



Board of Assessment Review

Friday, August 25, 2022, 3:00 PM

Meeting Minutes

Approved on September 9, 2022

Stephen Bither
Barbara Brewer

The meeting, held by ZOOM technology, convened at 3:00 p.m. on August 25, 2022.

Attendees: Board members Stephen Bither and Barbara Brewer, attorney Jim Katsiaficas representing the Board, Portland Assistant Assessor Brent Martin, attorney for the city Michael Goldman, and Board assistant Nancy English. No members of the public attended.

Also attending was Todd Kratt, from Ducharme, McMillan Associates, on behalf of Lafayette Portland LLC, dba Holiday Inn by the Bay, 40 and 88 Spring Street, and Lafayette Portland West, dba Fireside Suites, 81 Riverside Street, and Shayna Jones from Ducharme, McMillan Associates, on behalf of Unifirst Corporation, 414 Riverside Industrial Parkway.

At the request of Todd Kratt, from Ducharme, McMillan Associates, representing Lafayette Portland LLC, dba Holiday Inn by the Bay, 40 and 88 Spring Street, and Lafayette Portland West, dba Fireside Suites, 81 Riverside Street, Board Chair Bither asked for a motion to postpone the hearing on those appeals for 60 days. Board member Brewer so moved and Chair Bither seconded the motion, which was approved by a roll call vote of 2-0.

At the request of Shayna Jones, from Ducharme, McMillan Associates, representing Unifirst Corporation, 414 Riverside Industrial Parkway, Board Chair Bither asked for a motion to postpone the hearing on this appeal for 60 days. Board Member Brewer so moved and Chair Bither seconded the motion, which was approved by a roll call vote of 2-0.

At the emailed request of attorney Sally Daggett representing Forest Avenue Plaza LLC, 449 Forest Avenue, Board Chair Bither asked for a motion to dismiss with prejudice and no attorney fees the appeal filed by attorney Sally Daggett representing Forest Avenue

Plaza LLC, 449 Forest Avenue, after acknowledging that a signed agreement to the settle the appeal had been received. Board member Brewer so moved and Chair Bither seconded the motion, which was approved by a roll call vote of 2-0.

At the emailed request of Attorney Sally Daggett representing 49 Dartmouth LLC, 49 Dartmouth Street, Board Chair Bither asked for a motion to postpone the hearing on that appeal for 60 days. Board member Brewer so moved and Chair Bither seconded the motion, which was approved by a roll call vote of 2-0.

After the Board had made its decision on August 19, 2022 on the appeal from Patricia Bleech, 24 Willis Street, and on the appeal from Karen Snyder, 72 Waterville Street, Ms. Bleech and Ms. Snyder had emailed the Board requesting their appeals be reconsidered. At the August 25, 2022 hearing, attorney Jim Katsiaficas advised the Board that they should be able to limit the scope of the reconsideration, limit the time for testimony, and set rules for the submission for any additional material.

In additional discussion Chair Bither stated that this matter be set for a hearing before September 13, 2022, the appellants' additional information be received at least 10 days before the hearing, the City's response within a week of the hearing, and testimony be limited to 15 minutes. Board Member Brewer asked that anything brought forward be related to the Assistant Assessor's response to the appeals, received shortly before the August 19 hearing itself.

Chair Bither moved to reconsider the appeal from Patricia Bleech for 24 Willis Street, on a limited basis concerning only information in the Assistant Assessor's response, with any additional material from Ms. Bleech submitted ten days before the hearing and any additional material received from the City's Assistant Assessor one week before, and with testimony limited to 15 minutes. Board Member Barbara Brewer seconded the motion, which was approved on a roll call vote 2-0.

Chair Bither moved to reconsider the appeal from Karen Snyder for 72 Waterville Street, on a limited basis concerning information in the Assistant Assessor's response, with any additional material from Ms. Snyder submitted ten days before the hearing and any additional material received from the City's Assistant Assessor one week before, and with testimony limited to 15 minutes. Board Member Barbara Brewer seconded the motion, which was approved on a roll call vote 2-0.

The new in-person hearing date for these two reconsiderations was set on September 9, 2022 at 9:00 a.m., with a Tuesday, August 30, 2022 deadline for the Appellants' response and September 1, 2022 deadline for any new response from the City Assistant Assessor. Board Member Brewer asked that attorney Jim Katsiaficas assist.

Board Member Brewer moved and Chair Bither seconded the motion to adjourn, passed by a roll call vote of 2-0. Meeting adjourned at 3:36 p.m.