

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

Monday, January 11, 2021

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 17, 2020 Minutes
3. File 2021 Tax List
4. 2020 President's Report
5. Update of Revaluations: 2022 East Orange, North Caldwell, Nutley, Orange & Roseland, 2023 Newark, 2024 Irvington, 2025 West Orange
6. East Orange Revaluation Contract
7. Update of Reassessment: 2021 Essex Fells
8. Update of Deeds
9. Resolution – Linda Askew
10. Assembly Bill 1135 Regarding Hospitals
11. Public Speakers
12. New Business
13. Adjournment

COMMISSIONERS

PRESENT

ABSENT

O'Brien, President

X

DeFuria

X

Grodman

X

Johnson

X

Matarazzo

X

Administrator Durkin

X

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

A meeting of the Essex County Board of Taxation was held via Zoom on Monday, January 11, 2021 at 9:11 AM at its office located at 50 South Clinton Street, East Orange, New Jersey.

1. **ROLL CALL**

President O'Brien and Commissioners DeFuria, Grodman, Johnson, and Matarazzo were present via Zoom. Tax Administrator Durkin was present at the Board Office.

2. **APPROVAL OF DECEMBER 17, 2020 MINUTES**

A motion to approve the minutes of the December 17, 2020 meeting was made by Commissioner Grodman, Seconded by Commissioner Johnson, all in favor motion approved.

3. **FILE 2021 TAX LIST**

All municipalities with the exception of Essex Fells have filed their 2021 Tax List.

4. **2020 PRESIDENTS REPORT**

See copy attached.

5. **UPDATE OF REVALUATIONS: 2022 EAST ORANGE, NORTH CALDWELL, NUTLEY, ORANGE & ROSELAND, 2023 NEWARK, 2024 IRVINGTON, 2025 WEST ORANGE**

East Orange Tax Assessor, Romal Bullock, stated that East Orange is awaiting approval of the revaluation contract from Trenton. It was sent to the Division of Taxation the third week of December due to certain changes that needed to be incorporated into the contract. The East Orange Administration along with himself and the revaluation company are going to meet to discuss public relations in advance of the start of the revaluation.

North Caldwell Tax Assessor, George Librizzi, stated that the revaluation is moving along. Field work is scheduled to begin on April 1, 2021. The revaluation company will notify the public by letter before the April 1st start and a public meeting will be scheduled.

Nutley Tax Assessor, Edmund Brown, stated that there has been no change in the last few months. Inspections are on hold due to COVID. Tax Administrator Durkin stated that next month she will be contacting Mayors, Municipal Councils, Revaluation Companies and Assessors of the reval towns

to come before the Board to discuss the delays and set up a schedule to move forward with the revaluations.

Orange Tax Assessor, Chris Murray, was not present via Zoom and his monthly report was read into the record.

Roseland Tax Assessor, Kevin Esposito, was not present via Zoom, the monthly report submitted by the revaluation company was read into the record.

Newark Tax Assessor, Aaron Wilson, was not present via Zoom, his monthly report was read into the record.

Irvington Tax Assessor, Silvia Forbes, was not present via Zoom, her monthly report was read into the record.

West Orange Tax Assessor, Kevin Dillon, was not present via Zoom, his monthly report was read into the record.

6. UPDATE OF REASSESSMENT: 2021 ESSEX FELLS

Tax Administrator Durkin stated she will contact Kevin Esposito for the date Essex Fells will file its 2021 Tax List as the result of the 2021 Reassessment.

7. UPDATE OF DEEDS

As of December 16, 2020 Seven Thousand Eight Hundred Thirty Three (7,833) deeds have been processed, that is 500 deeds less than processed last year at this time period.

8. RESOLUTION – LINDA ASKEW

Tax Administrator Durkin stated that after the COVID crisis is under control the Board will invite Linda to a meeting where she will be presented with the resolution of appreciation for her service to the City of Orange and the Essex County Board of Taxation. A motion was made to present her the resolution by Commissioner Grodman, Seconded by Commissioner DeFuria, all in favor motion approved.

9. ASSEMBLY BILL 1135 REGARDING HOSPITALS

Assembly Bill 1135 requires hospitals to compromise on property taxes. The legislature voted to require nonprofit hospitals to pay something for police, fire and other local services they use. It is referred to as a Community Service payment each year and would preserve their tax-exempt status. The hospitals would be required to pay \$3.00 per day based on the number of

hospital beds in their facility.

10. PUBLIC SPEAKERS

Tax Administrator Durkin discussed the move by the Essex County Tax Board to a new location in the City of Newark on Dr. Martin Luther King Blvd. The building is near completion and the move is tentatively scheduled for August 2021.

She also stated that appeals would be scheduled beginning April 15, 2021. She urged all Assessors to work on incoming appeals as soon as possible, the Board has already received 2021 Tax Appeals. She reminded that values in Essex County have increased. She stated that the State of New Jersey has a \$50,000,000 program to assist businesses for COVID relief and Assessors and Commissioners should make that information available to taxpayers appealing their assessments due to COVID.

Commissioner DeFuria and President O'Brien expressed their appreciation to staff and Commissioners of the Tax Board for cooperating with them and their families due to preexisting health conditions over the past year.

11. NEW BUSINESS

None

12. ADJOURNMENT

A motion at 10:00 AM to adjourn the Zoom meeting was made by Commissioner Johnson, Seconded by Commissioner Matarazzo, all in favor motion approved.