

## Town of Scipio September 2025 Town Board Meeting Minutes

The September meeting of the Town of Scipio Town Board, Cayuga County, State of New York was held at the Town Office, 3705 Rte. 34, Scipio Center, NY 13147, on Wednesday, September 10, 2025 at 7:00 pm.

### Present:

Gary Mutchler, Supervisor  
Jason Botsford, Councilperson\* arrived at 7:10pm.  
Melinda Pitman, Councilperson  
Susan Allen, Councilperson  
Nancy Hart, Councilperson

Others: Jeff Eaton, Bill Hall, Rolland Dodge, Ann Robson, Jackie Dickinson, Cody Botsford

1. Supervisor Mutchler called the September 2025 meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.
2. Approved the September 10, 2025 meeting agenda.  
Motion made by Allen, second by Pitman. All in favor. 4/0
3. Issues from town residents – None.
4. **Resolution 2025-55** Approved the August 27, 2025 Town Board Meeting minutes with clarification on Item 9 - Councilperson Allen inquired about Scipio's Town Courtroom security. The Town of Ledyard is discussing armed courtroom guards.  
Motion made by Hart, second by Pitman was:  

Adopted	Aye	4	Mutchler, Allen, Hart, Pitman
	Nay	0	
	Abstain	1	Botsford
5. Draft Addendum to Town of Scipio Zoning Ordinance – Battery Energy Storage Systems. Town Board took No Action. Planning Board members attended a NYSERTA presentation on the topic. A summary report will be given to the Town Board at a future meeting.  
Motion made by Hart, second by Botsford. All in favor. 5/0
6. Officers Reports
  - a. Assessor – Supervisor Mutchler reported that the town's records will be passed over to the Director of Cayuga County Real Property Services in preparation for the new assessor, Jay Franklin, starting on October 1, 2025.
  - b. CEO – No Report.
  - c. Clerk – August 2025 disbursements to Supervisor were \$3297.00. Due to funding cuts East Hill Family Medical Center will no longer supply free COVID-19 test kits to the town. The town's website recently had a platform glitch that was corrected allowing the public to view timely posted agendas and minutes.
  - d. Highway Superintendent – Highway staff have completed their summer shared service agreements with local towns. They finished oiling and chipping our town roads. The new salt shed blacktop has been sealed, and the salt contract is awaiting approval, so 500 ton of road salt can be ordered.
  - e. Attorney – The town is waiting on the Administrative Judges' decision for our Petition for Party Status with the Agricola Wind Project. A motion was made by

Hart, second by Pitman to allow Attorney Eaton to appeal an opposed court decision regarding our Petition for Party Status.

Approved	Ayes	3	Mutchler, Hart, Pitman
	Noes	0	
	Abstain	2	Allen, Botsford

The Road Use Agreement with Liberty-Renewables is being reviewed and revisions will be submitted. The draft Host Community Agreement is almost completed. The escrow funds from Liberty-Renewables have been spent. The cost associated with the scope of services needs to be adjusted. Attorney Eaton suggested an additional \$20,000 request to Liberty-Renewables.

**Resolution 2025-56** To authorized Supervisor Mutchler to approve changes in scope of services necessary to complete the agreements for the Agricola Project. Motion by Mutchler, second by Hart was:

Adopted	Ayes	3	Mutchler, Hart, Pitman
	Noes	0	
	Abstain	2	Allen, Botsford

7. Board Member Reports

- a. Susan Allen – Fall Cleanup Day is Saturday, October 4, 2025, 9 am – 4 pm. Mattresses and box springs will not be allowed due to a \$150 disposal surcharge.
- b. Jason Botsford – No report.
- c. Nancy Hart – Posed a question on including information by other organizations on the town’s website. Who reviews content prior to submittal? Attorney Eaton will draw up a town policy addressing these points. The Hazard Library Building Project plans to start the 1<sup>st</sup> phase this month.
- d. Melinda Pitman – The Scipio Fire Department is having a chicken BBQ on October 4, 2025.

8. Supervisor’s Report

- a. Town of Scipio 2026 Tentative Budget – The Tentative 2026 Town Budget is just about finished and will be discussed at next month’s board meeting.
- b. SCIA Update – He reported the Southern Cayuga Instant Aide does have full time ALS coverage. The town is facing a 14% increase in the 2026 budget compared to 2025 due to increased costs and the percentage of calls from Town of Scipio residents. Jackie Dickinson, Executive Director of SCIA commented on improved communication. She was asked if SCIA plans to conduct CQI training with the Scipio Fire Department. The two groups will be in communication to set it up.
- c. The Cayuga County Association of Town Supervisors will hold a dinner meeting on September 25, 2025. Mutchler extended the invitation for a board member to attend.
- d. Correspondence – A Thank You card was received from the Scipio Fire Department for the recent \$1,000 donation on behalf of the town’s use of their meeting space.

9. Other Business – None

10. Review of 2025 Abstract 9

- a. **Resolution 2025-57** General Fund – vouchers 149-166, Total - \$27,102.83

Motion made by Allen, second by Hart was:

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

- b. **Resolution 2025-58** Highway Fund – vouchers 66-71, Total - \$3,966.43

Motion made by Pitman, second by Hart was:

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

11. Next Meeting – Wednesday, October 8, 2025, 7:00 pm

12. Adjournment - Motion made by Pitman at 8:48 pm. All in favor. 5/0

Respectfully submitted,

Ann M. Robson  
Town of Scipio Clerk