



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

APPELLANT: Christina Soto
DOCKET NO.: 15-03927.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 06-20-420-023

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Christina Soto, the appellant; 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: \$ 5,134
IMPR.: \$19,859
TOTAL: \$24,993

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 one-story dwelling of vinyl siding exterior construction that has 864 square feet of living area. The dwelling was constructed in 1965. The home features an unfinished basement and a 576 square foot detached garage. The subject has a 5,336 square foot site. The subject property is located in Avon Township, Lake County, Illinois.

The appellant submitted evidence before the Property Tax Appeal Board claiming overvaluation and assessment inequity as the bases of the appeal. In support of these arguments, the appellant submitted six comparables located from .12 to 3.04 miles from the subject. The comparables consist of one-story or one and one-half story dwellings of wood or vinyl siding exterior construction that were built from 1953 to 1972. Two comparables have unfinished basements and four comparables do not have a basement. Three comparables have central air conditioning and four comparables have garages that range in size from 360 to 540 square feet of building area. The dwellings range in size from 804 to 972 square feet of living area and are situated on

sites that contain from 5,000 to 9,972 square feet of land area. The comparables sold from May 2012 to March 2015 for prices ranging from \$30,500 to \$38,500 or from \$33.93 to \$44.78 per square foot of living area including land. The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$9,226 to \$23,250 or from \$10.26 to \$26.91 per square foot of living area. Based on this evidence, the appellant requested a reduction in the subject's assessment.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" disclosing the total assessment for the subject property of \$24,993. The subject's assessment reflects an estimated market value of \$75,326 or \$87.18 per square foot of living area including land area when applying Lake County's 2015 three-year average median level of assessment of 33.18%. The subject property has an improvement assessment of \$19,859 or \$22.98 per square of living area. In support of the subject's assessment, the board of review submitted four comparable sales and four assessment comparables.

The four comparable sales are located from .15 to .33 of a mile from the subject. The comparables consist of one-story dwellings of vinyl or wood siding exterior construction that were built from 1960 to 1979. One comparable has a partial finished basement, one comparable has an unfinished basement, and two comparables do not have a basement. Two comparables have central air conditioning and one comparable has a garage that contains 440 square feet of building area. The dwellings range in size from 912 to 984 square feet of living area and are situated on sites that contain from 4,607 to 5,227 square feet of land area. The comparables sold from March 2013 to December 2015 for prices ranging from \$85,000 to \$99,000 or from \$88.54 to \$108.55 per square foot of living area including land.

The four assessment comparables are located from .07 to .12 of a mile from the subject. The comparables consist of one-story dwellings of vinyl or wood siding exterior construction that were built from 1959 to 1972. One comparable has a partial finished basement, one comparable has an unfinished basement, and two comparables do not have a basement. Three comparables have central air conditioning and three comparables have garages that range in size from 440 to 884 square feet of building area. The dwellings range in size from 864 to 960 square feet of living area and have improvement assessments ranging from \$20,172 to \$22,815 or from \$21.01 to \$26.41 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 appellant contends the market value of the subject property is not accurately reflected in its assessed valuation as a basis of the appeal. 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 did not meet this burden of proof.

The parties submitted ten comparable sales for the Board's consideration. The Board gave less weight to the comparables submitted by the appellant. Five comparables are not proximate being located from 1.24 to 3.04 miles from the subject. Additionally, five comparables sold in 2012 or

2013, which are dated and less indicative of market value as of the subject's January 1, 2015 assessment date. Finally, two of the appellant's comparables lack a basement, inferior when compared to the subject. Similarly, the Board gave less weight to three comparables submitted by the board of review. One comparable sold in 2013, which is dated and less indicative of market value as of the assessment date. Two comparables do not have basements, inferior to the subject. The Board finds the one remaining comparable submitted by the board of review is the more similar when compared to the subject in location, land area, design, age, dwelling size and most features. It sold in May 2015 for \$95,000 or \$104.17 per square foot of living area including land. The subject's assessment reflects an estimated market value of \$75,326 or \$87.18 per square foot of living area including land, which is supported by the most similar comparable sale contained in the record. Therefore, no reduction in the subject's assessment is warranted.

The taxpayer also argued assessment inequity as an alternative 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 failed to meet this burden of proof.

The record contains ten assessment comparables for the Board's consideration. The Board gave less weight to the comparables submitted by the appellant. Five comparables are not proximate being located from 1.24 to 3.04 miles from the subject. Four comparables do not have a basement, dissimilar when compared to the subject. Likewise, the Board gave less weight to one comparable submitted by the board of review because it lacks a basement, inferior when compared to the subject. The Board finds the remaining three comparables submitted by the board of review are more similar when compared to the subject in location, design, age, dwelling size and most features. They have improvement assessments ranging from \$20,468 to \$22,815 or from \$22.44 to \$26.41 per square foot of living area. The subject property has an improvement assessment of \$19,859 or \$22.98 per square foot of living area, which falls below the range established by the most similar assessment comparables contained in the record on an overall basis and within the range on a per square foot basis. After considering adjustments to the comparables for any differences when compared to the subject, the Board finds the subject's improvement assessment is justified. Therefore, no reduction in the subject's assessment 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. Pursuant to Section 1910.50(b) of the rules of the Property Tax Appeal Board (86 Ill.Admin.Code §1910.50(b)) the proceeding before the Property Tax Appeal Board is terminated when the decision is rendered. The Property Tax Appeal Board does not require any motion or request for reconsideration.



Chairman



Acting 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: November 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 or years of the same general assessment period, as provided in Sections 9-125 through 9-225, 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 such subsequent year or years 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 OR YEARS. A separate petition and evidence must be filed for each of the remaining years of the general assessment period.

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.

PARTIES OF RECORD

AGENCY

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