



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

APPELLANT: Chicago Title Trust  
DOCKET NO.: 15-02158.001-R-1  
PARCEL NO.: 06-17-105-006

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Chicago Title Trust, the appellant, by attorney James Pollard, of James A. Pollard, P.C. in Grayslake; and the Lake County Board of Review.

Based on the facts and exhibits presented in this matter, the Property Tax Appeal Board hereby finds **No Change** 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:** \$6,200  
**IMPR.:** \$15,776  
**TOTAL:** \$21,976

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 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 consists of a 1½-story dwelling of frame construction with 1,165 square feet of living area on a crawl-space foundation. The dwelling was built in 1948. Features of the home include central air conditioning and a 360 square foot garage. The property has an 8,000 square foot site and is located in Round Lake Heights, Avon Township, Lake County.

The appellant contends assessment inequity as the basis of the appeal. In support of this argument the appellant submitted information on three equity comparables. The comparables had features with varying degrees of similarity when compared to the subject. The dwellings were built between 1947 and 1949 and range in size from 1,075 to 1,293 square feet of living area. They have improvement assessments ranging from \$10,701 to \$13,507 or from \$9.30 to \$10.49 per square foot of living area. The appellant requested the total assessment be reduced to \$11,545.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" disclosing the total assessment for the subject of \$21,976. The subject property has an improvement assessment of \$15,776 or \$13.54 per square foot of living area. In support of this argument the board of review submitted information on four equity comparables. The comparables had features with varying degrees of similarity when compared to the subject. The dwellings were built in 1947 or 1948 and range in size from 1,058 to 1,237 square feet of living area. They have improvement assessments ranging from \$13,691 to \$16,903 or from \$12.77 to \$13.66 per square foot of living area. Based on this evidence, the board of review requested confirmation of the subject's assessment.

### **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 not meet this burden of proof and a reduction in the subject's assessment is not warranted.

The parties submitted seven equity comparables for the Board's consideration. The Board gave less weight to appellant's comparables #1 and #2 and board of review comparables #3 and #4 based on lack of central air conditioning and/or dissimilar foundations. Board finds the best evidence of assessment equity to be appellant's comparable #3 and board of review comparables #1 and #2. These comparables had improvement assessments that ranged from \$9.30 to \$13.66 per square foot of living area. The subject's improvement assessment of \$13.54 per square foot of living area falls within the range established by the best comparables in this record. Based on this record the Board finds the appellant did not demonstrate with clear and convincing evidence that the subject's improvement was inequitably assessed and a reduction in the subject's assessment is not 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.