

1 SOMERSET COUNTY BOARD OF TAXATION  
2 27 Warren Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
3 Somerville, NJ  
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5 MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
6 June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2019 – Regular Meeting  
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8 The June regular monthly meeting of the Somerset County Board of Taxation for 2019 was held at the  
9 Board of Taxation offices on June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2019 starting at 12:00 PM. The meeting had been advertised in  
10 accordance with State Law; upon roll call, President Lore and Commissioners Marano and Rosen were  
11 present. Tax Administrator Robert Vance and Assistant Tax Administrator Dawn Guttschall were also  
12 present. The following matters were discussed.  
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14 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING  
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16 The minutes of the May 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Reorganization Meeting of the Board of Taxation were submitted by  
17 the administrator to the commissioners for their approval. Approval of the minutes was moved by  
18 Commissioner Marano and seconded by Commissioner Rosen. The roll was called and the minutes for  
19 that meeting were approved by President Lore and Commissioners Marano and Rosen.  
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21 CORRESPONDENCE: None  
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23 OLD BUSINESS:  
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- 25 1. Reassessment Districts: To date, 15 districts have filed AFR-A forms for the current year,  
26 which are for reassessments to be completed by the end of 2019 for the 2020 tax rolls. The  
27 administrator indicated that he had reviewed all submissions and found them to be in order.  
28 Administrator Vance indicated that he had forwarded all 8 AFR-A Applications, previously  
29 approve by the commissioners, along to the Division of Taxation. An additional 7 districts  
30 have filed AFR-A forms and these applications were approved by the commissioners at the  
31 meeting and would be forwarded to the Division of Taxation. The only outstanding AFR-A  
32 was for the Borough of Bound Brook, and this last application was anticipated to be  
33 available for approval at the next board of taxation meeting, in July.  
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- 35 2. The current balance In the Trust Account was reported to be approximately \$475,781.  
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37 NEW BUSINESS:  
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- 39 1. The final appeal counts for 2019 were submitted by Deputy Tax Administrator Dawn  
40 Guttschall and were reviewed by all present. A total of 424 appeals were filed in Somerset  
41 County for 201, well below the figure of 498 filings in the prior year Administrator Vance  
42 also provided a report from the NJACTB indicating the appeal counts and actual hearing  
43 counts from all county tax boards during the prior year of 2018. Somerset County  
44 experienced the second lowest appeal count as well as number of actual hearings in NJ  
45 during 2018.  
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NEW BUSINESS, cont'd:

2. In a discussion of upcoming appeals, it was agreed that the clean-up date for appeals would be held on June 25<sup>th</sup>. Commissioner Pappas had previously indicated that he would be available to preside on that date, should that be necessary.
3. Administrator Vance announced that the program for the NJACTB Cape May educational conference for 2019 has been nearly finalized and that the course offerings had been made available to all Somerset County Assessors as well as to the commissioners. This conference will begin on Monday August 26<sup>th</sup> and end on Friday, August 30<sup>th</sup>.
4. The administrator noted that the AMANJ annual convention was scheduled to be held in Galloway Township, at the Sea View Country Club beginning on June 26<sup>th</sup> and ending on June 28<sup>th</sup>.
5. The administrator and all commissioners present reviewed all appeals judged from Wednesday, May 15<sup>th</sup> through Thursday, June 6<sup>th</sup>. The proposed judgments were reviewed and approved and would be mailed to all appellants shortly after the meeting.
6. Administrator Vance discussed S-3827, concerning the proposal advanced by Shirley Turner, (D-12<sup>th</sup> district) and co-sponsored by Kip Bateman, (R-16<sup>th</sup> district) to clarify the original intent of the NJ Legislature and reverse the ongoing pattern of Telephone, Telegraph and Messenger Service providers (Verizon and United Telephone Company) to erode the tax base of all districts in NJ through refusing to remit taxes on their equipment located in each district. The bill is not dependent upon the validity of the recent court decision in Verizon v. Hopewell, but would advance and expand the results of this important judgment. Another recent bill, S-3726, was also discussed, pertaining to the possibility of expanding county based assessment, similar to the Gloucester county system, throughout New Jersey.
7. Administrator Vance and Deputy Administrator Guttschall reviewed the upcoming hearing dates in June, which would close out the current year appeal season.

84 Open to the Public

85 At 12:22 PM, a resident and property owner from Manville, who also owns property within Hillsborough  
86 Township, was present and asked several questions of the board members and the administrator. Her  
87 questions were answered by the commissioners present as well administrator Vance.

88 The meeting was then adjourned at 12:34 PM