

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

**Thursday, September 10, 2015
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. *Motion to approve July 14, 2015 Conference call meeting minutes, no August 2015 Board Meeting*
3. *2015 President's Report*
4. *Tax Rates to be approved: Essex Fells, Fairfield, Glen Ridge, Millburn, Montclair and Nutley*
5. *Update of Revaluations for Caldwell and Essex Fells 2016*
6. *New Assessor in Orange: Barbara Williams*
7. *Assessor Vacancies: Caldwell and Montclair*
8. *Status of Deeds*
9. *Update of Appeals for 2015*
10. *Public Speakers*
11. *New Business*
12. *Adjournment*

COMMISSIONERS

PRESENT

ABSENT

O'BRIEN, PRESIDENT

X

DEFURIA

X

GRODMAN

X

JOHNSON

X

LINARES

X

MATARAZZO, JR.

X

STEWART

X

ADMINISTRATOR DURKIN

X

A meeting of the Essex County Board of Taxation was held on Thursday, September 10, 2015 at 9:27 a.m. 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, Johnson, Linares, Matarazzo, Stewart and Administrator Durkin.

2. Motion to Approve July 14, 2015 Conference Call Meeting Minutes, there was no August 2015 Board Meeting

Commissioner Stewart made a motion to approve the July 2015 Board Minutes. Commissioner Grodman seconded the motion with Commissioners Linares and Matarazzo in favor. President O'Brien, Commissioners DeFuria and Johnson abstained.

3. 2015 President's Report

President O'Brien requested the Commissioners to review the report. There were no questions or concerns.

4. Tax Rates to be Approved: Essex Fells, Glen Ridge, Millburn, Montclair, Nutley and Orange

President Mary Devon O'Brien informed everyone the sad news that Eric Goodman, Esq. longtime attorney for the Township of Irvington passed away.

Commissioner Matarazzo made a motion to approve the 2015 tax rates for Essex Fells, Glen Ridge, Millburn, Montclair, Nutley and Orange. Commissioner DeFuria seconded the motion all were in favor.

Discussion followed regarding the municipalities that have not adopted their 2015 budgets: Belleville, East Orange, Irvington and Newark.

5. Update of Revaluations for Caldwell and Essex Fells 2016

Essex Fells

Representing for the Township – Kevin Esposito, Tax Assessor and Robert Oostdyke, Esq.

Mr. Esposito previously submitted a Revaluation Status and Timeline report dated September 8, 2015 to Administrator Durkin for the Board's review.

Discussion followed regarding one response to the RFP from Professional Property Appraiser, Inc and the concern of the completion of the tax maps and approval by the State in time for the 2016 revaluation.

Caldwell

Administrator Durkin stated that a letter dated August 25, 2015 was mailed to the Township of Caldwell Council and Joan Kozeniesky, Tax Assessor. No response from council and Ms. Kozeniesky has retired.

Discussion followed regarding appropriated funds, replacement of Assessor and tax maps.

6. New Assessor in Orange: Barbara Williams

President Mary Devon O'Brien welcomed Barbara Williams the new Tax Assessor for the City of Orange.

7. Assessor Vacancies: Caldwell and Montclair

Caldwell

Administrator Durkin stated that as far as she is aware Township of Caldwell has not advertised as of today for vacant Assessor position.

Montclair

Administrator Durkin stated that the Township of Montclair has advertised for the position of Tax Assessor. Five applicants have applied and interviews will begin shortly.

8. Status of Deeds

Kenya Kourkoulis, Administrative Assistant stated that at the end of the sampling period 800 more deeds have been processed since this time last year.

Administrator Durkin stated that the Register is changing systems for processing the deeds. Discussion followed.

9. Status of Appeals

Kenya Kourkoulis, Administrative Assistant stated all 5,455 appeals have been completed.

10. Public Speakers

No public speakers

11. New Business

A motion was made by Commissioner Linares at 10:30 a.m. to enter Executive Session for the purpose of a Personnel issue. Commissioner Matarazzo seconded the motion. All were in favor.

A motion was made by Commissioner Stewart at 10:54 a.m. to exit Executive Session and return to open session for the remainder of the meeting. Commissioner Grodman seconded the motion. All were in favor.

A motion was made to adjourn by Commissioner Johnson and seconded by Commissioner DeFuria. All were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 10:55 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joan Codey Durkin, CTA
Essex County Board of Taxation
pms