



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

APPELLANT: Krystyna Szymanska
DOCKET NO.: 15-00172.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 12-02-18-216-012-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Krystyna Szymanska, the appellant, by attorney Scott Shudnow, of Shudnow & Shudnow, Ltd. in Chicago; and the Will 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 **Will County Board of Review** is warranted. The correct assessed valuation of the property is:

LAND: \$11,700
IMPR.: \$61,633
TOTAL: \$73,333

Subject only to the State multiplier as applicable.

Statement of Jurisdiction

The appellant timely filed the appeal from a decision of the Will County Board of Review pursuant to section 16-160 of the Property Tax Code (35 ILCS 200/16-160) challenging the assessment for the 2015 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 is improved with a part-one and part-two story dwelling of brick and frame exterior construction with 2,550 square feet of living area.¹ The dwelling was built in 1995. Features of the home include an unfinished basement, central air conditioning, a fireplace and a three-car garage. The property has an 8,775 square foot site and is located in Bolingbrook, DuPage Township, Will County.

The appellant contends overvaluation as the basis of the appeal. In support of this argument the appellant submitted an appraisal estimating the subject property had a market value of \$220,000 as of January 1, 2015. The appraisal was prepared by Garry Nusinow a certified residential real estate appraiser. In estimating the market value of the subject property the appraiser developed

¹ The Board finds the best evidence of size to be the board of review property record card as it has a schematic diagram and calculations of the dwelling size.

the sales comparison approach to value using six comparable sales. The comparables consist of two-story or part-one and part-two story dwellings that were built from 1988 to 2004. The dwellings had features with varying degrees of similarity when compared to the subject. The dwellings range in size from 2,033 to 3,036 square feet of living area and are situated on sites that contain from 8,775 to 14,995 square feet of land area. The comparables sold from June 2013 to January 2015 for prices ranging from \$182,500 to \$242,000 or from \$79.05 to \$98.25 per square foot of living area, including land. The appraiser made adjustments to each comparable for differences from the subject property to arrive at adjusted prices ranging from \$200,475 to \$225,500. The appellant requested the total assessment be reduced to \$73,333.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" disclosing the total assessment for the subject of \$84,500. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$254,135 or \$99.66 per square foot of living area, when applying Will County's 2015 three-year average median level of assessment of 33.25% as determined by the Illinois Department of Revenue. 86 Ill.Admin.Code §1910.50(c)(1).

In support of its contention of the correct assessment the board of review submitted limited descriptive information on four comparable sales. The comparables consist of two-story or part-one and part-two story dwellings that were built from 1992 to 1995. The dwellings range in size from 2,189 to 2,942 square feet of living area. The comparables sold from February 2013 to August 2014 for prices ranging from \$250,000 to \$322,500 or from \$100.78 to \$114.21 per square foot of living area, including land.

The board of review also submitted a statement from the township assessor critiquing the appellant's evidence. The township assessor provided copies of the appellant's PTAX-203, Illinois Real Estate Transfer Declaration and property record cards as evidence.

In rebuttal the appellant's attorney asserted the township assessor has submitted five unadjusted raw sales and therefore these comparable sales lack sufficient analysis.

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 record contains an appraisal submitted by the appellant and information on four comparable sales provided by the board of review. The Board finds the best evidence of market value to be the January 2015 appraisal submitted by the appellant, estimating the subject property had a market value of \$220,000. In estimating the market value of the subject property the appraiser developed the sales comparison approach to value. The subject's assessment reflects a market value above the best evidence of market value in the record

The Board gave less weight to the board of review sales. The board of review did not provide any information on the comparables' site size, finished basement per square foot area, air conditioning or number of fireplaces. Consequently, the Board gave little weight to the board of review comparables due to the lack of descriptive information about the improvements which prevents a meaningful analysis to determine the similarities of the comparables to the subject property. Based on this evidence the Board finds the subject's assessment is not reflective of the property's market value and a reduction in the assessment is justified.

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.