

**ESSEX COUNTY BOARD OF TAXATION
BOARD MEETING**

AGENDA

**Wednesday, January 10, 2018
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 18, 2017 Minutes
3. File 2018 Tax List
4. East Orange, Newark & Orange Request Extension to File Tax List
5. Status of Revaluations: 2018 Montclair, 2019 Belleville
6. Update of Revaluations: 2019 Glen Ridge & Verona, 2020 Bloomfield & Roseland
7. Review of 2019 Revaluations with Representatives from Fairfield & Livingston
8. Nutley Resolution
9. Update of Deeds
10. Public Speakers
11. New Business
12. Adjournment

COMMISSIONERS

PRESENT

ABSENT

Matarazzo Jr. President

X

DeFuria

X

Grodman

X

Johnson

X

Linares

X

O'Brien

X (Phone Conference)

Administrator Durkin

X

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

A meeting of the Essex County Board of Taxation was held on Wednesday, January 10, 2018 at 9:30 AM 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 Matarazzo, Commissioners Grodman, Johnson, Linares and Commissioner O'Brien via telephone conference. Commissioner DeFuria was not present

2. APPROVAL OF DECEMBER 18, 2017 MINUTES

President Matarazzo made the motion to approve the December 18, 2017 Board minutes. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion, Commissioner Linares Abstained. Motion passed

3. FILE 2018 TAX LIST

Towns filing 2018 Tax List, Belleville, Bloomfield, Caldwell, Cedar Grove, Essex Fells, Fairfield, Glen Ridge, Irvington, Livingston, Maplewood, Millburn, North Caldwell, Roseland, South Orange, Verona, West Caldwell, West Orange. Towns not filed as yet East Orange, Montclair, Newark and Nutley.

4. EAST ORANGE, NEWARK & ORANGE REQUEST EXTENSION TO FILE TAX LIST

Thomas Small, Assessor East Orange stated he needed extension due to illness from December 20, 2017 until his recent return to work as of today. President Matarazzo asked how much time would be needed, Mr. Small's reply was an additional 2 weeks.

Newark Assessor Romal Bullock requested an extension until February 1, 2018. Nutley will file by end of January. Motion to approve extensions by Commissioner Linares, seconded by President Matarazzo.

5. STATUS OF REVALUATIONS: 2018 MONTCLAIR, 2019 BELLEVILLE

Montclair Assessor George Librizzi stated valuation letters out in one week, taxpayer hearings will be held at the Fire Station starting in February they will be scheduled during week and on Saturdays. Revaluation on schedule and Tax List will be filed on March 1, 2018.

Tax Administrator Joan Durkin stated Belleville revaluation for 2019 is on time and PPA has been awarded the contract, a meeting has been scheduled for January 15, 2018 with Belleville Assessor Kevin Esposito and PPA to discuss implementation and inspection notices.

6. UPDATE OF REVALUATIONS: 2019 GLEN RIDGE & VERONA, 2020 BLOOMFIELD & ROSELAND

Glen Ridge Assessor George Librizzi stated 85% of properties done with inspection, commercial properties have been measured and the revaluation is ahead of schedule.

Verona Assessor George Librizzi 2019 Revaluation of Verona will be sending letters to taxpayers. Posting will be put on website on the identification of inspectors. Inspections will begin by end of this month. He anticipates they will be ahead of schedule. President Matarazzo asked about Annon Flag Company Assessor Librizzi stated Annon Flag would be granted a Long Term Tax Abatement.

President Matarazzo asked about the Hovnanian Project in Cedar Grove and Assessor Richard Hamilton said it would be 490 Town Homes and 20% COAH Pilot.

Bloomfield Assessor Joe Pisauro reported tax maps would be submitted to State in March, RFP draft is done final would be completed by next meeting. Revaluation is on schedule.

Administrator Durkin reported that Roseland would be sending its tax maps to the State in late January. Assessor Esposito is in the process of preparing the RFP and have it reviewed by town officials. Revaluation should be ahead of schedule.

7. REVIEW OF 2019 REVALUATION WITH REPRESENTATIVES FROM FAIRFIELD AND LIVINGSTON

Fairfield Business Administrator Joseph Catenaro and Assessor Michael Leposky reported that the tax maps are complete and requested on behalf of the Fairfield Municipal Council that the revaluation be extended to 2020. Administrator Durkin stated that the tax maps must be submitted to the State by January 20th and Fairfield is to report back at the February meeting on the RFP being advertised. She also stated that at the February meeting a Resolution changing the date of the Revaluation from 2019 to 2020 will be adopted and must be approved by the State. Administrator Durkin explained the criteria for the Revaluation, timeframe, and problems that might delay it. Assessor Leposky said the tax maps would be sent to Trenton by Friday, January 12th.

Livingston Attorney Sharon Weiner, Councilman Rufino Fernandez and Assessor Lidia Dumytsch requested an extension of the Revaluation for Livingston from 2019 to 2020. Councilman Fernandez is concerned about the new Federal Tax Law and how it will effect property values in Livingston if the revaluation were conducted in 2019. Assessor Dumytsch stated that the State returned the tax maps with numerous errors and she felt they could not be completed in time for the 2019 revaluation schedule. Sharon Weiner is concerned about the taxable portion of St. Barnabas Hospital and stated that appraisers for the town and hospital were reviewing the figures. They will issue an RFP. Administrator Durkin stated she is in agreement with an extension until 2020 but questioned why the maps were in such bad shape and why a contract waited to be executed until November 2017. She stated the RFP must go out on the 11,000 line items as soon as possible. At the February meeting a Resolution will be presented to the Board to change the Revaluation date from 2019 to 2020 Commissioner Johnson said he was inclined to support the change to 2020 but was concerned with the amount of Revaluations scheduled for 2020. He also stated the he thinks Livingston might benefit from the new Federal Tax Law. Motion to change Revaluation to 2020 made by Commissioner Linares, seconded by Commissioner Grodman. Motion passed

8. NUTLEY RESOLUTION

Resolution to change revaluation for Nutley from 2019 to 2021 read by President Matarazzo. Motion to adopt Resolution by Commissioner Johnson, seconded by Commissioner Grodman. Motion passed.

9. UPDATE OF DEEDS

As of December 27, 2018 8,711 deeds have been keyed into the system, which is approximately 200 more than last year.

10. PUBLIC SPEAKERS

Assessor Richard Hamilton is preparing a change in language for the Post Cards to state that the amount of taxes stated on the card does not reflect any prepaid 2018 taxes. He will share the language with Administrator Durkin.

Discussion followed on how prepaid taxes are treated by the Municipalities.

Assessor Joseph Pisauro reminded those present about the Taxpayers Bill of Rights.

11. NEW BUSINESS

None stated

12. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn meeting at 10:12 AM made by Commissioner Johnson, Seconded by Commissioner Grodman. Motion passed

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

JCD/el

