



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

APPELLANT: James Loarie  
DOCKET NO.: 17-03707.001-R-1  
PARCEL NO.: 17-31-308-007

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are James Loarie, the appellant, by attorney Robert Rosenfeld, of Robert H. Rosenfeld and Associates, LLC in Chicago; and the Lake 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 **Lake** County Board of Review is warranted. The correct assessed valuation of the property is:

**LAND:** \$123,085  
**IMPR.:** \$264,263  
**TOTAL:** \$387,348

Subject only to the State multiplier as applicable.

**Statement of Jurisdiction**

The appellant timely filed the appeal from a decision of the Lake County Board of Review pursuant to section 16-160 of the Property Tax Code (35 ILCS 200/16-160) challenging the assessment for the 2017 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 2.5-story dwelling of brick exterior construction with 5,234 square feet of living area. The dwelling was constructed in 1928. Features of the home include an unfinished partial basement, central air conditioning, a fireplace, an inground swimming pool, a 441 square foot detached garage/pool house and a 546 square foot attached garage. The property has a 15,055 square foot site and is located in Highland Park, Moraine Township, Lake County.

The appellant contends overvaluation as the basis of the appeal. In support of this argument the appellant submitted information on three comparable sales located within 0.38 of a mile from the subject property. The comparables have sites that range in size from 7,871 to 18,931 square feet of land area and are improved with two 2.5-story and one 3.0-story dwellings of brick exterior construction that range in size from 4,273 to 4,580 square feet of living area. The homes were

built in 1925 or 1929. The comparables have basements, two with finished area; central air conditioning; one to three fireplaces and an attached garage that range in size from 380 to 484 square feet of building area. The comparables sold from July 2015 to January 2016 for prices ranging from \$862,500 to \$925,000 or from \$201.85 to \$204.08 square feet of living area, land included. Based on this evidence, the appellant requested the subject's assessment be reduced to \$353,527.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" disclosing the total assessment for the subject of \$387,348. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$1,168,471 or \$223.25 per square foot of living area, land included, when using the 2017 three year average median level of assessment for Lake County of 33.15% as determined by the Illinois Department of Revenue.

In support of its contention of the correct assessment the board of review submitted information on three comparable sales located within 0.56 of a mile from the subject property. The comparables have sites that range in size from 15,092 to 26,956 square feet of land area and are improved with 2.0-story dwellings of brick or stone exterior construction that range in size from 4,655 to 4,890 square feet of living area. The homes were built from 1929 to 1939. Each comparable has a basement with finished area, central air conditioning, one or three fireplaces and a garage that range in size from 400 to 754 square feet of building area. The comparables sold from June 2016 to February 2017 for prices ranging from \$1,080,000 to \$1,275,000 or from \$220.86 to \$272.44 per square foot of living area, land included.

The board of review also submitted an aerial view of the subject property depicting the inground swimming pool and 441 detached garage identified as a pool house and stating these features had been constructed in 2005. Based on this evidence, the board of review requested the subject's assessment be confirmed.

### **Conclusion of Law**

The appellant contends the market value of the subject property is not accurately reflected in its assessed valuation. When market value is the basis of the appeal the value of the property must be proved by a preponderance of the evidence. 86 Ill.Admin.Code §1910.63(e). Proof of market value may consist of an appraisal of the subject property, a recent sale, comparable sales or construction costs. 86 Ill.Admin.Code §1910.65(c). 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 submitted six comparables for the Board's consideration. The Board gives least weight to the appellant's comparables #1 and #3 due to 2015 sales dates which are considered less indicative of fair market value as of the subject's January 1, 2017 assessment date. The Board also give little weight to the board of review's comparable #2 which has a larger site size relative to the subject's site. The Board finds the best evidence of market value to be appellant's comparable #2 along with board of review comparable sales #1 and #3 which are more similar to the subject in terms of age, site size and have sale dates in 2016 and 2017 considered more relevant to the subject's January 1, 2017 assessment date. Each of these best comparables have smaller dwelling size, less garage square footage and no inground swimming pool when compared to the subject, suggesting upward adjustments to the comparables are necessary.

These most similar comparables sold from January 2016 to January 2017 for prices ranging from \$925,000 to \$1,275,000 or from \$201.97 to \$272.44 per square foot of living area, including land. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$1,168,471 or \$223.25 per square foot of living area, including land, which falls within the range established by the best comparable sales in this record. After considering adjustments to the comparables for differences from the subject, the Board finds 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 16, 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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