

PROPERTY TAX APPEAL BOARD'S DECISION

APPELLANT: Mathew Raju
DOCKET NO.: 03-26425.001-C-1
PARCEL NO.: 04-26-409-025

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board (hereinafter PTAB) are Mathew Raju, the appellant, by attorney Arnold G. Siegel in Chicago and the Cook County Board of Review.

The subject property consists of a 16,201 square foot parcel of land improved with a 17-year old, one-story, masonry constructed, gasoline station with 508 square feet of building area. The appellant, via counsel, argued that the market value of the subject property is not accurately reflected in the property's assessed valuation as the basis of this appeal.

In support of the market value argument, the appellant submitted an appraisal of the subject property with an effective date of January 1, 2001. The appraiser used the sales comparison approach to value to arrive at market value of \$254,000. The appraiser determined that the highest and best use to be its current use.

Under the sales comparison approach to value, the appraiser utilized four suggested comparable sales located in the same

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Based on the facts and exhibits presented, the Property Tax Appeal Board hereby finds a reduction in the assessment of the property as established by the Cook County Board of Review is warranted. The correct assessed valuation of the property is:

LAND: \$ 85,774
IMPR.: \$ 10,746
TOTAL: \$ 96,520

Subject only to the State multiplier as applicable.

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market as the subject. The comparables consist of one-story, masonry, gasoline stations. The comparables range: in age from 28 to 49 years, with two ages unknown; in size from 600 to 2,125 square feet of building area; and in land to building ratio from 8.33:1 to 21.83:1. The properties sold from August 1999 to December 2000 for prices ranging from \$188,000 to \$540,000 or from \$290.23 to \$519.30 per square foot of building area. The appraiser made several adjustments to the comparables. Based on this, the appraiser determined the subject property's value using the sales comparison approach to be \$254,000 rounded.

The board of review submitted "Board of Review-Notes on Appeal" wherein the subject's total assessment was \$141,597. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$372,624 using the level of assessment of 38% for Class 5A property as contained in the Cook County Real Property Assessment Classification Ordinance. The board also submitted raw sale information for 13 properties suggested as comparable to the subject. These comparables are all located within the subject's market and are improved with one-story, masonry gasoline station. These buildings ranged in age from eight to 52 years, with three ages unknown, and in size from 800 to 4,800 square feet of building area. The comparables sold from July 1997 to December 2003 for prices ranging from \$400,000 to \$1,100,000 or from \$104.17 to \$937.50 per square foot of building area. In addition, the board of review submitted a handwritten grid listing multiple properties and unexplained data. As a result of its analysis, the board requested confirmation of the subject's assessment.

After considering the evidence and reviewing the record, the Property Tax Appeal Board finds that it has jurisdiction over the parties and the subject matter of this appeal.

When overvaluation is claimed the appellant has the burden of proving the value of the property by a preponderance of the evidence. National City Bank of Michigan/Illinois v. Illinois Property Tax Appeal Board, 331 Ill.App.3d 1038 (3rd Dist. 2002); Winnebago County Board of Review v. Property Tax Appeal Board, 313 Ill.App.3d 179 (2nd Dist. 2000). Proof of market value may consist of an appraisal, a recent arm's length sale of the subject property, recent sales of comparable properties, or recent construction costs of the subject property. 86 Ill.Admin.Code 1910.65(c). Having considered the evidence presented, the PTAB concludes that the evidence indicates a reduction is warranted.

In determining the fair market value of the subject property, the PTAB finds the best evidence to be the appellant's appraisal. The appellant's appraiser utilized the sales comparison approach to value in determining the subject's market value. The PTAB finds

this appraisal to be persuasive for the appraiser: has experience in appraising; personally inspected the subject property and reviewed the property's history; estimated a highest and best use for the subject property; utilized appropriate market data in undertaking the sales comparison approach to value; and lastly, used similar properties in the sales comparison approach while providing sufficient detail regarding each sale as well as adjustments that were necessary. The PTAB gives little weight to the board of review's comparables as the information provided was raw sales data with no adjustments made.

Therefore, the PTAB finds that the subject property contained a market value of \$254,000 for the 2003 assessment triennial. Since the market value of the subject has been established, the Cook County Real Property Classification Ordinance level of assessments for Cook County Class 5A property of 38% will apply. In applying this level of assessment to the subject, the total assessed value is \$96,520 while the subject's current total assessed value is above this amount at \$141,597. Therefore, the PTAB finds that a reduction is warranted.

This is a final administrative decision of the Property Tax Appeal Board which is subject to review in the Circuit Court or Appellate Court under the provisions of the Administrative Review Law (735 ILCS 5/3-101 et seq.) and section 16-195 of the Property Tax Code.



Chairman



Member



Member



Member

Member

DISSENTING: _____

C E R T I F I C A T I O N

As Clerk of the Illinois Property Tax Appeal Board and the keeper of the Records thereof, I do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true, full and complete Final Administrative Decision of the Illinois Property Tax Appeal Board issued this date in the above entitled appeal, now of record in this said office.

Date: April 1, 2008



Clerk of the Property Tax Appeal Board

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Section 16-185 of the Property Tax Code provides in part:

"If the Property Tax Appeal Board renders a decision lowering the assessment of a particular parcel after the deadline for filing complaints with the Board of Review or after adjournment of the session of the Board of Review at which assessments for the subsequent year are being considered, the taxpayer may, within 30 days after the date of written notice of the Property Tax Appeal Board's decision, appeal the assessment for the subsequent year directly to the Property Tax Appeal Board."

In order to comply with the above provision, YOU MUST FILE A PETITION AND EVIDENCE WITH THE PROPERTY TAX APPEAL BOARD WITHIN 30 DAYS OF THE DATE OF THE ENCLOSED DECISION IN ORDER TO APPEAL THE ASSESSMENT OF THE PROPERTY FOR THE SUBSEQUENT YEAR.

Based upon the issuance of a lowered assessment by the Property Tax Appeal Board, the refund of paid property taxes is the responsibility of your County Treasurer. Please contact that office with any questions you may have regarding the refund of paid property taxes.