



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

APPELLANT: Jonathan Cowan
DOCKET NO.: 16-20229.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 11-07-110-037-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Jonathan Cowan, the appellant, by attorney John S. Xydakis, of the Law Offices of John S. Xydakis 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: \$11,005
IMPR.: \$126,166
TOTAL: \$137,171

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 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 two improvements situated on one parcel. Dwelling #1 is described as a two-story, single-family dwelling of frame construction. Dwelling #1 is approximately four years old and has 3,224 square feet of living area. Features include a full finished basement, central air conditioning and two fireplaces. Dwelling #2 is described as a two-story, single-family dwelling of frame construction. Dwelling #2 is approximately four years old and has 480 square feet of living area. Features include a concrete slab foundation and a two-car garage. The subject property has a 7,337 square foot site and is located in Evanston, Evanston Township, Cook County. Under the Cook County Real Property Assessment Classification Ordinance, dwelling #1 is classified as a class 2-78 property and dwelling #2 is classified as a class 2-07 property.

The appellant contends assessment inequity as the basis of the appeal. The appellant stated that dwelling #1 had an improvement assessment of \$126,166 or \$39.13 per square foot of living area; however, that calculation was arrived at by dividing the combined improvement assessment for both of the subject's dwellings by dwelling #1's living area. In support of this argument, the appellant submitted information on four single-family comparables for dwelling #1 but did not present any evidence regarding dwelling #2.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" disclosing the total assessment for the subject of \$137,171. Dwelling #1 has an improvement assessment of \$112,265 or \$34.82 per square foot of living area. Dwelling #2 has an improvement assessment of \$13,901 or \$28.96 per square foot of living area. In support of its contention of the correct assessment, the board of review submitted two grid analyses with information on four equity properties as comparables for each dwelling. The comparables submitted for dwelling #1 have improvement assessments ranging from \$104,662 to \$140,251 or from \$35.88 to \$39.81 per square foot of living area. The comparables submitted for dwelling #2 have improvement assessments ranging from \$18,215 to \$25,023 or from \$29.84 to \$36.59 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 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 parties presented assessment data on a total of eight suggested comparables for the subject's dwelling #1. The Board finds that all of these comparables were two-story, single-family dwellings similar to the subject in living area and located in the same general area as the subject. The eight comparables have improvement assessments that ranged from \$21.05 to \$39.81 per square foot of living area. Dwelling #1 has an improvement assessment of \$34.82 per square foot of living area, thus demonstrating that dwelling #1 is not inequitably assessed. The Board also finds the appellant failed to present any evidence to dispute the assessment for dwelling #2. The board of review presented four comparables in support of the assessment for dwelling #2. These comparables had improvement assessments ranging from \$29.84 to \$36.59 per square foot of living area. Dwelling #2 has an improvement assessment of \$28.96 per square foot of living area which is below the range of the comparables submitted by the board of review. Based on this record, the Board finds the appellant did not demonstrate with clear and convincing evidence that the subject's improvements were 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(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 18, 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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