

**ALLEGHENY COUNTY BOARD OF PROPERTY ASSESSMENT
APPEALS & REVIEW**

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING HELD
THURSDAY, JUNE 06, 2024**

PRESENT:

WAYDE FARGOTSTEIN, BOARD CHAIR
RICHARD SNIPE, VICE CHAIR
MICHELLE PAYANZO, SECRETARY
MICHAEL SULEY, MEMBER
SUSAN THORNTON LARA, MEMBER

ALSO PRESENT:

AMY SCHREMPF, BOARD SOLICITOR
BARBARA BALDWIN, BOARD ADMINISTRATOR

ABSENT:

LESANS MONTGOMERY, MEMBER

Call to Order, Roll Call

Mr. Fargotstein called the meeting to order at 8:03a.m. Ms. Payanzo called the roll and determined that all were present except for LeSans Montgomery, and a Quorum was present.

Approval of the Minutes of the Prior Regular Meeting of May 23, 2024

A Motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the prior regular meeting of May 23, 2024. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Public Comment Period

Mr. Gurvich, Parcel ID# 435-E-80 – present before the Board to request an administrative review of the disposition notice received from the 2024 real estate tax assessment appeal.

Mr. Andrew Gross, Esq. – Parcel ID# 2-A-175, on behalf of his client. Request to conform appeal to intent of filing.

A Motion was made and seconded to acknowledge a timely filing of the appeal for 2-A-175 and schedule contemporaneously with the companion of 2-A-172. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Mr. John Silvestri, Esq. – present before the Board to discuss Judge Hertzberg's court order requiring the Board of Viewers to hear and accept evidence on what local neighborhood assessing ratios are, specifically permitting a taxpayer to present evidence of the assessment to value ratio of similar properties of the same nature in the neighborhood. Mr. Silvestri expressed that Hearing Officers should except all evidence that is presented, even if the information is considered irrelevant. Mr. Silvestri indicates that he intends to present the evidence on assessment ratios in like neighborhoods.

Mr. Michael LaVanga, Esq. – present to observe the meeting.

Solicitor's Report (Ms. Schrempf)

Parcel ID# 2-A-175 – covered under Public Comments.

Parcel ID# 1345-L-105 – request from owner to conform appeal to intention of filing. Owner filed a timely appeal for parcel 1345-L-105. This was not the correct parcel. The correct parcel included the tie-breaker 1504.

A motion was made and seconded to administratively withdraw any appeal filed at 1345-L-105 and conform the appeal for 1345-L-105-1504. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Paperless Appeals update. Effective June 3, 2024, BPAAR will go paperless with the Appeals process.

Mr. Suley asked how many data entry (Hearing Officers) are working on the appeals processing effort.

Ms. Schrempf responds that she and Ms. Baldwin met with the Hearing Officers supporting appeals data entry support and would like to discuss it further in an executive session following the Board meeting.

Appeals Department Report (Ms. Brown)

Status report as submitted. Commercial scheduled through the end of June with the 20-minute window. The Commercial hearing schedule for August has been adjusted to 30-minute window.

Items from OPA Department (Ms. Brooks)

None proffered.

Items from the Board Administrator (Ms. Baldwin)

Rescind and reissue, Parcel ID# 1-N-281-3B – tabled to next meeting.

Request to reschedule hearing marked as DNA, Parcel ID# 521-A-523.

A Motion was made and seconded to deny request to reschedule 2024 tax assessment appeal hearing. MOTION CARRIED.

Request to rehear, Parcel ID# 614-G-268.

A motion was made and seconded to reschedule and rehear tax assessment appeal hearing for Parcel ID# 614-G 268. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Request for new disposition with a current a date, Parcel ID# 176-J-118.

A motion was made a seconded to approve a new disposition with current date for parcel ID# 176-J-118.

Hearing Officer training for new and returning Hearing Officers scheduled for June 14, 2024.

Exemption Training for Board members scheduled for Thursday, June 20, 2024 following Board member.

Board Approval List

Tax Year 2022, First Parcel ID# 98-K-37

Tax Year 2022(Y), First Parcel ID# 132-G-62

Tax Year 2023, First Parcel ID# 254-L-40

Tax Year 2024, First Parcel ID# 27-C-200

No pulls or recusals.

A Motion was made and seconded to approve the Board approval list as submitted. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Old Business.

None proffered.

New Business.

Consolidated Appeals Policy (Mr. Suley) – to be discussed in executive session.

BPAAR Meeting Minutes
June 6, 2024


Rules and Regulations for 2025 Tax Years (Mr. Suley) – to be discussed in executive session.

Base Year vs. Current Market Value (Mr. Suley) – Mr. Suley raised a question to Ms. Schrempf regarding a legal opinion on base year arguments before BPAAR. It was decided to discuss further in the executive session.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 8:33 a.m.

Executive session held to discuss personnel matters.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Michelle Payanzo".

Michelle Payanzo, Board Secretary