

Town of Scipio July 2026 Town Board Meeting Minutes

The July 2026 meeting of the Town of Scipio, Cayuga County, State of New York was held at the Scipio Town Office, 3705 State Rte. 34, Scipio Center, NY 13147 on Wednesday, July 8, 2026.

Present: Gary Mutchler, Supervisor Susan Allen, Councilperson
Nancy Hart, Councilperson Dan McGarry, Councilperson
Melinda Pitman, Councilperson
Others: Jeff Eaton, Bill Hall, Rolland Dodge, Ann Robson, Anita Dungey

1. Supervisor Mutchler called the July 2026 Town Board meeting to order at 7:00pm. Followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.
2. Approved July 8, 2026 Town Board meeting agenda
Motion by Allen, second by Pitman. All in favor. 5/0
3. Issues from Town Residents – Anita Dungey highlighted a study on Infra Sound of Wind Turbines and Health conducted in Finland. She also reported on current environmental concerns with an Adirondack solar array installation and inquired about the storm water runoff remediation plans for the Scipio Solar project. Later in the agenda the CEO report addresses the recent on-site visit and approval with the town's engineer at the Scipio Solar site regarding storm water run-off.
4. **Resolution 2026-36** Approve June 10, 2026 Town Board meeting minutes.
Motion made by Allen, second by Pitman was:
Adopted Ayes 5 Mutchler, Allen, Hart, McGarry, Pitman
Noes 0
5. **Resolution 2026-37** Adopt Local Law # 3 – A Local Law Imposing a Twelve (12) Month Moratorium on the Development or Construction of Data Centers, Accessory Data Centers and Cryptocurrency Data Mines within the Town of Scipio.
Motion by Pitman, second by Allen was:
Adopted Ayes 5 Mutchler, Allen, Hart, McGarry, Pitman
Noes 0
6. Officer Reports
 - a. Assessor – Two property owners contested their 2026 assessment to the BAR on Grievance Day. NYS now administers the STAR exemption. Call 518.457.2036 with questions on eligibility. The 2026 NYS Legislature has approved additional tax exemptions for widows and widowers of police officers killed in the line of duty, for permanently and totally disabled honorably charged veterans and for active-duty service members.
 - b. CEO – Printed report attached.
 - c. Clerk - \$2,326.00 was disbursed to the Town Supervisor for the month of June 2026. The town's website had 187 unique visitors. There were two dog complaints filed. The NYAOT's *Foundations of Freedom* anthology published

the Town of Scipio's submittal on the town's role in shaping America over the past 250 years.

- d. Highway Superintendent – Reported that Casella has been billed for the recharging of eight fire extinguishers used to put out their truck fire. Complaints have been noted that Casella is not emptying all dumpsters in a timely manner and leaving debris on the ground when emptying the compactor. During a recent storm, a willow tree fell across the highway, at the corner of State Rte. 38 and Duck Rd. Debris was left in the culvert when clearing the roadways. It is the state's responsibility to return to clear the remains of the downed tree. Crews have been ditching along Hunter Rd and the SWCD will follow up with re-seeding the roadsides. It was noted that even with road closed signs posted during this work, vehicles disregarded the safety of town employees and drove through their work zone.
- e. Attorney – Reported that the Host Community Agreement (HCA) is just about complete. If approved the town will receive \$4,000 per MW for the first year with a 2% inflation rate added each year. The town anticipates a 48 MW turbine capacity which equates to \$192,000 per year. The town wants to solidify in the HCA that the Fire District and the SCIA will also receive annual donations for the duration of the project. The Road Use Agreement (RUA) is under view with the Town of Venice and their attorneys. The County 239 review regarding Local Law #3 has been completed allowing the resolution to proceed. The American Land Rescue Fund Article 78 has been filed against ORES and the NYS Department of Public Service. The Town Board was informed that the lawsuit had little possibility of impacting on the permitting process of the Agricola Project. The Town Board may consider passing a resolution of support, though such a measure had no legal value in terms of the lawsuit. Further review is needed on the Owasco Lake Watershed Management Council's recommendation to create an Environmental Protection Overlay District in the town's Zoning Ordinance. The town's Planning Board will be tasked to review these documents and make recommendations to the Town Board. Due to budget and staffing cuts the county's Planning Department has canceled all trainings opportunities for town ZBA and Planning Boards. Other options will be explored. Charter Communications has approached the town to update their Cable Franchise Agreement. A motion was made by Hart, second by Pitman to schedule a Public Hearing during the August 12, 2026 Town Board meeting before moving forward. All in favor. 5/0

7. Board Member Reports

- a. Susan Allen – Reported everything is in place for the town's Clean-Up Day July 18, 2026. Casella will be contacted regarding debris strewn around site during changing of the compactor.
- b. Nancy Hart – No Report.
- c. Dan McGarry – No Report.
- d. Melinda Pitman – No Report.

8. Supervisor Report
 - a. Cayuga Countywide Strategic Plan - Community Visioning Workshop, Locke Fire Hall, July 28, 6pm-8pm.
 - b. NYAOT Legislative Conference and Meeting, September 23, 2026. Pitman volunteered to attend on behalf of the town.
9. Other Business - None
10. Review of 2026 Abstract 7
 - a. **Resolution 2026-38** General Fund – vouchers 109-125, Total: \$27,363.41
Motion by Hart, second by Pitman was:
Adopted Ayes 5 Mutchler, Allen, Hart, McGarry, Pitman
 Noes 0
 - b. **Resolution 2026-39** Highway Fund – vouchers 56-62, total: \$4,436.40
Motion by Mutchler, second by Pitman was:
Adopted Ayes 5 Mutchler, Allen, Hart, McGarry, Pitman
 Noes 0
11. Next Town Board Meeting – Wednesday, August 12, 2026, 7:00pm
12. Adjournment at 8:12pm – Motion made by Pitman, second by Hart. All in favor. 5/0

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 2026 Town Board Meeting

PERMITS ISSUED:

26-20 Michael Carboine, 48 Fire Lane 10A, tear off existing roof and install standing seam metal roof.

Scipio Planning board review:

No June meeting held, as no new applications were received. Next meeting scheduled for July 22, 2026.

ZBA review:

No July meeting held, as no new applications were received. Next meeting scheduled for July 7, 2026, at 7:00 p.m., if needed.

COMMENTS/QUESTIONS/CONCERNS:

Conducted a site inspection/visit at the Scipio Solar Project on Center Road with Town Engineer Timothy Buhl on June 23, 2026. Erosion control measures were in place and functioning at the time of inspection. Electrical Work and site mowing and stabilization were in progress at the time of the inspection. Site restoration to start in July. A summary of the site visit is attached.

Respectfully submitted 07/08/2026.

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



Scipio Solar Project - Town of Scipio Site Visit

1.) Purpose

Onsite assessment of the project as part of the protocol for Building Permit close out.

2.) Site Visit Details

- a.) Date/Time: 23 June 2026, 1 pm
- b.) Location – 2941 Center Road, Scipio Center NY 13147
- c.) Safety Orientation and Personal Protective Equipment provided
- d.) Participants:
 - i. Patrick Doyle – Town Code Enforcement Officer
 - ii. Tim Buhl – Town Engineer
 - iii. Ryan Sholinshy – Town Trainee
 - iv. Christ Nyhus – Project Owner’s Representative
 - v. Uche Okonkwo - Project Manager
 - vi. Vinicius Nunes – Project Engineer

3.) Project Information

- a.) Size – 24 MWDC
- b.) Total Site Area – 160 Acre
- c.) Owner – Altus Energy
- e.) Project Status:
 - i. Installation of screws and racking completed
 - ii. Installation of modules/panels completed
 - iii. Installation of trees and shrubs completed
 - iv. Electrical work ongoing
 - v. Site mowing and stabilization in progress
 - vi. Site restoration is currently planned to start July 2026

4.) Changes made to the Project Site Plan

The redline of Issued for Construction (IFC) Site Plan Drawings was presented to highlight the following changes that have been made during construction:

- a.) Movement of the fenceline by approximately 35ft on the Northeast part of the field for Landowner access. Change was approved by the Project Owner and Engineer of Record.
- b.) Movement of the tree line by the NYSEG overhead transmission line by 15 ft to stay away from an existing Verizon underground fiber line. Change was approved by the Project Owner and Engineer of Record.

5.) Site Walk

The site walk covered the following areas, pictures also attached

- a.) Laydown areas that will be removed during site restoration
- b.) The solar arrays
- c.) Ongoing seeding/mulching and stabilization work in the field
- d.) The Infiltration trench and vegetated swale in the northern part of the field.
- e.) The usually wet portion of the northern part of the field with existing drain tiles

6.) Post Site walk Discussion & Feedback

The site visit/walk was satisfactory.

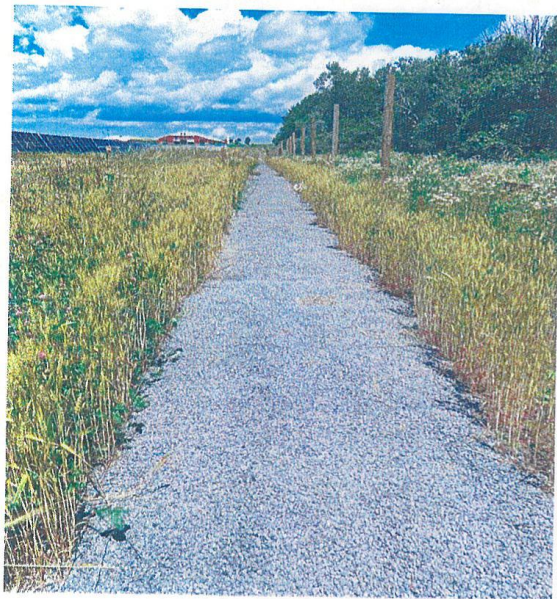
Pictures:



Solar Array



Laydown that will be Restored



Infiltration Trench



Vegetated Swale



Stabilization