling. Variance denied – applicant to submit a revised variance request at the next meeting.

COMMENTS/QUESTIONS/CONCERNS:

Respectfully submitted 06/12/2024.

J. Patrick Doyle, Code Enforcement Officer 
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