

1 SOMERSET COUNTY BOARD OF TAXATION
2 27 Warren Street, 4th Floor
3 Somerville, NJ
4

5 MINUTES OF THE MEETING
6 June 9th, 2020 – Regular Meeting
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8 The June regular monthly meeting of the Somerset County Board of Taxation for 2020 was held via the
9 internet, using the Zoom platform, on June 9th, 2020 starting at 12:00 PM. The meeting had been
10 advertised in accordance with State Law; upon roll call, President Eader, Vice President Goldberg and
11 Commissioners Jordan, Linnus and Rosen were attending. Tax Administrator Robert Vance hosted the
12 meeting on line and Deputy Tax Administrator Dawn Guttschall was also attending. The following
13 matters were discussed.
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15 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING
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17 The minutes of the May 1st Annual Reorganization Meeting of the Board of Taxation were submitted by
18 the administrator to the commissioners for their approval. Approval of the minutes was moved by
19 Commissioner Rosen and seconded by President Eader. The roll was called and the minutes for that
20 meeting were approved by all 5 commissioners.
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22 CORRESPONDENCE:
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- 24 1. Letters were received at the tax board offices for each of the three new commissioners;
25 these were forwarded to each commissioner via email.
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27 2. A new batch of OPRA requests was submitted to the board by a resident of Manville. These
28 have all been answered through the office of the county counsel. Responses were delayed
29 due to the COVID19 pandemic.
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31 OLD BUSINESS:
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- 33 1. Reassessment Districts: To date, no progress reports have been submitted as the
34 commencement of all current programs has been delayed due to the COVID19 pandemic.
35 The Division of Taxation has indicated that applications for all reassessment programs
36 submitted in 2020 must utilize the AFR form, as opposed to the traditional AFR-A form, and
37 some districts will be required to revise their forms as already submitted on the AFR-A form.
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39 2. The current balance In the Trust Account was reported to be approximately \$464,569.
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41 NEW BUSINESS:
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- 43 1. The appeal counts for 2020 were submitted by Deputy Tax Administrator Dawn Guttschall
44 and were reviewed by all present. A total of 195 appeals were filed in Somerset County for
45 2020, as of June 8th. Administrator Vance noted that the appeal filing season was extended
46 beyond May 1st, to July 1st, by order of the Governor. Filings to date are well below the total
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52 NEW BUSINESS (Cont'd)

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54 of 423 received as of May 1 in 2019, but more filings are expected during the extended
55 appeal period. Hearings will not commence before the end of July, and must be concluded
56 by September 30th, instead of the traditional final hearing date of June 30th. Hearing dates
57 will be tentatively discussed at the next meeting of the Board of Taxation.

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59 2. In a brief note concerning educational opportunities approaching, Administrator Vance
60 indicated that only the NJACTB Cape May educational program remains tentatively
61 scheduled, for August 31st through September 4th. This program is also subject to
62 cancellation, again due to the ongoing COVID 19 pandemic.

63
64 As the June meeting of the Board of Taxation was held on-line, there was no public portion at
65 the end of the regular meeting. The next scheduled meeting of the Board of Taxation will be on
66 July 14th and may again be held on-line, using the Zoom platform, should the COVID 19
67 pandemic continue to restrict access to the county facilities.