

**ESSEX COUNTY BOARD OF TAXATION  
REORGANIZATION BOARD MEETING AGENDA  
WEDNESDAY, MAY 1, 2019**

**9:00 AM**

**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. *Reorganization*
3. *Approval of minutes for April 2019 Board Meeting*
4. *Approve Meeting Dates for the Coming Year*
5. *Motion to approve all appeals included Tax Court Pending, Affirmances, Stipulations and Withdrawals presented at meeting.*
6. *Appoint Kenya Kourkoulis OPRA Custodian of Records for the Tax Board*
7. *Update of Revaluations: 2020 Bloomfield, Fairfield, Livingston, 2021 Nutley & Roseland*
8. *Revaluation Orders Approved By State: 2022 East Orange, 2023 Newark, 2024 Orange*
9. *Update of Deeds*
10. *Update of Appeals*
11. *Request to the Division of Taxation for Tax Appeal Hearing Extension to July 31, 2019 Approved*
12. *Confirming Signature stamps acceptable on documents*
13. *New Business*
14. *Public Speakers*
15. *Adjournment*

**COMMISSIONERS**

**PRESENT**

**ABSENT**

**O'BRIEN, PRESIDENT**

**X**

**DEFURIA**

**X**

**GRODMAN**

**X**

**JOHNSON**

**X**

**LINARES**

**X**

**MATARAZZO**

**X**

**ADMIN. DURKIN**

**X**

**\*Agenda can be amended at any time prior to meeting\***

**A meeting of the Essex County Board of Taxation was held on Wednesday, May 1, 2019 at 9:06 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, Commissioners Grodman, Johnson, Matarazzo and Tax Administrator Durkin.

**2. REORGANIZATION**

A motion to nominate Mary Devon O'Brien as President was made by Commissioner Matarazzo, seconded by Commissioner Grodman, all in favor motion passed.

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR APRIL 2019 BOARD MEETING**

A motion to approve the April 2019 Board Meeting Minutes was made by Commissioner Grodman, seconded by Commissioner Matarazzo, all in favor motion passed.

**4. APPROVE MEETING DATES FOR THE COMING YEAR**

Motion to approve meeting dates for the coming year made by Commissioner Grodman, seconded by Commissioner Johnson, all in favor motion passed.

**5. MOTION TO APPROVE ALL APPEALS INCLUDING TAX COURT PENDING, AFFIRMANCES, STIPULATIONS AND WITHDRAWALS PRESENTED AT MEETING**

Motion to approve all appeals including Tax Court Pending, Affirmances, Stipulations and withdrawals presented at meeting was made by Commissioner Johnson, seconded by Commissioner Matarazzo, all in favor motion passed.

**6. APPOINT KENYA KOURKOULIS OPRA CUSTODIAN OF RECORDS FOR THE TAX BOARD**

Motion to appoint Kenya Kourkoulis OPRA Custodian was made by Commissioner Grodman, seconded by Commissioner Matarazzo, all in favor motion passed.

**7. UPDATE OF REVALUATIONS: 2020 BLOOMFIELD, FAIRFIELD, LIVINGSTON, 2021 NUTLEY & ROSELAND**

Bloomfield Tax Assessor Joseph Pisauro reported that six informational meetings have been held for taxpayers. Field work has started and 1,000 residential and commercial properties have been inspected. VCS (neighborhoods) have remained the same as in the last revaluation and Chapter 91 forms have been mailed. The revaluation is going smoothly.

Fairfield Tax Assessor Michael Leposky was not present for the Board Meeting; however he and a representative from ASI met with Tax Administrator Durkin and Evelyn Laccitiello before the Board Meeting to discuss the progress of the Fairfield Revaluation.

The revaluation schedule is on time, inspections are ongoing, and Chapter 91 forms have been mailed. A future meeting with Fairfield will be held in July of this year.

Livingston Tax Assessor Lidia Dumytsch was not present for the Board Meeting or the earlier meeting with a representative from ASI, Tax Administrator Durkin and Evelyn Laccitiello due to car problems. At the earlier meeting it was reported that the revaluation schedule is on time and 80% of the residential properties have been inspected. Values will be established over the summer months.

Nutley Tax Assessor Edmund Brown was not present for the Board Meeting so Tax Administrator Durkin reported that the Revaluation contract was awarded to Appraisal Systems. The contract will be prepared and sent to the State Division for review and approval. She also noted that inspections must be started by September in order to avoid filing for new map approval.

Roseland Tax Assessor Kevin Esposito was not present for the Board Meeting so Tax Administrator Durkin read from his monthly report stating that he had met with the Municipal Council to discuss the status of the revaluation. The Municipal Council is in support of the revaluation and the RFP will be before them on 5/23/19 and will be advertised sometime in June. He is confident that the revaluation will be done timely in 2021.

**8. REVALUATION ORDERS APPROVED BY STATE: 2022 EAST ORANGE, 2023 NEWARK, 2024 ROSELAND**

Tax Administrator Durkin reported that all the above revaluation orders have been approved by the State

**9. UPDATE OF DEEDS**

As of 3/25/19 13,750 deeds have been processed. That is 100 more than last year at this same time period.

**10. UPDATE OF APPEALS**

As of 4/30/19 4,123 appeals have been filed of which 2,930 have been scheduled for the month of May. There are approximately 1,193 remaining to be scheduled. Since 304 of those appeals are Tax Court Pending the remaining 889 will be scheduled for June & July. This does not take into account any appeals filed in the three revaluation towns whose deadline for filing is today. Commissioners are to submit their schedules for June and clean up as soon as possible.

**11. REQUEST TO THE DIVISION OF TAXATION FOR TAX APPEAL HEARING EXTENSION TO JULY 31, 2019 APPROVED**

The Division of Taxation has approved the Tax Appeal Hearing extension to 7/31/19.

**12. CONFIRMING SIGNATURE STAMPS ACCEPTABLE ON DOCUMENTS**

Motion confirming signature stamps acceptable was made by Commissioner Grodman, seconded by Commissioner Matarazzo, all in favor motion passed.

**13. NEW BUSINESS**

Tax Administrator Durkin introduced Frank D'Alessio, CTA from the Newark Assessor's Office. He will be defending the May 7<sup>th</sup> calendar, in the absence of Aaron Wilson, Tax Assessor who will be on vacation on that date, before the Tax Board.

Administrator Durkin brought up the recent OSC recommendation dated 4/30/19, on the unethical practice of a Tax Assessor employed by a revaluation company performing a revaluation in his/her municipality and further states that it creates an actual or the appearance of a conflict of interest. Discussion followed.

**14. PUBLIC SPEAKERS**

None

**15. ADJOURNMENT**

At 9:35 a motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Johnson, seconded by Commissioner Matarazzo, all in favor motion passed.