

ESSEX COUNTY BOARD OF TAXATION
BOARD MEETING
AGENDA
Thursday, September 4, 2014
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. *New Commissioner Appointed – Ian R. Grodman, Esq.*
3. *Motion to Approve July 10, 2014 Conference Call Meeting Minutes, no August 2014 Board Meeting*
4. *2014 President's Report*
5. *Tax Rates to Be Approved: Essex Fells, Fairfield, Glen Ridge, Livingston, Millburn, Montclair, North Caldwell, Nutley, Orange, Roseland, South Orange, Verona and West Caldwell*
6. *Update of Revaluations for Caldwell and Essex Fells 2016*
7. *Status of Deeds*
8. *Status of Appeals*
9. *Public Speakers*
10. *New Business*
11. *Adjournment*

COMMISSIONERS

PRESENT

ABSENT

O'BRIEN, PRESIDENT

X

DEFURIA

X

GRODMAN

X

JOHNSON

X (arrived at 9:26)

LINARES

X

MATARAZZO, JR.

X

ADMIN. DURKIN

X

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

A meeting of the Essex County Board of Taxation was held on Thursday, September 4, 2014 at 9:24 at its office located at 50 South Clinton Street, Suite #5200, East Orange, New Jersey.

1. ROLL CALL

Upon roll call, the following members were present: President O'Brien, Commissioners DeFuria, Grodman, Linares, Matarazzo and Administrator Durkin. Commissioner Johnson arrived at 9:26 right after roll call.

2. New Commissioner Appointed – Ian R. Grodman, Esq.

President O'Brien welcomed Commissioner Grodman to the Board of Taxation.

3. Motion to Approve July 10, 2014 Conference Call Meeting Minutes, No August 2014 Board Meeting

Commissioner Matarazzo made the motion to approve the July 10, 2014 conference call meeting minutes. Commissioner DeFuria seconded the motion; all were in favor with the exception of Commissioner Grodman.

4. 2014 President's Report

President O'Brien stated that a copy of the 2014 Presidents Report is in the Commissioner's folders for review.

5. Tax Rates to be Approved: Essex Fells, Fairfield, Glen Ridge, Livingston, Millburn, Montclair, North Caldwell, Nutley, Orange, Roseland, South Orange, Verona and West Caldwell

Kenya Kourkoulis, Administrative Assistant stated East Orange has a completed tax rate. Would like to include East Orange tax rate for approval after auditor's review and approval.

Commissioner DeFuria moved the motion, and was seconded by Commissioner Matarazzo. All were in favor.

Commissioner Johnson abstained from motion to approve East Orange and Orange.

6. Update of Revaluations for Caldwell and Essex Fells 2016

Caldwell

Joan Kozeniesky, Caldwell Tax Assessor read into the minutes a letter dated July 14, 2014 to the State of NJ Division of Taxation, Tiffany Fields, Principal Representative regarding updated Tax Map sheets. Discussion followed regarding maps and the ordered 2016 Revaluation.

Essex Fells

Kevin Esposito, Essex Fells Tax Assessor stated that funding for the tax maps is a concern, since the Borough does not have an in-house engineer. Administrator Durkin stated at a board meeting the Council members indicated that funding would be in place for the tax maps. Mr. Esposito stated that the Borough would like to utilize the digital maps from the County to save some money. Administrator Durkin stated that the County digital parcel-mapping program is not complete, but will be on the October 1st agenda.

Much discussion followed regarding the funding for the revaluation and County digital parcel-mapping program. President O'Brien requested that Mr. Esposito keep the board informed with the progress of the revaluation moving forward.

7. Status of Deeds

Kenya Kourkoulis, Administrative Assistant stated that as of July 1st 2,258 deeds have been keyed. The increase in deeds from this time last year is 393.

8. Status of Appeals

Ms. Kourkoulis stated 5,377 completed tax appeals for 2014.

Administrator Durkin stated October 1st; Added & Omitted tax listings are filed. Municipalities that have no tax rate will not have 2014 added assessments. The County and Municipalities lose tax revenue.

Discussion followed regarding the issue of the effects of no tax rate for municipalities (Belleville, Irvington and Newark).

Commissioner Matarazzo had to leave the meeting at 10:02.

9. Public Speakers

Discussion regarding ratios for the municipalities, the decrease in landline phone service (50%) the effect it has on municipalities (Nutley) receiving tax payments. Municipalities will not receive reminders for estimated tax rates.

10. New Business

President O'Brien asked the Assessors present to introduce themselves and identify the municipalities they serve for the benefit of the new Commissioner. Following the introductions, she thanked the Essex County Tax Board staff for the fine, professional quality of their work and she thanked the Municipal Assessors for the fine job they do.

11. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:14 by a motion by Commissioner Johnson and seconded by Commissioner DeFuria. All were in favor.

Respectfully Submitted:
Joan Codey Durkin, CTA,
Essex County Tax Administrator

pms