



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

APPELLANT: Larry Welch
DOCKET NO.: 16-21545.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 28-31-207-002-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Larry Welch, 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: \$3,549
IMPR.: \$9,775
TOTAL: \$13,324

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 a one-story dwelling of masonry construction. The dwelling is 66 years old and has 896 square feet of living area. Features of the home include a crawl-space foundation and a two-car garage. The property has a 10,921 square-foot site and is located in Tinley Park, Bremen Township, Cook County. The subject is classified as a class 2-02 property under the Cook County Real Property Assessment Classification Ordinance.

The appellant contends assessment inequity as the basis of the appeal. The subject's land assessment is not being contested in this appeal. In support of the inequity argument, the appellant submitted a grid analysis with information on four equity comparables and a spreadsheet with limited information on three additional equity comparables. On the grid analysis, four comparables are described as one-story dwellings of frame or masonry construction that range in age from 60 to 77 years old. Three comparables had no detailed

description provided other than classification and neighborhood codes, size, and improvement assessment. The seven comparable dwellings range in size from 760 to 938 square feet of living area and have improvement assessments ranging from \$4,297 to \$6,575 or from \$5.65 to \$7.19 per square foot of living area. The appellant also submitted a map which revealed that four of the seven comparables were located within a half-mile of the subject property. Based on this evidence, the appellant requested a reduction in the subject's improvement assessment to \$5,887 or \$6.57 per square foot of living area.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" wherein the subject's final assessment of \$13,324 was disclosed. The subject property has an improvement assessment of \$9,775 or \$10.91 per square foot of living area. The board of review presented descriptions and assessment information on three comparable properties with the same neighborhood and classification codes as the subject. One comparable was described as being located on the same block as the subject, and the other two were described as being located a quarter-mile from the subject property. The comparables are improved with one-story dwellings of masonry construction. The dwellings are from 57 to 66 years old and contain from 857 to 950 square feet of living area. Two comparables have crawl-space foundations like the subject, and one comparable has a full unfinished basement. One comparable has central air conditioning, and two have two-car garages. The board of review's comparable properties have improvement assessments ranging from \$11,187 to \$12,644 or from \$12.49 to \$14.75 per square foot of living area. As part of its submission, the board of review made reference to the August 2015 sale of the subject property for a price of \$57,000. 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 ten suggested comparables. The Board finds the appellant did not provide enough descriptive information regarding comparables #5 through #7 to indicate whether they were similar to the subject property; the appellant's comparable #4 was significantly older than the subject and also differed in foundation; and the appellant's map disclosed that comparables #1, #3, #6 and #7 were not located near the subject. Consequently, the appellant's comparables #1 and #3 through #7 received reduced less weight in the Board's analysis. Board of review comparable #1 differed from the subject in foundation and also received reduced weight.

The Board finds the best evidence of assessment equity to be board of review comparable #2. This property was located on the same block as the subject; was identical to the subject in age and living area; and was also very similar in story height, masonry construction and a crawl-

space foundation. In addition, the Board finds the appellant's comparable #2 and board of review comparable #3 were one-story, masonry dwellings that were also similar to the subject in location, age, living area and foundation. The appellant's comparable #2 and board of review comparables #2 and #3 had improvement assessments that ranged from \$5,809 to \$12,135 or from \$6.22 to \$12.77 per square foot of living area. The subject's improvement assessment of \$9,775 or \$10.91 per square foot of living area falls within the range established by the best comparables in this record. After considering adjustments to the comparables for differences from the subject, 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(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: May 21, 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

State of Illinois
Property Tax Appeal Board
William G. Stratton Building, Room 402
401 South Spring Street
Springfield, IL 62706-4001

APPELLANT

Larry Welch, by attorney:
John S. Xydakis
Law Offices of John S. Xydakis
30 North Michigan Avenue
Suite 402
Chicago, IL 60602

COUNTY

Cook County Board of Review
County Building, Room 601
118 North Clark Street
Chicago, IL 60602