



Madison County Board of Assessors

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Board Members:
P David Ragland, Chairman
Samantha Garland, Vice-Chairperson
Larry Stewart
Jim Escoe

Meeting: 03/05/09

Posted:

Chairman David Ragland ordered the regular called meeting of the Madison County Board of Tax Assessors to order at 5:30 p.m. March 5, 2009 in the public meeting room of the Madison County Government Complex. In attendance were Samantha Garland, Larry Stewart, and Jim Escoe. Also in attendance were Stacey Sikorski Rubio, and Vicky Krieg.

Old Business:

Motion was made by Jim Escoe to approve the minutes from February 16, 2009. David Ragland seconded the motion. Motion passed with unanimous consent. Vice Chairperson Samantha Garland did not vote due to her absence on February 16th.

New Business:

Motion was made by Jim Escoe to change the Board of Assessors meeting schedule to the first and third Thursday of each month at 6:00 pm beginning on March 19, 2009. Larry Stewart seconded the motion. Motion passed with unanimous consent.

Due to illness, board member Jim Escoe requested postponing discussion of items he requested to be on the agenda.

Motion was made by Larry Stewart to table the request made by William S. Dove 0074-008 to let Franklin County tax all of his property. Samantha Garland seconded the motion. Motion passed with unanimous consent.

Motion was made by Jim Escoe to table the request for refund by Ernst Trust 0040-069. The board requested the staff ask the homeowner for permission to measure the upper level of the house to verify dimensions before bringing the request back before the board. Samantha Garland seconded the motion. Motion passed with unanimous consent.

Motion was made by Larry Stewart to deny recommending a refund for the UGA Foundation for tax years 2006 and 2007. Samantha Garland seconded the motion. Motion passed with unanimous consent.

Appeals:

The board was notified of two 2008 appeals from Owenby & Associates CO04-022 and 0054-042-A that are still pending. The board requested the staff also check the Personal Property accounts of the retail stores.

Conservation:

Motion was made by Larry Stewart to Table creating a policy that would define the term "business" as related to the Conservation Use Assessment. This subject will be discussed in a special called work session at 6:00 March 26, 2009. David Ragland seconded the motion. Motion passed with unanimous consent.

Ricky Busby 0094-049-01-A Conservation application was discussed. The staff is waiting for information from the Georgia Department of revenue for clarification.

Motion was made by Jim Escoe to release Mrs. JW Berryman from her conservation contract on parcel 0111-075 based on Georgia Code Section 48-5-7.4 (q)(4). Larry Stewart seconded the motion. Motion passed with unanimous consent.

Chairman's recommendations:

Due to the Tax Assessors Office being short staffed, the board discussed bringing in help from Athens Clarke County in order to help the staff catch up on data entry issues. Mr. Escoe said he would be in favor of utilizing experienced outside help if our staff would be present to oversee the work. Mr. Stewart does not want to bring in outside individuals to help. Mrs. Garland asked the staff to compile a list of items that need to be caught up.

Motion was made by Samantha Garland to Request funds from the Board of Commissioners for overtime for the appraisal staff. The overtime is requested due the office being short staffed. Jim Escoe seconded the motion. The vote was recorded as follows: David Ragland, YES; Samantha Garland, YES; Larry Stewart, NO; Jim Escoe, YES. Motion was approved (3) votes YES to (1) vote NO.

Interim Chief Appraiser recommendations:

Stacey Sikorski Rubio presented the board with county sales ratios.

Motion was made by Jim Escoe to approve funds for Stacey Sikorski Rubio to attend a one day class on Wingap FLPA in Macon on March 17, 2009. Larry Stewart seconded the motion. Motion passed with unanimous consent.

Policy:

The board agreed to schedule a work session to discuss policy March 26th at 6:00.

Personnel:

Motion was made by Samantha Garland to go into executive session to discuss personnel. Larry Stewart seconded the motion. Motion passed with unanimous consent.

Motion was made by Samantha Garland to reopen the regular business meeting. Larry Stewart seconded the motion. Motion passed with unanimous consent.

Adjournment:

Motion was made by Samantha Garland to adjourn at 8:35 p.m. Jim Escoe seconded the motion. Motion passed with unanimous consent.

**SIGNATURE PAGE
FOR THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR CALLED BUSINESS MEETING
OF March 5th, 2009**

P DAVID RAGLAND – CHAIRMAN

SAMANTHA GARLAND – VICE CHAIRPERSON

JIM ESCOE SR. – BOARD MEMBER

LARRY STEWART – BOARD MEMBER