

**ESSEX COUNTY BOARD OF TAXATION
REORGANIZATION BOARD MEETING AGENDA
TUESDAY, MAY 1, 2018**

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 2018 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. Status of Revaluations: 2019 Belleville & 2021 Nutley*
- 8. Update of Revaluations: 2019 Glen Ridge & Verona, 2020 Bloomfield, Fairfield, Livingston & Roseland*
- 9. Resolution Opposing Senate Bill No. 2029*
- 10. Update of Deeds*
- 11. Update of Appeals*
- 12. Request to the Division of Taxation for Tax Appeal Hearing Extension to July 31, 2018*
- 13. Confirming Signature stamps acceptable on documents*
- 14. Thomas Small, East Orange Assessor retiring*
- 15. New Business*
- 16. Public Speakers*
- 17. Adjournment*

COMMISSIONERS

PRESENT

ABSENT

MATARAZZO PRESIDENT

DEFURIA

GRODMAN

JOHNSON

LINARES

O'BRIEN

ADMIN. DURKIN

Agenda can be amended at any time prior to meeting

A meeting of the Essex County Board of Taxation was held on Tuesday, May 1, 2018 at 9:10 AM at its office at 50 South Clinton Street, Suite 5200, East Orange, New Jersey.

1. ROLL CALL

Upon roll call, the following members were present: President Matarazzo, Commissioners DeFuria, Grodman, Johnson, Linares and O'Brien.

2. REORGANIZATION

Motion nominating Mary Devon O'Brien as President of the Essex County Tax Board was made by President Matarazzo, seconded by Commissioner Linares all in favor Motion Passed.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR APRIL 2018 BOARD MEETING

Motion to approve Minutes for April 2018 made by Commissioner Johnson, seconded by Commissioner Grodman, voting Commissioners Johnson, Grodman, Matarazzo and President O'Brien, Commissioner DeFuria and Linares abstained. Motion Passed

4. APPROVE MEETING DATES FOR COMING YEAR

Motion to approve dates made by Commissioner Grodman, seconded by Commissioner DeFuria 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 Appeals as stated above made by Commissioner Grodman, seconded by Commissioner DeFuria, all in favor. Motion Passed

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

Motion to appoint Kenya Kourkoulis as Opra Custodian made by Commissioner DeFuria, seconded by Commissioner Grodman, all in favor. Motion Passed

7. STATUS OF REVALUATIONS: 2019 BELLEVILLE & 2021 NUTLEY

Administrator Durkin passed out spread sheet to Commissioners on the status of each town under revaluation orders based on the towns last report issued to the Board. (This spread sheet was based on their April report to the Board). Report will be updated monthly.

Belleville Assessor Kevin Esposito reported that the Revaluation Company is in the field and has completed 900 residential units and 140 commercial properties. He is hearing good remarks from taxpayers and stated that the revaluation to date is on time.

Nutley Assessor Edmund Brown was not present at this meeting and his monthly report was read by Administrator Durkin quoting that “no change since prior meeting, tax maps approved, RFP drafted, timeline has been amended to the Board’s directive.”

8. UPDATE OF REVALUATIONS: 2019 GLEN RIDGE & VERONA, 2020 BLOOMFIELD, FAIRFIELD, LIVINGSTON & ROSELAND

Glen Ridge and Verona Assessor George Librizzi reported that both towns are on schedule Chapter 91 Forms to be sent out to the commercial properties, further statements to exempt properties will be sent out next year in advance of the completion date. Commissioner Matarazzo asked how many commercial properties are in Glen Ridge, Assessor Librizzi stated about 40.

Bloomfield Assessor Joe Pisauro reported mapping moving along to be sent to State by July 1st that is later than anticipated. RFP on Municipal Council agenda for Monday, May 7th after approval it will go out to bid. He stated he is disappointed in the timeline and anticipates field work will begin in September, condos still must be added to the tax map. He was hoping for conditional approval of tax maps. Both Administrator Durkin and Assessor Librizzi assured him that the State will not issue conditional approval. Administrator Durkin suggested that he concentrate on the revaluation contract and to put pressure on the Engineering Company to complete the maps as soon as possible and express that the Board is not happy. Assessor Pisauro is to contact the Engineering Company today.

Fairfield Assessor Michael Leposky was not present at today’s meeting Administrator Durkin read the report submitted by him “Tax Maps were approved by the State on 2/21/18. In regards to the RFP at the March 26, 2018 Mayor and Council meeting, Resolution #2018-149 authorized the Municipal Clerk of the township to advertise for bids for the re-valuation of the township. The municipal attorney and myself are still in the process of preparing bid specifications”.

Livingston Assessor Lidia Dumytsch reported that the State approved the Tax Maps and the Town interviewed the responsive bidders, however, no decision has been made as to which company will be awarded the contract.

Roseland Assessor Kevin Esposito reported the Tax Maps were sent to the State. The Engineering Company is making revision and he anticipated they will be complete by the end of June. The RFP is complete and he expects the revaluation to be on time.

9. RESOLUTION OPPOSING SENATE BILL NO. 2029

Motion to oppose Senate Bill No. 2029 made by Commissioner Grodman, seconded by Commissioner Matarazzo, all in favor. Motion Passed

10. UPDATE OF DEEDS

Kenya Kourkoulis reported that as of March 27th 13,649 deeds had been entered approximately 550 more than last year at this time. The Board has a new employee that has been working on the deeds.

11. UPDATE OF APPEALS

Appeals have been scheduled for the month of May, hearing notices have been sent out. There are 956 Appeals left to be scheduled approximately 100 are Tax Court Pending. Today is the filing deadline for Montclair so the remaining 800 + will be scheduled for June. To date 3,913 appeals have been filed. Commissioners availability for June is requested. President O'Brien asked the Commissioners to call in their available hearing dates to Kenya.

12. REQUEST TO THE DIVISION OF TAXATION FOR TAX APPEAL HEARING EXTENSION TO JULY 31, 2018

The request is needed to accommodate adjournments and to do paperwork. Motion to request extension made by Commissioner Johnson, seconded by Commissioner DeFuria, all in favor. Motion Passed

13. CONFIRMING SIGNATURE STAMPS ACCEPTABLE ON DOCUMENTS

Motion to confirm signature stamps acceptable on documents made by Commissioner Linares, seconded by Commissioner DeFuria, all in favor. Motion Passed

14. THOMAS SMALL, EAST ORANGE ASSESSOR RETIRING

Administrator Durkin stated that all hearings and clean up dates are scheduled for May. President O'Brien thanked Tom for his professionalism, good work and public service to the Board and the taxpayers of East Orange. She asked if there was a replacement and Administrator Durkin replied not yet.

Tom thanked the Board.

15. NEW BUSINESS

Assessor Librizzi announced that Tashira Garland passed the CTA Examination. Congratulations from all present and Administrator Durkin presented Tashira with a small token.

16. PUBLIC SPEAKERS

Romal Bullock, East Orange Councilman and Assessor of Newark, spoke on behalf of Mayor Ted Green and the East Orange Council in appreciation of Tom Small as the City of East Orange Tax Assessor. He thanked him for his dedicated service to the taxpayers and said that his dry sense of humor and wit will be missed.

17. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn made by Commissioner DeFuria, seconded by Commissioner Johnson, all in favor, meeting adjourned at 9:30 AM

*Respectfully Submitted,
Joan Codey Durkin, Tax Administrator*

JCD/el