

****ASSESSORS – DEMONSTRATION FROM LOJIK EVALUATIONS**
FOR COMPLIANCE PLANS, APPEALS, COMPARABLE SALES
10:00AM**

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

**Thursday, March 5, 2020
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 2019 Executive Session Minutes & February 2020 Minutes
3. Motion to Approve Appeals: Settlement Stipulations, Assessor Appeals, Withdrawals
4. Filing of Tax List For Extension Towns: Bloomfield, Fairfield & Livingston
5. Update of 2020 Preliminary Equalization Table
6. Update of Revaluations: 2021 North Caldwell, Nutley & Roseland, 2022 East Orange & West Orange, 2023 Newark, 2024 Irvington & Orange
7. Assessor Update: Bloomfield, Maplewood & Millburn
8. Update of Deeds
9. Reminder: Appeal Deadline – Wednesday, April 1st, Reval/Reassessment Towns Bloomfield, Fairfield & Livingston – Friday, May 1st
10. Update of Appeals/ Hearing Schedule
11. Public Speakers
12. New Business
13. Adjournment

COMMISSIONERS

PRESENT

ABSENT

O'BRIEN, PRESIDENT

X

DEFURIA

X (PHONE)

GRODMAN

X (PHONE)

JOHNSON

X

MATARAZZO

X

ADMIN. DURKIN

X

*** AGENDA MAY BE AMENDED PRIOR TO BOARDMEETING ***

A meeting of the Essex County Board of Taxation was held on Thursday, March 5, 2020 at 9:34 AM at its office located at 50 South Clinton Street, East Orange, New Jersey.

1. ROLL CALL

Upon Roll Call, the following members were present: President O'Brien, Commissioners DeFuria via phone, Grodman via phone, Johnson, Matarazzo and Administrator Durkin.

2. APPROVAL OF DECEMBER 2019 EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES & FEBRUARY 2020 MINUTES

A motion to approve the December 2019 Executive Session Minutes & February 2020 Minutes was made to approve the December 2019 minutes by Commissioner Matarazzo, Seconded by Commissioner DeFuria, (Commissioner Johnson abstained), all in favor motion was approved. A motion to approve the February 2020 minutes was made by Commissioner Matarazzo, Seconded by Commissioner Johnson, (Commissioner DeFuria abstained), all in favor motion was approved.

3. MOTION TO APPROVE APPEALS: SETTLEMENT STIPULATIONS, ASSESSOR APPEALS, WITHDRAWALS

A motion to approve Appeals: Settlement Stipulations, Assessor Appeals, Withdrawals was made by Commissioner Johnson, Seconded by Commissioner DeFuria, all in favor motion was approved.

4. FILING OF TAX LIST FOR EXTENSION TOWNS: BLOOMFIELD, FAIRFIELD & LIVINGSTON

Bloomfield – Not filed- Jason Lalike, Project Manager from ASI reported that the cutoff for changes is March 12th, taxpayer hearings are March 10th and inspections are March 11th. The Tax List will be filed a few days after the Vital cutoff date.

Fairfield – Filed

Livingston – Filed, however, there was an issue with a farmland assessment. Neither the Assessor nor ASI was aware that a farm in Livingston had sold its property to the Township of Livingston, which caused the property to be placed on the exempt list. Fortunately, the change of ownership was discovered prior to the book being filed.

5. UPDATE OF 2020 PRELIMINARY EQUALIZATION TABLE

The Preliminary Table cannot be prepared until Bloomfield files its Tax List so the Preliminary and Final Equalization Tables will be voted on at the April 2020 meeting.

6. UPDATE OF REVALUATIONS: 2021 NORTH CALDWELL, NUTLEY & ROSELAND, 2022 EAST ORANGE & WEST ORANGE, 2023 NEWARK, 2024 IRVINGTON & ORANGE

North Caldwell Assessor George Librizzi reported that the Revaluation for 2021 is on schedule. He anticipated a change in the VCS (neighborhoods) codes and says that this will not cause a delay in the time schedule for revaluation.

Nutley Assessor Edmund Brown reported that inspections have not yet begun. Introduction letters for the revaluation have been mailed and software is being prepared. ID Badges have been secured for the inspectors and inspections are to begin this month. He anticipates that the revaluation will be completed on time.

Roseland Assessor Kevin Esposito reported that the revaluation will be discussed at the Municipal Council on March 17th and a press release will follow. Introduction letters will be mailed in April and inspections will begin in May. Commissioner Johnson asked for a reason on the delay from the previous timeline and Esposito said the Municipal Council wanted to have a public meeting

East Orange Assessor Romal Bullock reported that the tax maps had been filed with Trenton, East Orange will be bonding for the revaluation and bid specks are being prepared. Tax Administrator Durkin stated she needed a monthly written report from East Orange regarding the progress of the East Orange revaluation.

West Orange Assessor Kevin Dillon reported that the Municipal Council will meet on March 24th to approve the Consent Agreement for revaluation in the year 2025. The Essex County Board of Taxation will then pass a resolution changing the revaluation year for West Orange from year 2022 to 2025. Revision of the Tax Maps will begin.

Newark Assessor Aaron Wilson reported he is in discussion with the Finance Director to hire a revaluation consultant. Tax Map issues are being discussed with Trenton, which he anticipates will be resolved and if no further issues are addressed it, will not hinder the timeline for revaluation in 2023.

Irvington Assessor Silvia Forbes stated that Civil Solutions has been hired to revise the Irvington Tax Maps.

Orange Assessor Christopher Murray stated that there were no updates to report. Tax Administrator Durkin reported that she had been in touch with the Orange Business Administrator about the revaluation of Orange.

7. ASSESSOR UPDATE: BLOOMFIELD, MAPLEWOOD & MILLBURN

Tax Administrator Durkin introduced David Lois who is a new employee in the Bloomfield Assessor's Office. Bloomfield has not hired a Tax Assessor but has re-advertised and interviewed various applicants.

Maplewood hired Thomas DeKorte who will be starting his employment on March 16th. Both Edward Galante, former Tax Assessor, and Christopher Murray, former employee, have been helping in Maplewood. President O'Brien expressed her thanks to Ed & Chris for their help.

Millburn hired Jason Cohen on March 2nd and his office hours are 4 days per week excluding Wednesday's.

8. UPDATE OF DEEDS

As of February 19, 2020, eleven thousand seventy -seven (11,077) deeds have been processed. That is 300 less than last year during the same period.

9. REMINDER: APPEAL DEADLINE – WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1ST, REVAL/REASSESSMENT TOWNS BLOOMFIELD, FAIRFIELD & LIVINGSTON – FRIDAY, MAY 1ST

President O'Brien reminded the Tax Board of the appeal dates and asked the Commissioners to advise Kenya of their availability schedules.

10. UPDATE OF APPEALS/HEARING SCHEDULE

One hundred seventy-one appeals have been filed as of March 4th.

11. PUBLIC SPEAKERS

None

12. NEW BUSINESS

None

13. ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Commissioner Johnson, Seconded by Commissioner Matarazzo, all in favor motion approved meeting adjourned at 10:02 AM.

Respectfully Submitted
Joan Codey Durkin, CTA
Tax Administrator

JCD/el