

Town of Scipio June 2025 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 11, 2025.

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

Others: Bill Hall, Rolland Dodge, Ann Robson, Susan Patt, David Eldridge, Nancy Moon,
Cee Crossly, Sue Secaur, Terri Denman

1. Meeting called to order at 7:03 pm by Supervisor Mutchler, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. Motion to approve the June 11, 2025 Town Board meeting agenda with addition of Resolution to Approve the Semi-Annual Audit of Financial Records. Motion made by Allen, second by Pitman. All in favor. 5/0.
3. Issues from town residents – None presented.
4. **Resolution 2025-36** Approve May 14, 2025 Town Board Meeting minutes. Motion to accept made by Hart, second by Botsford was:
Adopted Ayes 5 Mutchler, Allen, Botsford Hart, Pitman
Noes 0
5. **Resolution 2025-37** Oppose Public Service Law Article VIII entitled “Siting of Renewable Energy and Electric Transmission. Motion made by Hart, second by Mutchler was:
Adopted Ayes 3 Mutchler, Hart, Pitman
Noes 0
Abstain 2 Allen, Botsford
6. **Resolution 2025-38** Approve Semi-Annual Audit of Financial Records. Motion to accept made by Allen, second by Pitman was:
Adopted Ayes 5 Mutchler, Allen, Botsford, Hart, Pitman
Noes 0
7. Officers Reports
 - a. Assessor – No report.
 - b. CEO – June 2025 Report attached at end of board meeting minutes.
 - c. Clerk – May 2025 disbursements to the Town Supervisor were \$3,742.60. Dog Control Officer reported three complaints and two dogs seized and sheltered in May 2025. Recent correspondence from Worker’s Comp Alliance listed future *mandatory* training dates on Workplace Violence, Right-to-Know and Blood-Borne Pathogen topics for all town employees and elected officials to register for. The NYS Office of Renewable Energy Siting and Electric Transmission (ORES) sent notice of the Agricola Wind LLC draft permit conditions, public comment period and public comment hearing scheduled for Wednesday, August 6, 2025 at 6:00 pm, at the Hilton Garden Inn, 74 State Street, Auburn, NY.
 - d. Highway Superintendent – Reported all mandatory trainings are current with his staff. This spring two highway trucks were sold: the Western Star and the F150. In preparation for the Agricola Wind Project Road Use Agreement, a road paving

sample on Sherwood Rd has been obtained. The Road Use Agreement specifies town roads will be remediated back to pre-project standards. The old Salt Shed has been burned and debris removed. The site was prepped for the new Salt Shed foundation, walls were erected, and the top will be built. Job interviews are being scheduled for the open position on the town's Highway crew.

- e. Attorney – On June 2, 2025 ORES issued a draft permit for the Agricola Wind LLC project and granted waiver from the Town's minimum setbacks of the community wind energy system and the decommissioning timeline. It is recommended that anyone wishing to speak at the public hearing on August 6, 2025 submit written comments ahead of time and limit their verbal comments to three minutes as instructed. The Sholinsky Article 7 Tax Cert. has been resolved and tax adjustments made with the county.

8. Board Member Reports

- a. Susan Allen – Reported the Spring 2025 Cleanup Day is scheduled for June 14, 2025 from 9am-4pm. Six dumpsters are ordered from Robinson Roll-off and one dumpster from Weizman for metal recycling.
- b. Jason Botsford – No report.
- c. Nancy Hart – The Nature Conservancy transferred a 72-acre parcel in the Town of Venice to the Owasco Lake Watershed Management Council this Spring. The Article 78 Petition of Judgement filed by the City of Auburn, the Town of Owasco and OWLA against the NYS Department of Health was adjudicated by the NYS Supreme Court. This is to clarify the NYS Department of Health is responsible for protecting potable water sources in the state.
- d. Melinda Pitman – No report.

9. Supervisor's Reports

- a. **Resolution 2025-39 Amend Budget**

Debit A1620.4 Buildings Contractual	\$175,000.00
Credit A1620.21 Salt Shed Building	
Debit A3097 Income Account Buildings	\$600,000.00
Credit A1620.21 Salt Shed Building	
Debit A1990.4 Contingent Account	\$5,000.00
Credit A1620.4 Buildings Contractual	
Debit A1990.4 Contingent Account	\$3,500.00
Credit A1420.44 Legal Project Sholinsky	

Motion to accept made by Mutchler, second by Botsford was:

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

10. Other Business – None

11. Review of 2025 Abstract 6

- a. **Resolution 2025-40** General Fund – vouchers 78-94, total \$296,575.74.

Motion to accept made by Allen, second by Hart was:

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

Noes 0

- b. **Resolution 2025-41** Highway Fund – vouchers 44-49, total \$183,039.86.

Motion to accept made by Pitman, second by Allen was:

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

Noes 0

12. Next meeting – Wednesday, July 9, 2025, 7pm

13. Adjournment – Pitman made motion to adjourn at 8:21pm. All in favor. 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 2025 Town Board Meeting

PERMITS ISSUED:

- 25-16 Constance D. West, 3337 State Route 34, single-family dwelling.**
- 25-17 Matthew Calandra, 3806 Sherwood Road, 12' x 24' screened porch.**
- 25-18 Thomas Anderson, 89 Fire Lane 19, tram system.**
- 25-19 Town of Scipio, 3705 State Route 34, salt storage building.**
- 25-20 John A. Cooper, 3122 State Route 38, 12' x 20' shed.**
- 25-21 Shirley & Ronald Potter, 2552 Mosher Road, front porch.**

Scipio Planning board review:

May 21, 2025 meeting – update on Liberty Renewables proposed Project. Next meeting scheduled for June 25, 2025.

ZBA review:

No meeting held in June 2025. Next meeting scheduled for July 1, 2025, if needed.

Respectfully submitted 06/11/2025.

J. Patrick Doyle, Code Enforcement Officer

(315) 729-3921 codeenforcement@townofscipio.com



TOWN OF SCIPIO TOWN BOARD
RESOLUTION No. 2025 – 37

RESOLUTION OPPOSING PUBLIC SERVICE LAW ARTICLE VIII ENTITLED “SITING OF RENEWABLE ENERGY AND ELECTRIC TRANSMISSION”

WHEREAS, effective April 20, 2024, the Renewable Action through Project Interconnection and Deployment Act (the “**RAPID Act**”) repealed Executive Law § 94-c, repealed the current Public Service Law article VIII, and enacted a new Public Service Law article VIII entitled “Siting of Renewable Energy and Electric Transmission” (“**Article VIII**”); and

WHEREAS, the RAPID Act also transferred the Office of Renewable Energy Siting and Electric Transmission (“**ORES**”) from the Department of State to the Department of Public Service, continuing all existing functions, powers, duties, and obligations of the Office under the former Executive Law § 94-c, and adding new functions, powers, duties, and obligations related to major electric transmission siting; and

WHEREAS, the RAPID Act consolidated environmental review and permitting of major renewable energy facilities under ORES, established regulatory timelines, and expanded approvals to include major electric transmission projects; and

WHEREAS, the RAPID Act has undermined sound environmental review of major electric transmission facilities by requiring ORES to render a permit decision within twelve (12) months, regardless of the proposed project’s size, impact upon prime agricultural soils, or impact upon private property; and

WHEREAS, the RAPID Act has further eroded home rule and local decision making set forth in the New York State Constitution, Local Government Bill of Rights, Statute of Local Governments, and Municipal Home Rule law, usurping the rights of local governments to determine how communities and property within their jurisdictions develop, and contravening the purpose of comprehensive planning outlined in Section 272-A of Town Law; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board has witnessed the above-described negative effects of the RAPID Act first hand through the current pending Application of Agricola Wind LLC for a Permit Pursuant to Article VIII of the New York State Public Service Law to Construct the Agricola Wind Project, a Major Renewable Energy Generation Facility to be Located in the Towns of Venice and Scipio, Cayuga County, New York (the “**Agricola Application**”).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The Town Board strongly opposes any state or federal action that has the effect of weakening or eliminating New York State’s longstanding tradition of home rule and local government authority; and it is further resolved that
2. The RAPID Act and ORES have removed the authority of the Town Board and Planning Board to approve the siting of large scale solar or wind facilities, as has been experienced by the Town Board and Planning Board first-hand through the Agricola Application; and it is further resolved that
3. The Town Attorney is hereby directed to file a copy of this resolution with ORES through its portal related to the Agricola Application.

4. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

The adoption of the foregoing Resolution was moved by Hart, seconded by Mutchler, and duly put to vote, which resulted as follows:

ROLL CALL	Yea	Nay	Abstain
Gary Mutchler	X		
Susan "Dee" Allen			X
Jason Botsford			X
Melinda Pitman	X		
Nancy Hart	X		

This Resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted on June 11, 2025.

Ann Robson, Town Clerk

(Town Seal)