

AN ORDINANCE

An Ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, amending and supplementing the Administrative Code of Allegheny County, Article 207, entitled "New Board of Property Appeals Assessment and Review," §5-207.06, entitled "Rules and regulations for appeals," in order to establish a mechanism for electronic and/or regular mail filing of appeals.

WHEREAS, the process of pursuing an appeal of the assessed value of any residential property is often undertaken by property owners themselves, and these individuals are not necessarily well versed or trained in the legal process relating to assessment appeals; and

WHEREAS, property owners pursuing appeals are often confronted with unfamiliar circumstances relating to the appeal of assessed values; and

WHEREAS, as a result, residential property owners often feel compelled to attempt to undertake filing in person; and

WHEREAS, it is the judgment of Council that residential property owners should be afforded every convenience in the process of filing assessment appeals;

The Council of the County of Allegheny hereby enacts as follows:

Section 1. <u>Incorporation of the Preamble.</u>

The provisions set forth in the preamble to this Ordinance are incorporated by reference in their entirety herein.

Section 2. Amendment of the Code.

The Administrative Code of Allegheny County, Article 207, entitled "New Board of Property Appeals Assessment and Review," §5-207.07, entitled "Powers and duties," is hereby amended as follows:

ARTICLE 207 New Board of Property Appeals Assessment and Review

§5-207.06. Rules and regulations for appeals.

The new Appeals Board shall have the power and its duty shall be to:

* * *

B. The rules and regulations adopted by the Appeals Board shall include, but not necessarily be limited to, procedures for filing (including filing by mail and electronic filing), scheduling and hearing appeals; required notices and postponement of hearings, rules of evidence governing such appeals governing such appeals; the methodology by which appeals decisions are to be made by the Appeals Board; and the format and content of the Appeals Board's appeal decisions, including providing in the disposition notice and explanation of the rationale leading to any change in assessed value as a result of the hearing.

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Section 3. Effective Date.

This Ordinance shall become effective immediately upon approval.

- Section 4. <u>Severability</u>. If any provision of this Ordinance shall be determined to be unlawful, invalid, void or unenforceable, then that provision shall be considered severable from the remaining provisions of this Ordinance which shall be in full force and effect.
- Section 5. <u>Repealer</u>. Any Resolution or Ordinance or part thereof conflicting with the provisions of this Ordinance is hereby repealed so far as the same affects this Ordinance.

PRIMARY SPONSOR: COUNCIL MEMBER KRESS

COSPONSOR(S): COUNCIL MEMBER MACEY

Enacted in Council, this 10 th day of March, 2015
Council Agenda No. 1976-14
John DeFazio President of Council
Attest: Jared Barker Chief Clerk of Council
Chief Executive Office Narly 12 , 2015
Approved: Dich Fitzgerald Chief Executive
Attest Sonya Gietz Executive's Secretary