



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

APPELLANT: Mike Bickers  
DOCKET NO.: 14-03354.001-R-1  
PARCEL NO.: 09-08-06-200-007

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Mike Bickers, the appellant; and the Douglas County Board of Review.

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 **Douglas** County Board of Review is warranted. The correct assessed valuation of the property is:

**LAND:** \$2,473  
**IMPR.:** \$6,777  
**TOTAL:** \$9,250

Subject only to the State multiplier as applicable.

**Statement of Jurisdiction**

The appellant timely filed the appeal from a decision of the Douglas 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 one-story building of frame construction with 2,100 square feet of building area. The building was constructed in the 1960's. Features include a concrete slab foundation. The property has .65 of an acre site and is located in Tuscola, Tuscola Township, Douglas County.

The appellant's appeal is based on overvaluation. In support of this argument the appellant submitted evidence disclosing the subject property was purchased on September 10, 2014 for a price of \$27,000. The evidence disclosed the parties to the transaction were not related and the property was exposed on the open market with a Realtor for approximately 10 years. The appellant also submitted a copy of the board of review decision disclosing a total assessment of \$19,926, which reflects a market value of approximately \$59,784 when applying the statutory level of assessments. Based on this evidence the appellant requested the subject's assessment be reduced to \$9,250.

The board of review did not timely submit its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" and evidence in support of the assessed valuation of the subject property.

#### **Conclusion of Law**

The appellant contends the market value of the subject property is not accurately reflected in its assessed valuation. When market value is the basis of the appeal the value of the property must be proved by a preponderance of the evidence. National City Bank of Michigan/Illinois v. Illinois Property Tax Appeal Board, 331 Ill.App.3d 1038 (3<sup>rd</sup> Dist. 2002). Proof of market value may consist of an appraisal of the subject property, a recent sale, comparable sales or construction costs. (86 Ill.Admin.Code §1910.65(c)). The Board finds the appellant met this burden of proof and a reduction in the subject's assessment is warranted.

The Board finds the best evidence of market value in the record is the September 2014 purchase price for the subject property of \$27,000. The record indicates the sale had the elements of an arm's length transaction. The Board further finds the subject's assessment reflects a market value greater than the purchase price presented by the appellant. The board of review did not timely submit evidence in support of the assessment of the subject property or to refute the appellant's argument as required by section 1910.40(a) of the rules of the Property Tax Appeal Board and is found to be in default pursuant to section 1910.69(a) of the rules of the Property Tax Appeal Board. (86 Ill.Admin.Code 1910.40(a) & 1910.69(a)). Based on this record the Property Tax Appeal Board finds the subject property had a market value of \$27,000 as of January 1, 2014 and a reduction in the assessment commensurate to the appellant's request 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.

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Chairman



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Member



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Member



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Acting Member



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Member



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Acting 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: December 18, 2015



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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.