



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

APPELLANT: Michael Hart
DOCKET NO.: 17-20154.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 10-13-417-025-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Michael Hart, 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** 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: \$11,688
IMPR.: \$42,312
TOTAL: \$54,000

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 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 two-story multi-family dwelling of frame exterior construction with 4,128 square feet of living area. The dwelling is approximately 163 years old. Features of the home include a full unfinished basement, one fireplace and a 2-car garage. The property has a 9,740 square foot site and is located in Evanston, Evanston Township, Cook County. The subject is classified as a class 2-11 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 multi-family dwellings of frame or masonry exterior construction ranging in size from 4,085 to 4,797 square feet of living area. The comparables range in age from 90 to 129 years old. Each

comparable has a full basement with one having a basement apartment. One comparable has two fireplaces. Each comparable has a 2-car or a 2.5-car garage. The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$29,600 to \$47,240 or from \$7.25 to \$10.37 per square foot of living area. Based on this evidence, the appellant requested that the improvement assessment be reduced to \$37,771 or \$9.15 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 \$63,586. The subject property has an improvement assessment of \$51,898 or \$12.57 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 that are located within the same neighborhood code as the subject property. One comparable is within the same block and two comparables are within .25 of a mile of the subject property. The comparables are improved with two-story multi-family dwellings of frame, masonry, or stucco exterior construction ranging in size from 1,980 to 3,254 square feet of living area. The comparables range in age from 91 to 123 years old. Each comparable has a full basement with two having finished area. One comparable has central air conditioning and one fireplace. Three comparables have either a 2-car or a 3-car garage. The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$25,003 to \$45,064 or from \$12.63 to \$14.35 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 did not meet this burden of proof and a reduction in the subject's assessment is not warranted.

The parties submitted seven suggested comparables for the Board's consideration, none of which are truly similar to the subject property in age. The Board gave more weight to the appellant's comparables #2 and #3 as they are most similar to the subject property in location, design, dwelling size, basement, and features. The best comparables have improvement assessments of \$45,770 and \$47,240 or \$10.37 and \$9.85 per square foot of living area, respectively. The subject's improvement assessment of \$51,898 or \$12.57 per square foot of living area is not supported by the best comparables in this record. The Board gave less weight to the remaining comparables due to their smaller dwelling sizes and/or basements with finished area when compared to the subject's larger dwelling size and unfinished basement. 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: February 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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