

***ESSEX COUNTY BOARD OF TAXATION
BOARD MEETING***

AGENDA

Friday, January 10, 2020

9:00 a.m.

THIS MEETING IS CALLED PURSUANT TO THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETING ACT, ADEQUATE NOTICE OF WHICH HAS BEEN PROVIDED TO THE NEWARK STAR LEDGER, A LOCAL NEWSPAPER AND SUCH NOTICE HAVING BEEN POSTED IN THE ESSEX COUNTY BOARD OF TAXATION.

1. ROLL CALL
2. Approval of December 16, 2019 Minutes
3. File 2020 Tax List
4. Status of Revaluations: 2020 Bloomfield, Fairfield, Livingston,
5. Update of Revaluations: 2021 North Caldwell, Nutley & Roseland, 2022 East Orange, 2023 Newark, 2024 Irvington & Orange
6. Roseland Revaluation Contract Review
7. Update West Orange Revaluation
8. Update of Deeds
9. Update of Tax Assessor Vacancy: Bloomfield, Maplewood, Millburn
10. Public Speakers
11. New Business
12. Executive Session: Approve December 16, 2019 Executive Session Minutes
13. Adjournment

COMMISSIONERS

PRESENT

ABSENT

O'Brien, President

DeFuria

Grodman

Johnson

Matarazzo

Administrator Durkin

****AGENDA MAY BE AMENDED PRIOR TO BOARD MEETING***

A meeting of the Essex County Board of Taxation was held on Friday, January 10, 2020 at 9:20 AM at its office located at 50 South Clinton Street, East Orange, New Jersey.

1. ROLL CALL

Upon roll call, the following members were present: President O'Brien via telephone, Commissioners Grodman, Johnson, Matarazzo and Administrator Durkin. Commissioner DeFuria was absent.

2. APPROVAL OF DECEMBER 16, 2019 MINUTES

A motion to approve the December 16, 2019 minutes was made by Commissioner Grodman, Seconded by Commissioner Matarazzo, all in favor motion passed.

3. FILE 2020 TAX LIST

The following Municipalities filed their 2020 Tax List: Belleville, Caldwell, Cedar Grove, East Orange, Essex Fells, Glen Ridge, Irvington, Maplewood, Millburn, Montclair, North Caldwell, Orange, Roseland, South Orange, Verona, West Caldwell, and West Orange. The following towns did not file: Bloomfield due to revaluation, Fairfield due to revaluation, Livingston due to revaluation, Newark granted an extension, Nutley to file on Monday, January 13, 2020.

4. STATUS OF REVALUATIONS: 2020 BLOOMFIELD, FAIRFIELD, LIVINGSTON

Jason Cohen, Project Manager from ASI (revaluation company for all three municipalities) gave the following report:

Bloomfield, residential values are complete, however, Bloomfield is without a Tax Assessor to review the values. ASI is waiting to send out the value letters until someone from the Municipality approves them. He anticipates the letters will be mailed by month's end. Commercial values are with the Town expert who believes that the value letters will be mailed at the end of the month. All inspections are complete.

Fairfield, value letters were mailed out in December, commercial letters will be mailed out in January. Residential hearings have been scheduled and commercial hearings will be scheduled. ASI is asking the Tax List to be filed on February 21, 2020 as opposed to January 31, 2020.

Livingston, value letters have been sent out and 850 hearings have been scheduled to the end of this month. ASI is requesting the Tax List to be filed on February 21 as opposed to January 31, 2020.

A motion to extend the filing date to February 21, 2020 for both Fairfield and Livingston was made by Commissioner Grodman, Seconded by Commissioner Matarazzo, all in favor motion passed.

5. UPDATE OF REVALUATIONS: 2021 NORTH CALDWELL, NUTLEY & ROSELAND, 2022 EAST ORANGE, 2023 NEWARK, 2024 IRVINGTON & ORANGE

Tax Assessor George Librizzi reported on the 2021 North Caldwell Revaluation as follows: letters announcing the revaluation will be mailed to taxpayers in February and a public meeting will be scheduled for March. He anticipates that the revaluation consisting of 2,400 properties will be on time.

Nutley Tax Assessor Edmund Brown was not present at the meeting so Administrator Durkin referred to his written report. Introduction letters announcing the revaluation will be mailed on January 10th or 13th 2020 and inspections will commence shortly thereafter.

Tax Assessor Kevin Esposito stated that the contract for the revaluation of Roseland has been sent to the State Division of Taxation for approval. With the holdup due to the change in personnel at the State, he anticipates the contract will be signed shortly.

Tax Assessor Romal Bullock reported that the 2022 East Orange Revaluation Bond Ordinance is being drafted and that the Finance Director has placed \$100,000 in this year's budget to cover any costs incurred for the revaluation. Review of the Tax Maps is complete and ready to be forwarded to the State for approval. East Orange has approximately 10,059 properties.

Tax Assessor Aaron Wilson reported that the 2023 Newark Revaluation RFP is being worked on as well as the Tax Maps being updated.

Tax Assessor Silvia Forbes reported that she is researching the cost for updating the 2024 Irvington Tax Maps

Tax Assessor Christopher Murray reported that the 2024 Orange Revaluation is in the planning stages and the Tax Maps are being revised.

6. ROSELAND REVALUATION CONTRACT REVIEW

Upon review of the Roseland Revaluation Contract by the Board Members, a motion to approve the contract without any corrections was made by Commissioner Grodman, Seconded by Commissioner Matarazzo, all in favor motion passed.

7. UPDATE OF WEST ORANGE REVALUATION

Tax Assessor Kevin Dillon reported that he spoke with Business Administrator Jack Sayers about approval to order a revaluation and was informed that he would try to have it before the Municipal Council at its January 21, 2020 meeting.

8. UPDATE OF DEEDS

As of December 27, 2019 – 8,423 deeds have been processed. That is approximately 400 less than processed at the same time as last year.

9. UPDATE OF TAX ASSESSOR VACANCY: BLOOMFIELD, MAPLEWOOD, MILLBURN

Administrator Durkin reported that Bloomfield has interviewed six individuals, and none were acceptable. They will now advertise for a part time Tax Assessor. The Attorney and Business Administrator want to meet with Administrator Durkin next week to discuss the issue.

Administrator Durkin reported that Millburn has made an offer to an applicant for the position of Tax Assessor. Administrator Durkin signed the 2020 Tax List for Millburn in absence of a Tax Assessor.

Maplewood Tax Assessor Edward Galante will remain in his position of Tax Assessor until a replacement for his position is hired.

10. PUBLIC SPEAKERS

None

11. NEW BUSINESS

Administrator Durkin informed the Tax Board and Tax Assessors that a seminar would be held on February 7, 2020 at 9:00 AM at the Boat House in West Orange. The topic for the morning session will be Added/Omitted Assessments presented by George Librizzi and credits will be given. Appraisal hours are still trying to be obtained. BRT will give a presentation at the afternoon session and the Lenovo's will be given to Essex County Tax Assessors. A continental breakfast will be served as well as lunch.

12. EXECUTIVE SESSION: APPROVE DECEMBER 16, 2019 EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES

This item has been tabled until the February 6, 2020 meeting.

13. ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:40 AM was made by Commissioner Grodman, Seconded by Commissioner Matarazzo, all in favor motion passed.

**Respectfully Submitted
Joan Codey Durkin, CTA
Tax Administrator**

JCD/el