

**ESSEX COUNTY BOARD OF TAXATION  
BOARD MEETING  
AGENDA  
FRIDAY, JULY 31, 2020  
CONFERENCE CALL**

***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 Judgments rendered in July 2020 and any amended Judgments*
- 3. Essex Fells Reassessment Application*
- 4. Adjournment*

**COMMISSIONERS**

**PRESENT**

**ABSENT**

***O'BRIEN, PRESIDENT***

***DEFURIA***

***GRODMAN***

***JOHNSON***

***MATARAZZO***

***ADMIN. DURKIN***

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

A Meeting of the Essex County Tax Board was held via Zoom on Friday, July 31, 2020 at 9:03 AM.

**1. ROLL CALL**

In attendance via Zoom Conference were: President O'Brien, Commissioners DeFuria, Grodman, Johnson, Matarazzo and Administrator Durkin.

**2. MOTION TO APPROVE JUDGMENTS RENDERED IN JULY 2020 AND ANY AMENDED JUDGMENTS**

A motion to approve Judgments rendered in July 2020 and any amended Judgments was made by Commissioner Johnson, Seconded by Commissioner Grodman, all in favor motion approved.

A motion made by Commissioner Matarazzo and Seconded by Commissioner DeFuria to Affirm the Newark Settlement on Block 151, Lot 122.01, 3 Gateway Center Properties to Tax Court. Commissioner Johnson abstained, all other Commissioners in favor, motion approved.

**3. ESSEX FELLS REASSESSMENT APPLICATION**

Kevin Esposito, Assessor for Essex Fells, was present for the Zoom meeting and Administrator Durkin explained that the application for the Essex Fells Reassessment had to be approved for the State deadline for filing the application by August 1<sup>st</sup>. It was stated that the Municipal Council of Essex Fells must approve the filing of the application, as of today's date the Council has not yet voted. Due to COVID-19, it is not likely that in person inspections of the properties will be made. Assessor Esposito stated that PPA did the Essex Fells Revaluation and he was confident that the property record cards were accurate. The question of Zoom inspections will be for the Division of Taxation. Assessor Esposito does not see a problem with Zoom inspections for his taxpayers or PPA if approved by the State.

Administrator Durkin also discussed other matters referring to the schedule for Tax Appeal hearings. There are approximately 2,500 cases remaining to be scheduled as of today's date. All Municipal Assessors and their respective attorneys responded to the question of in person hearings or Zoom hearings. Newark Assessor Wilson and Assessor Librizzi expressed their desire to have hearings at the Tax Board Offices while Maplewood and Millburn prefer Zoom hearings.

Administrator Durkin, Kenya and George Librizzi are working on instructions to taxpayers for appeal hearings. Tax Appeal hearings will take place in August and September with no adjournments and there is a possibility the hearings will be

extended into October. The Assessors in all Municipalities are working to settle as many cases as possible with evidence to support the results.

As of today's date, nine Municipalities are in receipt of their respective tax rates.

The Town of Bloomfield has not yet appointed a Tax Assessor, if no one is appointed by October 1, 2020, the Governor will appoint the Tax Assessor.

The next Zoom conference call is scheduled for August 21, 2020.

#### **4. ADJOURN**

A motion to Adjourn the meeting was made at 9:23 AM by Commissioner Johnson, Seconded by Commissioner Grodman, all in favor motion approved.

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

**JCD/el**