



**FINAL ADMINISTRATIVE DECISION
ILLINOIS PROPERTY TAX APPEAL BOARD**

APPELLANT: Bridget M. Mazzio
DOCKET NO.: 14-00834.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 15-05-204-020

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Bridget M. Mazzio, the appellant, by attorney Brian S. Maher, of Weis, DuBrock, Doody & Maher in Chicago; and the Lake County Board of Review.

Based on the facts and exhibits presented in this matter, the Property Tax Appeal Board hereby finds A Reduction in the assessment of the property as established by the **Lake** County Board of Review is warranted. The correct assessed valuation of the property is:

LAND: \$23,154
IMPR.: \$75,732
TOTAL: \$98,886

Subject only to the State multiplier as applicable.

Statement of Jurisdiction

The appellant timely filed the appeal from a decision of the Lake County Board of Review pursuant to section 16-160 of the Property Tax Code (35 ILCS 200/16-160) challenging the assessment for the 2014 tax year. The Property Tax Appeal Board finds that it has jurisdiction over the parties and the subject matter of the appeal.

Findings of Fact

The subject property consists of a tri-level single family dwelling of frame exterior construction with 1,674 square feet of living area. The dwelling was constructed in 1977. Features of the home include a 728 square foot basement with 546 square feet of finished area, central air conditioning, a fireplace and a 462 square foot garage. The property has a 7,211 square foot site and is located in Vernon Hills, Vernon Township, Lake County.

The appellant contends assessment inequity as the basis of the appeal. The appellant did not challenge the subject's land assessment. In support of this argument the appellant submitted information on six equity comparables located within 0.51 of a mile from the subject property. The comparables are improved with tri-level single family dwellings and have varying degrees of similarity when compared to the subject. The dwellings contain 1,674 or 1,802 square feet of living area and have improvement assessments ranging from \$56,872 to \$66,915 or from \$31.95

to \$38.87 per square foot of living area. The appellant requested the total assessment be reduced to \$82,251.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" disclosing the total assessment for the subject of \$100,043. The subject property has an improvement assessment of \$76,889 or \$45.93 per square foot of living area. In support of its contention of the correct assessment the board of review submitted information on eight equity comparables located within .60 of a mile from the subject property. The comparables are improved with tri-level single family dwellings and have varying degrees of similarity when compared to the subject. The dwellings contain 1,674 square feet of living area and have improvement assessments ranging from \$75,175 to \$77,500 or from \$44.91 to \$46.30 per square foot of living area. The board of review requested the assessment be confirmed.

Conclusion of Law

The taxpayer contends assessment inequity as the basis of the appeal. When unequal treatment in the assessment process is the basis of the appeal, the inequity of the assessments must be proved by clear and convincing evidence. 86 Ill.Admin.Code §1910.63(e). Proof of unequal treatment in the assessment process should consist of documentation of the assessments for the assessment year in question of not less than three comparable properties showing the similarity, proximity and lack of distinguishing characteristics of the assessment comparables to the subject property. 86 Ill.Admin.Code §1910.65(b). The Board finds the appellant did meet this burden of proof and a reduction in the subject's assessment is warranted.

The parties submitted 14 equity comparables for the Board's consideration. The Board gave less weight to the appellant's comparable #4, #5 and #6. These comparables are larger in dwelling size when compared to the subject. The Board gave less weight to the board of review comparables #2, #4 and #7. These comparables lack a finished area in the basement when compared to the finished area in the basement of the subject property. The Board finds the best evidence of assessment equity to be appellant's comparables #1, #2 and #3 along with the board of review comparables #1, #3, #5, #6 and #8. These comparables have varying degrees of similarity when compared to the subject in location, age and features. These comparables had improvement assessments that ranged from \$56,872 to \$76,797 or from \$33.97 to \$45.88 per square foot of living area. The subject's improvement assessment of \$76,889 or \$45.93 per square foot of living area falls above the range established by the best comparables in this record. Based on this record the Board finds the appellant did demonstrate with clear and convincing evidence that the subject's improvement was inequitably assessed and a reduction in the subject's assessment is justified.

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: _____

CERTIFICATION

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: July 22, 2016



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.