



RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY
LANSING

NICK A. KHOURI
STATE TREASURER

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE STATE TAX COMMISSION

***State Treasurers Board Room
Richard H. Austin / Treasury Building
430 W. Allegan, Lansing, Michigan***

***Thursday, July 16, 2015
9:00 a.m.***

***PRESENT: Douglas B. Roberts, Chair STC
Barry S. Simon, Member STC (Telephone)
W. Howard Morris, Member STC (Telephone)

Kelli Sobel, Executive Director
LaNiece Densteadt, Recording Secretary***

The item numbers referred to in the minutes correspond to the agenda items as numbered.

It was moved by Simon, supported by Morris, and unanimously approved to adopt the minutes of June 9, 2015. (Item 1 on agenda)

It was moved by Simon, supported by Morris, and unanimously approved Bulletin 7 of 2015 Personal Property Tax Exemption. (Item 2 on agenda)

It was moved by Simon, supported by Morris, and unanimously approved Bulletin 8 of 2015 Personal Property Tax Changes Special Acts. (Item 3 on agenda)

It was moved by Simon, supported by Morris, and unanimously approved Bulletin 9 of 2015 Essential Services Assessment. (Item 4 on agenda)

It was moved by Roberts, supported by Morris, and unanimously approved to adopt the State Tax Commission Statement of Policy Regarding Assumption of Jurisdiction of Assessment Rolls. (Item 5 on agenda)

It was moved by Morris, supported by Simon, and unanimously approved to adopt the official order to certify and return the 2015 assessment rolls for L'Anse Township and Baraga Township, Baraga County, and Laird Township and City of Houghton, Houghton County. The Commission also approved to give the City of Houghton's assessment roll back provisionally pending their AMAR review. (Item 6 on agenda)

Public Comment (Item 7 on agenda):

Carol Wood, representing the Lansing City Council, appeared before the Commission to thank the Commission for all the work that they do in revitalizing the City of Lansing and to speak regarding the Niowave Inc. PA 238. Ms. Wood stated that in 2006 the Lansing City Council approved an OPRA, SBT Credit and PA 328 agreement with Niowave Inc. In 2013 Niowave asked for an additional PA 328 on their property in the Walnut neighborhood. The City attorney and LEAP confirmed that the City would have the ability to rescind the PA 328 if Niowave did not comply with the agreement. Ms. Wood stated that Niowave did not comply with the agreement; and therefore, the Lansing City Council tried to rescind the PA 328. At that same time LEAP told them the Commission issued a bulletin that stated municipalities could not rescind PA 328's. Ms. Wood asked for consideration in the dilemma faced by the Council and would not have issued the abatement if it had known it could not be rescinded.

Mary Elaine Kiener, representing the Walnut neighborhood, appeared before the Commission to echo Ms. Wood's statement regarding the STC and to give a neighbor's perspective regarding Niowave Inc. PA 328. The neighborhood welcomed Niowave into the neighborhood. They were told that it would be a simple shed and turned out to be a three story high and 14,000 sq. foot pole barn. Ms. Kiener stated they commend the City for making changes in the zoning ordinance to not allow this to happen again in another neighborhood. Ms. Keiner stated they were in dismay and disappointed that the abatement could not be rescinded. Ms. Keiner asked the Commission take the abatement into consideration.

The next Commission meeting will be held August 25, 2015 at the Okemos Conference Center in the Okemos A & B Rooms, 2187 University Park Drive, Okemos.

It was moved by Roberts, supported by Simon, and unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting of the State Tax Commission at 9:35 a.m.

DATE TYPED: July 16, 2015

DATE APPROVED: August 25, 2015

Douglas B. Roberts, Chair
State Tax Commission

Barry N. Simon, Member
State Tax Commission

W. Howard Morris, Member
State Tax Commission