

The August meeting of the Town of Scipio, Cayuga County, State of New York was held at the Town Office, 3705 State Rte. 34, Scipio Center, NY 13147, on August 14, 2024.

Present:

Gary Mutchler- Supervisor	Susan Allen – Councilperson
Jason Botsford – Councilperson	Nancy Hart – Councilperson
Melinda Pitman – Councilperson	

Others: Jeff Eaton, Bill Hall, Rolland Dodge, Ann Robson, Connie O’Hearn, David Komarisky, Wendy Mutchler

1. Meeting was called to order at 7 pm by Supervisor Mutchler, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.
2. Motion to approve the August 2024 meeting agenda made by Allen, second by Pitman. All in favor. 5/0
3. Issues from town residents – Connie O’Hearn, Kennedy Rd. voiced her concerns with the proposed Agricola Wind Project having a negative impact for our community, for residents and on animals. Councilperson Hart relayed her neighbor’s concern with the Transfer Station lacking a receptacle for scrap metal recycling, year-round. The neighbor also suggests the town issue permits to residents who want to drop off recyclables.
4. Local resident and flooring expert, David Komarisky, showed flooring options to the town board as part of the office renovation project. He recommended 12 ml LVT vinyl commercial flooring that is waterproof, can be glued to the existing floor, with no waxing or sealing.

Resolution 2024 – 65 Approve up to \$7500.00 for installing vinyl plank flooring in the town office building, installing mop board, and moving furniture and toilet. Motion by Hart, second by Botsford was:

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

5. **Resolution 2024 - 66** Approve the July 10, 2024 Town Board meeting minutes. Motion by Botsford, second by Pittman was:

Adopted	Ayes	4	Mutchler, Botsford, Hart, Pitman
	Noes	0	
	Abstain	1	Allen

6. Report on the August 13, 2024 Liberty Renewable’s Agricola Wind Project Open House – Several town officials attended, Liberty Renewable staff responded to individuals’ questions, large maps showed tentative placement of the turbines. One map depicted the view range from the turbines out into the community viewshed. Town Attorney Eaton mentioned tax exemptions should be part of a PILOT program still to be devised. Early studies are being conducted on the capacity to accept the power produced. Supervisor Muchler anticipates a virtual meeting to be scheduled in October with Liberty Renewable staff.

7. **Resolution 2024-67** Change Orders for Town Office Renovation, \$5195 for painting ceiling, and \$600 for mop board removal. Motion by Allen, second by Hart was:

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

8. **Resolution 2024-68** Approve Appointment of Paul Redmond to the Town of Scipio Planning Board to replace Michael Nolan’s term which expires December 31, 2026. Motion by Allen, second by Hart was:

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

9. Officers Reports

- a. Assessor – No report.
- b. CEO – Printed report attached to meeting minutes.
- c. Clerk – \$2016.00 was disbursed to the Town Supervisor from July 2024. Twenty-two (22) dog licenses were issued. Liberty Renewables requested the term end dates of municipal elected staff. Recently ninety-seven (97) town website subscribers were sent e-mail blasts on the Scipio Rural Cemetery, the public Open House for the Agricola Wind Project, the recruitment plea for volunteers at the Scipio Fire Department and the Scipio Lake Property Owners Association annual meeting. The current WIX contract for website services will expire in May 2025. Options are being reviewed.
- d. Highway Superintendent – Recently eight town roads and the parking lot at the Scipio Fire Department were oiled and chipped. Some remediation work was needed at no extra cost at the fire department to seal the lots. State funding requirements for the CHIPS program has been modified and town projects are being adjusted to the new calendar. In 2022, a snowplow truck was ordered for the town. The town attorney has been asked to get involved, as of date, the town has not taken possession of the vehicle. The Highway crew have been working on ditches, and installing seven (7) driveway aprons on Mosher Rd. The property owner is responsible to purchase the pipe and gravel. The town’s attorney is finalizing an Application for Rights-of-Way/Roadway Permit that will regulate the installation of all pipelines in the town. The application packet was distributed for review. The Salt Shed grant was written by the MRB Group and submitted to the state for \$800,280.94. The town’s share will be 25%, ~ \$184,000.
- e. Attorney – Detailed monthly report was emailed to the town board for review.

Resolution 2024- 69 Approve the Town of Scipio Highway’s Application for Rights-of-Way/Roadway Permit and fee structure. Motion by Allen, second by Mutchler was:

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

From the town’s real property assessment revaluation, the town was served with legal process, along with the county and the school district, regarding an Article 7 challenge of the assessment of Marc Sholinsky’ s property at 35 Fire Lane 24, Auburn, NY 13021. Bond, Schoeneck and King counsel will be hired to defend this case at the Hall of Justice, Rochester, NY on the 20th day of November, 2024.

Resolution 2024- 70 Allow Town Supervisor to sign the Cayuga County Road Use Agreement for the Liberty Renewable’s Agricola Wind Project. Motion made by Allen; second by Pitman was:

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

10. Board Member Reports

- a. Susan Allen – No Report
- b. Jason Botsford – No Report
- c. Nancy Hart – Updated the board on action taken by the NYS Department of Health to dismiss the proposed Owasco Lake Rules and Regulations. The Article 78 Petition initiated by the City of Auburn, the Town of Owasco and the Owasco Watershed Lake Association with the NYSDOH will continue in the Albany County Supreme Court.
- d. Melinda Pitman – Reported the Southern Cayuga Instant Aide lost an ALS provider, leaving them with four (4) EMTs. There is an open board position, and she encourages it be filled by a resident of Scipio. In anticipation of the next round of grant funding for

Waterfront Revitalization, she is getting engineering quotes to remediate the Ensenore Boat Ramp to improve Rescue Vehicle Lake access.

11. Supervisor's Report

- a. **Resolution 2024 - 71** Amend the Town of Scipio budget.

Debit A1990.4 Contingent Account \$1650.00
Credit A1410.41 Records Retention

Debit A1990.4 Contingent Account \$285.00
Credit A1420.43 Attorney – Project Healy

Motion made by Hart, second by Allen was:

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

- b. 2025 Pre-budget – Informed the board a pre-budget has been started with staff retirement and salary increases being considered.
- c. Health Insurance projections – Informed the board of a projected 14%-20% increase in health insurance premiums for 2025.
- d. Building Improvements – Interior painting is near completion; the doors need to be installed and trim work concluded.
- e. Comp Alliance forms and incentives – Rebates will be offered as an incentive for completion and submission of forms.
- f. Salt Shed information – Provided in Highway Superintendent's report
- g. Clean Energy – A \$15,000 grant application was approved to install new windows in the Highway Barn.

12. Other Business - none

13. Abstract 8

- a. **Resolution 2024 -72** Approve General Fund – vouchers 137-157, total \$60,162.03.

Motion by Hart, second by Pitman was:

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

- b. **Resolution 2024-73 Approve** Highway Fund – vouchers 47-55, total \$110,700.67.

Motion by Allen, second by Pitman was:

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

14. Next meeting, Wednesday, September 11, 2024, 7 pm.

15. Adjournment -Motion made by Pitman at 9:08pm, second by Allen 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 – August 2024 Town Board Meeting

PERMITS ISSUED:

24-17 Tyler S. Beebee, 3475 Burtless Road, 30' x 40' detached garage with 8' x 30' lean-to.

24-18 Patrick Morrissey, 1852 Mosher Road, 30' x 30' steel building (no sides).

24-19 Ronald Curvin, 3620 Ensenore Road, remove existing shingle roof and re-shingle.

Scipio Planning board review:

June 26, 2024, meeting – reviewed and approved site plan from Greg Snyder, 4486 State Route 38, for a single-family dwelling. Next meeting scheduled for August 28, 2024.

ZBA review:

August 6, 2024, meeting – public hearing – Brian Robison, 4564 State Route 38, area variance to construct a 14' x 16' three season room was denied. Next meeting scheduled for September 3, 2024.

COMMENTS/QUESTIONS/CONCERNS:

Respectfully submitted 08/13/2024.

J. Patrick Doyle, Code Enforcement Officer 
(315) 729-3921 codeenforcement@townofscipio.com