

**ESSEX COUNTY BOARD OF TAXATION
REORGANIZATION BOARD MEETING AGENDA
WEDNESDAY, MAY 1, 2024
9:00 AM**

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. Reorganization**
- 3. Approve February 1st, 2024, February 15, 2024, March 7, 2024 & April 4, 2024 Board Minutes**
- 4. Approve Meeting Dates for the Coming Year**
- 5. Motion to approve all appeals including Tax Court Pending, Affirmances, Stipulations and Withdrawals up to May 1, 2024**
- 6. Appoint Kenya Kourkoulis OPRA Custodian of Records for the Tax Board**
- 7. Update of Revaluations: 2025 Irvington & West Orange, 2026 Cedar Grove, Fairfield & Verona, 2027 Newark**
- 8. State Approved Caldwell & West Caldwell Revaluation for Year 2027**
- 9. Revaluation Orders: Belleville, Bloomfield, Glen Ridge & Montclair**
- 10. Update of Deeds**
- 11. Update of Appeals**
- 12. Confirming Signature stamps acceptable on documents**
- 13. Maplewood, Roseland & South Orange Filing Deadline Today**
- 14. New Business**
- 15. Public Speakers**
- 16. Adjournment**

COMMISSIONERS

PRESENT

ABSENT

MATARAZZO, JR., PRESIDENT

X

DEFURIA

X

GRODMAN

X

JOHNSON

X

O'BRIEN

X

WELLER-DEMMING

X

ADMIN. DURKIN

X

Agenda can be amended at any time prior to meeting

A meeting of the Essex County Board of Taxation was held on Wednesday, May 1, 2024 at 9:15 A.M. at its office located at 495 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Blvd., Newark, New Jersey.

1. ROLL CALL

Present at today's meeting were President Matarazzo, Commissioners Grodman, Johnson, O'Brien, Weller-Demming and Tax Administrator Durkin. Commissioner DeFuria was absent.

2. REORGANIZATION

A motion was made by Commissioner O'Brien to nominate Commissioner Johnson as the new President of the Essex County Board of Taxation, Seconded by Commissioner Grodman, all in favor motion carried.

3. APPROVE FEBRUARY 1, 2024, FEBRUARY 15, 2024, MARCH 7, 2024 & APRIL 4, 2024 MINUTES

A motion to approve the February 1, 2024 and February 15, 2025, minutes was made by Commissioner Grodman, Seconded by Commissioner O'Brien, all in favor motion approved. The approval of the minutes for March 7, 2024, have been tabled until the June meeting. A motion to approve the minutes of April 4, 2024, was made by Commissioner Grodman, Seconded by Commissioner Weller-Demming, all in favor motion carried.

4. APPROVE MEETING DATES FOR THE COMING YEAR

A motion to approve the meeting dates for the coming year was made by Commissioner Grodman, Seconded by Commissioner O'Brien, all in favor motion carried.

5. MOTION TO APPROVE ALL APPEALS INCLUDING TAX COURT PENDING, AFFIRMANCES, STIPULATIONS AND WITHDRAWALS UP TO MAY 1, 2024

A motion to approve all appeals including Tax Court Pending, Affirmances, Stipulations and Withdrawals up to May 1, 2024, was made by Commissioner Grodman, Seconded by Commissioner O'Brien, all in favor motion carried.

6. APPOINT KENYA KOURKOULIS OPRA CUSTODIAN OF RECORDS FOR THE TAX BOARD

A motion to appoint Kenya Kourkoulis OPRA Custodian of Records for the Tax Board was made by Commissioner Grodman, Seconded by Commissioner O'Brien, all in favor motion carried.

7. UPDATE OF REVALUATIONS: 2025 IRVINGTON & WEST ORANGE, 2026 CEDAR GROVE, FAIRFIELD & VERONA, 2027 NEWARK

Irvington Tax Assessor Silvia Forbes reported that ASI submitted their report that stated that the Residential property inspections are almost complete and commercial, industrial, and exempt properties are still being inspected. All inspections should be completed by July. Tax Administrator Durkin stated that the CFO of Irvington was invited to attend today's meeting but due to the parking situation did not attend. Also, a discussion was held on the situation of the Taxpayer Computer that has been out of operation for several months. Silvia will check with Irvington's IT Department to see when the computer will be in operation.

West Orange Tax Assessor Jacob Nieman reported that 11,000 residential and 500 commercial properties have been inspected. All inspections should be done in two months.

Cedar Grove Tax Assessor Richard Hamilton reported that he is revising the MOD IV system to reflect the corrections on the Cedar Grove Tax Map. Administrator Durkin inquired on the date the Tax Maps would be submitted and the date that the RFP would be placed out to bid. Richard will report back to the Tax Board at the June meeting after he meets with his Township to discuss the timeline.

Fairfield Tax Assessor Christopher Murray reported that the Tax Maps are being updated as well as the MOD IV System. He stated that both the Tax Maps and RFP will be completed by July.

Newark Tax Assessor Frank Dallessio was not present at the meeting. Administrator Durkin read his report that stated the awarding of the Contract is being reviewed and processed and the Tax Maps are continuing to be updated. The Tax Board will send a letter to Newark to remind them of the timeline and the steps that should be taken to ensure that the revaluation is on the 2027 Tax List.

8. STATE APPROVED CALDWELL & WEST CALDWELL REVALUATION FOR YEAR 2027

State approval of revaluation for the year 2027 letters were sent certified mail to Caldwell and West Caldwell.

9. REVALUATION ORDERS: BELLEVILLE, BLOOMFIELD, GLEN RIDGE & MONTCLAIR

Revaluation Orders for the Revaluation of Belleville, Bloomfield, Glen Ridge, and Montclair were sent to the State for approval.

10. UPDATE OF DEEDS

As of April 15, 2024, 8,470 deeds have been processed, that is approximately 1,800 less than this time last year.

11. UPDATE OF APPEALS

As of April 30, 2024, 1,759 appeals have been filed. Additional appeals will be filed on the deadline of May 1, 2024, from Maplewood, Roseland & South Orange.

12. CONFIRMING SIGNATURE STAMPS ACCEPTABLE ON DOCUMENTS

Signature stamps will be used on all documents signed by the Commissioners.

13. MAPLEWOOD, ROSELAND & SOUTH ORANGE FILING DEADLINE TODAY

Reminder that today is the filing deadline for Maplewood, Roseland, and South Orange.

14. NEW BUSINESS

The County Tax Administrators Association meetings on June 18, 2024 and December 8, 2024 will be held at the Park Savoy Estate.

15. PUBLIC SPEAKERS

A question was asked by Thomas DeKorte, Maplewood Tax Assessor, regarding not receiving copies of Tax Appeals and the procedure not being adhered to.

16. ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:15 A.M. was made by Commissioner O'Brien, seconded by Commissioner Weller-Demming, all in favor motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Joan Cody Durkin, CTA
Tax Administrator

JCD/el