



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

APPELLANT: Barry Kessler  
DOCKET NO.: 16-36954.001-R-1 through 16-36954.002-R-1  
PARCEL NO.: See Below

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Barry Kessler, the appellant(s), by attorney Steven Kandelman, of Rieff Schramm Kanter & Guttman 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:

<b>DOCKET NO</b>	<b>PARCEL NUMBER</b>	<b>LAND</b>	<b>IMPRVMT</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
16-36954.001-R-1	04-09-401-029-0000	4,031	28,583	\$32,614
16-36954.002-R-1	04-09-401-030-0000	4,031	28,583	\$32,614

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 dwelling of frame construction with 2,951 square feet of living area. The dwelling is 59 years old. Features of the home include a partial basement, central air conditioning, three fireplace and a one-car garage. The property has a 3,750 square foot site located in Northfield Township, Cook County. The subject is classified as a class 2-78 property under the Cook County Real Property Assessment Classification Ordinance.

The appellant contends assessment inequity as the basis of the appeal. In support of this argument the appellant submitted information on eight equity comparables.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" disclosing the total assessment for the subject of \$32,614 for each of the subject Permanent Index Numbers. The

subject property has an improvement assessment of \$28,583 for each of the Permanent Index Numbers, or \$19.37 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.

In written rebuttal, the appellant stated the board of review reduced the subject's 2017 assessment from \$65,228 to \$61,121.

### **Conclusion of Law**

The appellant's attorney stated in written rebuttal that the subject property's 2017 assessment was reduced by the Cook County Board of Review. The appellant submitted a copy of the 2017 board of review decision that indicates the subject's 2017 assessment was reduced from \$65,228 to \$61,121. In Hoyne Savings & Loan Assoc. v. Hare, 60 Ill.2d 84, 90, 322 N.E.2d 833, 836 (1974) and 400 Condominium Assoc. v. Tully, 79 Ill.App.3d 686, 690, 398 N.E.2d 951, 954 (1<sup>st</sup> Dist. 1979), the court found, "a substantial reduction in the subsequent year's assessment is indicative of the validity of the prior year's assessment". The Board finds that the facts of the Hoyne and 400 Condominium cases are different from the facts at hand. The Hoyne and 400 Condominium cases involved glaring errors in the subject properties' assessments. In the case at hand, there is no evidence of an error in the calculation of the subject's assessment and the Board finds a reduction from \$65,228 to \$61,121 is not substantial. As such, the Board finds a reduction on this basis is not warranted.

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 Board finds the best evidence of assessment equity to be the appellant's comparables #3 and #4 and the board of review's comparable #4. These comparables had improvement assessments that ranged from \$16.91 to \$20.21 per square foot of living area. The subject's improvement assessment of \$19.37 per square foot of living area falls within the range established by the best comparables in this record. Based on this record 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 26, 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

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