



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

APPELLANT: Dong Xi Jin
DOCKET NO.: 16-35648.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 04-06-112-085-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Dong Xi Jin, the appellant, by attorney Robert Rosenfeld, of Robert H. Rosenfeld and Associates, LLC 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: \$3,364
IMPR.: \$49,094
TOTAL: \$52,458

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 two-story townhome of frame exterior construction with 2,426 square feet of living area. The dwelling is approximately 18 years old. Features of the home include a full unfinished basement, central air conditioning and a two-car garage. The property has a 3,204 square foot site and is located in Northbrook, Northfield Township, Cook County. The subject is classified as a class 2-95 property under the Cook County Real Property Assessment Classification Ordinance.

The appellant contends improvement assessment inequity as the basis of the appeal. In support of this argument, the appellant submitted information on three equity comparables located in the same neighborhood code as the subject. The comparables are improved with two-story townhomes of frame and masonry exterior construction ranging in size from 1,948 to 2,466 square feet of living area. The comparables are either 29 or 42 years old. Two comparables

have a full unfinished basement; one comparable has a concrete slab foundation. Each comparable has central air conditioning, one fireplace and a two-car garage. The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$24,619 to \$33,104 or from \$12.64 to \$13.42 per square foot of living area. Based on this evidence, the appellant requested that the improvement assessment be reduced to \$31,781 or \$13.10 per square foot of living area.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" disclosing the total assessment for the subject of \$54,140. The subject property has an improvement assessment of \$50,776 or \$20.93 per square foot of living area. In support of its contention of the correct assessment, the board of review submitted information on three equity comparables located in the same neighborhood code and on the same block as the subject property. The comparables are improved with two-story townhomes of frame exterior construction that each contain 2,346 square feet of living area. Each comparable is 18 years old. Each comparable has a full unfinished basement, central air conditioning, one fireplace and a two-car garage. The comparables have improvement assessments of \$41,930 or \$49,094 and \$17.87 or \$20.93 per square foot of living area, respectively. Based on this evidence, the board of review requested the assessment be confirmed.

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

The parties submitted six suggested comparables for the Board's consideration. The Board gave most weight to the board of review's comparables as they are most similar to the subject property in location, design, exterior construction, age, dwelling size, basement and features. These comparables have improvement assessments of \$41,930 or \$49,094 and \$17.87 or \$20.93 per square foot of living area, respectively. The subject's improvement assessment of \$50,776 or \$20.93 per square foot of living area exceeds the assessments of the best comparables in this record on a total basis; however, the subject equals the assessment of the superior comparable in the record on a per square foot basis. The Board finds that the board of review's assessment is not supported as the subject property is lacking a fireplace and is larger, and a lower improvement assessment is justified. The subject's improvement assessment should not exceed that of the superior comparable in this record and accepted real estate valuation theory provides that economies of scale would indicate with the subject's larger dwelling size that a lower assessment per square foot is warranted. The Board gave less weight to the appellant's comparables due to their older ages when compared to the subject. In addition, the appellant's comparable #1 has an inferior concrete slab foundation and smaller dwelling size in contrast to the subject. Based on this record, the Board finds the appellant did demonstrate with clear and convincing evidence that the subject's improvement was inequitably assessed and a reduction in the subject's assessment is 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: January 21, 2020



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

Dong Xi Jin, by attorney:
Robert Rosenfeld
Robert H. Rosenfeld and Associates, LLC
33 North Dearborn Street
Suite 1850
Chicago, IL 60602

COUNTY

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