



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

APPELLANT: Craig Coupe
DOCKET NO.: 16-35699.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 04-24-308-029-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Craig Coupe, 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: \$9,406
IMPR.: \$23,463
TOTAL: \$32,869

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 frame and masonry construction with 1,451 square feet of living area. The dwelling is approximately 70 years old. Features of the home include a concrete slab foundation, one fireplace and a 1-car garage. The property has an 8,750 square foot site and is located in Northfield, Northfield Township, Cook County. The subject is classified as a class 2-03 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 was not contested. In support of this argument, the appellant submitted information on four equity comparables. The comparables are improved with similar class 2-03 dwellings of masonry or frame and masonry exterior construction ranging in size from 1,109 to 1,715 square feet of living area. The comparables range in age from 62 to 75 years old. One comparable has

a partial unfinished basement; three comparables have either a crawl space or a concrete slab foundation. Three comparables have central air conditioning and one fireplace. Each comparable has a 1-car to a 2-car garage. The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$17,463 to \$27,542 or from \$15.75 to \$16.50 per square foot of living area. Based on this evidence, the appellant requested that the improvement assessment be reduced to \$23,419 or \$16.14 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 \$38,397. The subject property has an improvement assessment of \$28,991 or \$19.98 per square foot of living area. In support of its contention of the correct assessment, the board of review submitted information on four equity comparables located in the same neighborhood code and same block as the subject property. Three comparables are within .25 of a mile of the subject. The comparables are improved with one-story dwellings of frame and masonry exterior construction that range in size from 1,118 to 1,717 square feet of living area. The comparables are either 60 or 62 years old. Each comparable has a partial or a full basement with one having finished area. Each comparable has central air conditioning, one or two fireplaces and a 1.5-car or a 2-car garage. The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$26,301 to \$34,630 or from \$20.17 to \$23.53 per square foot of living area. 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 eight suggested comparables for the Board's consideration. The Board gave most weight to the appellant's comparables #2, #3, and #4 as they are similar in location, design, age and had varying degrees of similarity with respect to features. These comparables had improvement assessments ranging from \$19,137 to \$27,542 or from \$16.06 to \$16.50 per square foot of living area. The subject's improvement assessment of \$28,991 or \$19.98 per square foot of living area exceeds the range of the best comparables in this record. Therefore, the Board finds the subject's assessment is not supported by the evidence in this record. The Board gives less weight to the appellant's comparable #1 and the board of review comparables due to their partial or full basements when compared to the subject's inferior concrete slab foundation. In addition, the board of review comparables had superior features when compared to the subject. Based on this record, the Board finds the appellant demonstrated 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

Craig Coupe, 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