



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

APPELLANT: Austin Holdings, LLC Timothy Ramseyer & Patrick Koziol  
DOCKET NO.: 15-35659.001-R-1  
PARCEL NO.: 06-19-306-015-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Austin Holdings, LLC Timothy Ramseyer & Patrick Koziol, the appellant(s), by attorney Brandon Eichhorn, Attorney at Law 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:** \$1,485  
**IMPR.:** \$2,815  
**TOTAL:** \$4,300

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 consists of a one-story dwelling of frame construction with 616 square feet of living area. The dwelling is 62 years old. The property has a 6,600 square foot site and is located in Hanover Township, Cook County. The subject is classified as a class 2-02 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 disclosing the subject property was purchased pursuant to a foreclosure sale on July 1, 2013 for a price of \$43,000, or \$69.81 per square foot, including land. The property was sold using a Realtor and the parties to the transaction were unrelated. The property was listed on the market for 26 days. The appellant's evidence included a settlement statement and a printout from the Multiple Listing Service. The appellant also submitted information on five

suggested comparable sales and a chart reflecting adjustment information. The appellant requested an assessment reduction to \$3,319 for the 2015 tax year.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" disclosing the total assessment for the subject of \$7,744. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$77,440 or \$125.71 per square foot, including land, when applying the 10% level of assessment as determined by the Cook County Real Property Classification Ordinance.

In support of its contention of the correct assessment, the board of review submitted information on three equity comparables.

In written rebuttal, the appellant argued that board of review's comparables were not sale comparables. The appellant also requested that the Board use the median sale price per square foot of the best comparables in the record in determining whether the subject is overvalued.

### **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 did meet 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 2013 for \$43,000 was a "compulsory sale" through the documentation submitted by the parties. A "compulsory sale" is defined as:

- (i) 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.

Additionally, 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 compulsory, 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.

The Board rejects the appellant's argument that the Board should use the median sale price per square foot of the best comparables in the record in ascertaining whether the subject is overvalued as this argument was only raised during rebuttal, and, therefore, the board of review was not granted an opportunity to challenge this argument. As such, this argument was not made timely. 86 Ill.Admin.Code §1910.66(c) ("Rebuttal evidence shall not consist of new evidence such as an appraisal or newly discovered comparable properties. A party to the appeal shall be precluded from submitting its own case in chief in the guise of rebuttal evidence.").

The Board finds the best comparables to be the appellant's comparable(s) #1, #4 and #5. These comparables sold for prices ranging from \$58.09 to \$91.15 per square foot of living area, including land. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$125.71 per square foot of living area including land, which is above the range established by the best comparable sales in this record. Moreover, the subject's sale price of \$69.81 per square foot, including land is within the range of the best comparables contained in the record. After considering all the evidence and various relevant factors, the Board finds that the subject is overvalued and that a reduction in 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(d) of the rules of the Property Tax Appeal Board (86 Ill.Admin.Code §1910.50(d)) 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



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: June 19, 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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