



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

APPELLANT: Shonagh Merits
DOCKET NO.: 15-34452.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 13-13-206-032-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Shonagh Merits, the appellant, by attorney Timothy E. Moran of Schmidt Salzman & Moran, 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 **No Change** 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: \$7,875
IMPR.: \$65,414
TOTAL: \$73,289

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 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 two-story dwelling of masonry construction with 2,738 square feet of living area. The dwelling is approximately 105 years old. Features of the property include a full basement with a formal recreation room, central air conditioning and a two-car garage. The property has a 3,750 square foot site and is located in Chicago, Jefferson Township, Cook County. The subject is classified as a class 2-06 property under the Cook County Real Property Assessment Classification Ordinance.

The appellant contends assessment inequity with respect to the improvement as the basis of the appeal. In support of this argument the appellant submitted information on five equity comparables improved with two-story dwellings of stucco, frame or frame and masonry construction that range in size from 2,520 to 2,765 square feet of living area. The dwellings range in age from 94 to 107 years old. One comparable has the same neighborhood code as the

subject property while four comparables have a different neighborhood code than the subject property. Four of the comparables have basements, four comparables have central air conditioning, one comparable has a fireplace and each comparable has a 1.5-car or a 2-car garage. These properties have improvement assessments ranging from \$38,774 to \$45,106 or from \$14.46 to \$16.41 per square foot of living area. The appellant requested the subject's improvement assessment be reduced to \$41,464 or \$15.14 per square foot of living area.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" disclosing the total assessment for the subject of \$73,289. The subject property has an improvement assessment of \$65,414 or \$23.89 per square foot of living area. In support of its contention of the correct assessment the board of review submitted information on four equity comparables improved with two-story dwellings of frame or masonry construction that range in size from 2,626 to 3,185 square feet of living area. The dwellings range in age from 101 to 120 years old. Each of the comparables has the same neighborhood code as the subject property. Each comparable has a full basement with two being finished with recreation rooms, three comparables have central air conditioning, two comparables have one or two fireplaces and three comparables have either a 1.5-car or a 2-car garage. These properties have improvement assessments ranging from \$62,148 to \$71,513 or from \$20.82 to \$24.27 per square foot of living area.

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 record contains nine comparables submitted by the parties to support their respective positions. The Board gives less weight to appellant's comparables #1 through #4 as each comparable has a different assessment neighborhood code than the subject property. The Board gives less weight to appellant's comparable #5 as this property has a slab foundation while the subject property has a full basement finished with a recreation room.

The Board finds the best evidence of assessment equity to be the board of review comparables. Each of these comparables has the same neighborhood code as the subject property and are relatively similar to the subject property in style, age and features. These comparables have improvement assessments that range from \$62,148 to \$71,513 or from \$20.82 to \$24.27 per square foot of living area. The subject's improvement assessment of \$65,414 or \$23.89 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.

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



Member



Acting 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: January 16, 2018



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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