



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

APPELLANT: James and Helen Bottalla  
DOCKET NO.: 17-03828.001-R-1  
PARCEL NO.: 14-36-103-006

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are James and Helen Bottalla, the appellants, 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:** \$48,847  
**IMPR.:** \$134,272  
**TOTAL:** \$183,119

Subject only to the State multiplier as applicable.

**Statement of Jurisdiction**

The appellants 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 one-story dwelling of brick exterior construction with 3,064 square feet of living area. The dwelling was constructed in 1977. Features of the home include an unfinished basement, central air conditioning, a fireplace and an 816 square foot attached garage. The property has a 42,263 square foot site and is located in Long Grove, Ela Township, Lake County.

The appellants contend inequity with respect to the improvement assessment as the basis of the appeal. In support of this argument the appellants submitted information on three equity comparables located in the same neighborhood code assigned by the township assessor as the subject property. The comparables are improved with one-story dwellings of brick or wood siding exterior construction that range in size from 2,745 to 3,260 square feet of living area. The homes were built from 1969 to 1978. Each comparable has an unfinished basement, one or two

fireplaces and a garage ranging in size from 528 to 725 square feet of building area. Two of the comparables have central air conditioning. The comparables have improvement assessments that range from \$92,004 to \$129,028 or from \$30.66 to \$39.58 per square foot of living area. Based on this evidence, the appellants requested the subject's improvement assessment be reduced to \$108,669 or \$35.47 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 \$183,119. The subject property has an improvement assessment of \$134,272 or \$43.82 per square foot of living area. In support of its contention of the correct assessment the board of review submitted information on eight equity comparables located in the same neighborhood code assigned by the assessor as the subject property. The comparables are improved with a two-story and seven, one-story dwellings of brick exterior construction that range in size from 2,697 to 3,283 square feet of living area. The homes were built from 1968 to 1982. Each comparable has an unfinished basement, central air conditioning, one or two fireplaces and a garage ranging in size from 484 to 998 square feet of building area. The comparables have improvement assessments that range from \$119,322 to \$141,014 or from \$42.28 to \$47.55 per square foot of living area. Based on this evidence, the board of review requested the subject's assessment be confirmed.

### **Conclusion of Law**

The taxpayers contend 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 appellants did not meet this burden of proof and a reduction in the subject's assessment is not warranted.

The parties submitted eleven comparables for the Board's consideration. The Board gave less weight to the appellants' comparables; comparable #1 due to lack of central air conditioning, comparable #2 which differs in dwelling size and comparable #3 due to dissimilar age. The Board gave less weight to board of review comparables #1 and #7 due to their smaller dwelling size when compared to the subject. The Board also gave less weight to board of review comparable #2 due to its dissimilar age when compared to the subject and board of review comparable #6 due to its different design. The Board finds the best evidence of assessment equity to be the board of review comparables #3, #4, #5 and #8 which are more similar to the subject in terms of location, age, design, size, garage area and most features. These comparables had improvement assessments that ranged from \$120,637 to \$137,648 or from \$42.28 to \$47.55 per square foot of living area. The subject's improvement assessment of \$134,272 or \$43.82 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 with the subject, the Board finds the appellants 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: August 18, 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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COUNTY

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