



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

APPELLANT: Grzegorz Walaszek
DOCKET NO.: 14-26834.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 03-15-106-018-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Grzegorz Walaszek, the appellant(s), by attorney Scott Shudnow, of Shudnow & Shudnow, Ltd. in Chicago; and the Cook 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 **Cook** County Board of Review is warranted. The correct assessed valuation of the property is:

LAND: \$ 9,500
IMPR.: \$12,000
TOTAL: \$21,500

Subject only to the State multiplier as applicable.

Statement of Jurisdiction

The appellant timely filed the appeal from a decision of the Cook 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, dwelling of masonry construction. The dwelling is 50 years old. Features of the home include a full basement and a two-car garage. The property has a 20,000 square foot site and is located in Wheeling Township, Cook County. The subject is classified as a class 2-03 property under the Cook County Real Property Assessment Classification Ordinance.

The appellant's appeal is based on overvaluation. In support of this argument the appellant submitted evidence that the subject was purchased in a foreclosure sale on July 31, 2013 for a price of \$170,000, or \$143.82 per square foot of living area, including land. The evidence includes a settlement statement and a Multiple Listing Service printout. The appellant also submitted a copy of Public Act 093-1083 and two Property Tax Appeal Board decisions regarding a different properties. In further support of the overvaluation argument, the appellant

submitted an appraisal that indicated the subject contains 1,182 square feet of living area, that it is vacant, and that it had a market value of \$215,000 as of June 7, 2013. The appraisal also indicates the subject had a May 14, 2013 contract for sale for a price of \$170,000. Based on this evidence, the appellant requested a reduction in the subject's assessment to reflect 10% of the purchase price.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" disclosing the total assessment for the subject of \$23,500. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$235,000, when using the 2014 level of assessment for class 2 property of 10% under the Cook County Real Property Assessment Classification Ordinance. In support of its contention of the correct assessment the board of review submitted information on four comparable sales that have sale prices that range from \$162.60 to \$208.33 per square foot of living area, including land. The board of review's grid sheet indicates the subject contains 1,211 square feet of living area.

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. 86 Ill.Admin.Code §1910.63(e). 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 that the sale of the subject in July 31, 2013 for a price of \$170,000, was a compulsory sale in the form of a foreclosure sale. A "compulsory sale" is defined as:

the sale of real estate for less than the amount owed to the mortgage lender or mortgagor, if the lender or mortgagor has agreed to the sale, commonly referred to as a "short sale" and (ii) the first sale of real estate owned by a financial institution as a result of a judgment of foreclosure, transfer pursuant to a deed in lieu of foreclosure, or consent judgment, occurring after the foreclosure proceeding is complete. 35 ILCS 200/1-23.

Real property in Illinois must be assessed at its fair cash value, which can only be estimated absent any compulsion on either party. Illinois law requires that all real property be valued at its fair cash value, estimated at the price it would bring at a fair voluntary sale where the owner is ready, willing, and able to sell but not compelled to do so, and the buyer is likewise ready, willing, and able to buy, but is not forced to do so. Bd. of Educ. of Meridian Cmty. Unit Sch. Dist. No. 223 v. Ill. Prop. Tax Appeal Bd., 2011 IL App (2d) 100068, ¶ 36 (citing Chrysler Corp. v. Ill. Prop. Tax Appeal Bd., 69 Ill.App.3d 207, 211 (2d Dist. 1979)).

However, when there is a recent sale of the subject, and that sale is a compulsory sale, the Board may consider evidence which would show whether the sale price was representative of the subject's fair cash value. See 35 ILCS 200/16-183 ("The Property Tax Appeal Board shall consider compulsory sales of comparable properties for the purpose of revising and correcting assessments, including those compulsory sales of comparable properties submitted by the

taxpayer."). Such evidence can include the descriptive and sales information for recently sold properties that are similar to the subject. See Id.

Initially, the Board finds that the subject contains 1,182 square feet of living area as indicated by the appellant's appraisal. Additionally, the Board finds the best evidence of the subject's market value is the appellant's appraisal. The appraised value of \$215,000, or \$181.90 per square foot of living area, including land. The Board notes that the appraised value is within the range of the board of review's comparables which range from \$162.60 to \$208.33 per square foot of living area, including land. Less weight was given to the subject's foreclosure sale price as the purchase price of \$170,000, or \$143.82 per square foot of living area, including land was well below the appraised value and the board of review's sale comparables. The Board finds the subject property had a market value of \$215,000 as of the assessment date at issue. Since market value has been established the 2014 level of assessment for class 2 property under the Cook County Real Property Assessment Classification Ordinance of 10% shall apply. (86 Ill.Admin.Code §1910.50(c)(2)).

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



Acting 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: _____

April 21, 2017



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.