



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

APPELLANT: James Murphy  
DOCKET NO.: 16-06973.001-R-1  
PARCEL NO.: 16-26.0-426-042

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are James Murphy, the appellant; and the Sangamon 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 **Sangamon** County Board of Review is warranted. The correct assessed valuation of the property is:

**LAND:** \$5,000  
**IMPR.:** \$0  
**TOTAL:** \$5,000

Subject only to the State multiplier as applicable.

**Statement of Jurisdiction**

The appellant timely filed the appeal from a decision of the Sangamon County Board of Review dated April 9, 2017, 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 vacant lot with approximately 11,720 square feet located in Mechanicsburg, Mechanicsburg Township, Sangamon County.

The appellant's appeal is based on overvaluation. In support of this argument the appellant submitted evidence disclosing the subject property was purchased on July 23, 2015 for a price of \$15,000. To document the sale the appellant submitted a copy of the PTAX-203 Illinois Real Estate Transfer Declaration associated with the transaction and a copy of the Trustee's Deed.

The appellant submitted a copy of a decision of the Sangamon County Board of Review dated March 30, 2017, establishing a total assessment for the subject property of \$5,000. The appellant also filed an assessment notice from the Sangamon County Board of Review dated April 9, 2017, disclosing the subject's 2016 assessment was increased from \$5,000 to \$5,090 by the application of a township equalization factor of 1.0179. The assessment notice indicated that the market

value reflected by the subject's equalized assessment was \$15,270. The appellant requested the subject's assessment be reduced to \$5,000.

The board of review did not submit its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" or any evidence in support of its assessed valuation of the subject property.

### **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 met this burden of proof and a reduction in the subject's assessment is warranted.

The Board finds the only evidence of market value to be the purchase of the subject property in July 2015 for a price of \$15,000. The Board finds the purchase price is below the market value reflected by the subject's assessment. The board of review did not submit any evidence in support of its assessment of the subject property or to refute the appellant's argument as required by section 1910.40(a) of the rules of the Property Tax Appeal Board and is found to be in default pursuant to section 1910.69(a) of the rules of the Property Tax Appeal Board. 86 Ill.Admin.Code §1910.40 (a) & §1910.69(a).

The Board further finds the appellant timely appealed the assessment directly to the Property Tax Appeal Board based on notice of an equalization factor applied by the Sangamon County Board of Review.<sup>1</sup> Since the appeal was timely filed after notification of an equalization factor, the amount of relief that the Property Tax Appeal Board may grant is limited. Section 1910.60(a) of the rules of the Property Tax Appeal Board states in part:

If the taxpayer or owner of property files a petition within 30 days after the postmark date of the written notice of the application of final, adopted township equalization factors, the relief the Property Tax Appeal Board may grant is limited to the amount of the increase caused by the application of the township equalization factor. 86 Ill.Admin.Code §1910.60(a).

Additionally, section 16-180 of the Property Tax Code (35 ILCS 200/16-180) provides in pertinent part:

Where no complaint has been made to the board of review of the county where the property is located and the appeal is based solely on the effect of an equalization factor assigned to all property or to a class of property by the board of review, the Property Tax Appeal Board may not grant a reduction in the

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<sup>1</sup> The appellant did not timely file within 30-days of the assessment notice from the Board of Review dated March 30, 2017, as required by section 16-160 of the Property Tax Code (35 ILCS 200/16-160) to confer full jurisdiction over the assessment.

assessment greater than the amount that was added as the result of the equalization factor.

These provisions mean that where a taxpayer files an appeal directly to the Property Tax Appeal Board after notice of application of an equalization factor, the Board cannot grant an assessment reduction greater than the amount of increase caused by the equalization factor. Villa Retirement Apartments, Inc. v. Property Tax Appeal Board, 302 Ill.App.3d 745, 753 (4<sup>th</sup> Dist. 1999). Based on a review of the evidence contained in the record, the Property Tax Appeal Board finds a reduction in the assessment of the subject property is supported. However, the reduction is limited to the amount of increase in the assessment caused by the application of the equalization factor, which is equivalent to the appellant's request.

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: September 18, 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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COUNTY

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