



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

APPELLANT: AMH 2015-1 Borrower LLC
DOCKET NO.: 16-00696.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 06-03-24-409-030-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are AMH 2015-1 Borrower LLC, the appellant, by attorney Michael R. Davies, of Ryan Law LLP, 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 **No Change** 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: \$15,689
IMPR.: \$53,236
TOTAL: \$68,925

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 2016 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 two-story dwelling of frame construction with 1,998 square feet of living area. The dwelling was constructed in 2004. Features of the home include a full basement, central air conditioning, a fireplace and a 483 square foot garage. The property has an 8,300 square foot site and is located in Joliet, Plainfield Township, Will County.

The appellant's appeal is based on overvaluation. In support of this argument the appellant submitted limited evidence in Section IV – Recent Sale Data of the Residential Appeal petition disclosing the subject property was purchased in June 2014 from "Will County Sheriff" for a price of \$135,000. While the appellant was requested to provide additional information to complete the appeal, by letter dated November 30, 2017 by the Property Tax Appeal Board, the appeal was accepted and the board of review was simultaneously, but separately, notified of its

duty to respond to the appeal within 90 days. Based on this limited recent sale evidence, the appellant requested a reduction in the subject's assessment to reflect the 2014 purchase price.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" disclosing the total assessment for the subject of \$68,925. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$207,231 or \$103.72 per square foot of living area, land included, when using the 2016 three year average median level of assessment for Will County of 33.26% as determined by the Illinois Department of Revenue.

Initially in response to the appeal, the board of review through the township assessor requested dismissal of the appeal since the appellant failed to comply with the Property Tax Appeal Board's request for additional information. (Citing 86 Ill.Admin.Code §§1910.30(k) and 1910.63(b)). Furthermore, the township assessor noted that since the incomplete checklist suggested that the sale of the subject property was "too old" to be indicative of market value, the sale price provided by the appellant should be given no weight.

In support of its contention of the correct assessment, the board of review submitted information on three comparable sales identified by the township assessor improved with two-story dwellings of frame construction containing either 1,651 or 1,998 square feet of living area that were located within a mile of the subject property and within the subject's subdivision. The dwellings were constructed in 2002 or 2003 with features that include a full basement, central air conditioning and a garage of either 400 or 483 square feet of building area. Two comparables each also have a fireplace. These properties sold from March 2015 to June 2016 for prices ranging from \$220,000 to \$231,900 or from \$111.11 to \$133.25 per square foot of living area.

Based on the foregoing evidence and argument, the board of review requested an increase in the assessment of the subject property to reflect the median sales price or a new total assessment of \$77,303 which would reflect a market value of \$232,420 or \$116.33 per square foot of living area, including land.

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

The Board finds the best evidence of market value in the record to be the three comparable sales submitted by the board of review. These comparables were similar to the subject in location, style, construction, size, features and/or age. These properties also sold more proximate in time to the assessment date at issue than the June 2014 sale of the subject property. The comparables sold from March 2015 to June 2016 for prices ranging from \$220,000 to \$231,900 or from \$111.11 to \$133.25 per square foot of living area, including land. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$207,231 or \$103.72 per square foot of living area, including land,

which is below the range established by the best comparable sales in this record both in terms of overall value and on a per-square-foot basis.

The Board gave little weight to the subject's June 2014 sale due to the fact the sale did not occur as proximate in time to the assessment date at issue of January 1, 2016 as did the comparable sales in the record. In addition, there was no evidence presented by the appellant that the sale transaction had any of the elements of an arm's length transaction as there was no indication if the property sold between related parties; there was no indication whether the property advertised or exposed on the open market prior to the sale; and/or there was no evidence whether the transaction occurred between a willing seller and a willing buyer. In fact, the information that the property was sold by "Will County Sheriff" suggests that there was duress involved in the transaction.

As to the board of review request to increase the subject's assessment based upon the median of the three recent sales, the Property Tax Appeal Board finds the subject's current improvement assessment of \$53,236 is identical to the improvement assessments of board of review comparables #1 and #2. Furthermore, although the Will County Board of Review has requested an increase in the subject's total assessment to \$77,303 which would raise the estimated market value of the subject to \$247,357, this would place the subject substantially above the three comparables presented by the board of review both in terms of market value and total assessment; each of the comparable properties appear to be under-valued based upon their respective assessments as compared to their recent purchase prices.

On this record, the Property Tax Appeal Board finds that the subject is not overvalued and no reduction in the assessment of the subject property 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: August 20, 2019



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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