ALLEGHENY COUNTY BOARD OF PROPERTY ASSESSMENT APPEALS & REVIEW

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING HELD THURSDAY, JULY 18, 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 Ms. LeSans Montgomery, and a Quorum was present.

Approval of the Minutes of the Prior Regular Meeting of July 2, 2024

A Motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the prior regular meeting of July 2, 2024. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Public Comment Period

Ms. Moradi intended to file a 2024 appeal for her primary residence 448-E-22 but mistakenly filed the appeal on another property she owns parcel ID# 534-A-383. Ms. Moradi only became aware of the issue when she received the disposition notice.

A motion was made and seconded to rescind and withdraw the appeal for property 534-A-383 and conform the 2024 appeal with the intent to 448-E-22. MOTION PASSED.

Ms. Sharon DiPaolo, Esquire, present before the Board to raise concerns regarding 1077-J-295 and 1077 J-291. These parcels represent the building of Kentucky Fried Chicken and its drive thru. Ms. DiPaolo is requesting a rescind and reissue of the disposition notices that were received. The drive thru received the same value as the building.

Ms. Schrempf, Board Solicitor, advised Ms. DiPaolo that the Board will pull and review the file for an administrative review. The Board will take appropriate action pending completion of the administrative review.

Ms. DiPaolo requests the status of the tax assessment appeal hearing for Parcel ID# 39-L-175 for tax years 2022 and 2023. Ms. Schrempf advised that the parcel is on today's agenda for the Board approval list.

Ms. DiPaolo inquired of the scheduling of appeal hearings for the month of August 2024. Ms. Lori Brown, Appeals Department Manager, stated that hearings are being scheduled for the week of August 12, 2024.

Solicitor's Report (Ms. Schrempf)

No report.

Appeals Department Report (Ms. Brown)

Ms. Brown presents the Appeals department status report as submitted. Hearings are scheduled through July 31st. Will begin scheduling hearings for the week of August 12th. The Appeals department will continue to schedule hearings until there are no more hearings to be scheduled.

Mr. Fargotstein, Board Chair, asked Ms. Brown about hearings not being scheduled between July 31st and August 12th. Ms. Brown replies, due to timelines, providing adequate notice and to avoid possible administrative postponements.

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Items from OPA Department (Ms. Brooks)

None proffered.

Mr. Suley, Board member, asked Ms. Brooks about hearings being scheduled around Elections. Mr. Suley asked that OPA is mindful of scheduling and staff is not pulled from the appeals division in October. Ms. Brooks replies that the adjustment of staff during Elections is decided by upper management. She states that as of right now, it's only for one day.

Items from the Board Administrator (Ms. Baldwin)

Parcel ID# 596-F-112 – 04A - Rescind and Rehear

A Motion was made and seconded to rescind and rehear. MOTION CARRIED.

1212-J-249 – 00 - Reschedule and rehear – Rep did not receive letter.

A Motion was made and seconded to reschedule and rehear, MOTION CARRIED.

2025 Appeal forms submitted for approval.

A Motion was made and seconded to approve the 2025 appeals application form and tip sheet with the changes as discussed. MOTION CARRIED.

Request for Board to extend a Residential Hearing Officer Contract to Annamarie Crelli.

A Motion was made and seconded to extend a Residential Hearing Officer contract to Annamarie Crelli. MOTION CARRIED.

Board Approval List

Interim Tax Year 2022, Parcel ID# 392-J-155 Interim Tax Year 2023, First Parcel ID# 1007-L-207 Tax Year 2022, First Parcel ID# 88-E-170 Tax Year 2023, First Parcel ID# 88-E-170 Tax Year 2024, First Parcel ID# 392-R-50

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.

Board directive to Solicitor regarding petition to Judge Hertzberg (3)

Ms. Schrempf states that the motion is drafted and notice will be scheduled.

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Board's Rules and Regulations 2024 and 2025

Mr. Suley and Ms. Schrempf discussed the Board's rules and regulations. Mr. Suley's inquired of the final draft. Ms. Schrempf states the document is in BPAAR's Teams folder. It was questioned if revisions were made to the rules and regulations and sent to County Council. Ms. Schrempf states that there was a previous motion for Ms. Baldwin, Board Administrator, to send to County Council. Ms. Baldwin was not aware of the final draft but would refer to the Teams folder to send a copy to County Council.

Mr. Suley says that he would like to make recommendations for the 2025 Board rules and regulations and will work with Ms. Schrempf for updates.

Base year legal opinion request (3)

Base year legal opinion and personnel issues to be discussed in an executive session.

New Business.

None proffered.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 a.m.

Executive session.

Michelle Payanzo, Board Secretary