



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

APPELLANT: Ron Kurowski  
DOCKET NO.: 17-23048.001-R-1  
PARCEL NO.: 05-28-300-048-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Ron Kurowski, 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:** \$15,435  
**IMPR.:** \$44,104  
**TOTAL:** \$59,539

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 dwelling of frame and masonry exterior construction with 1,888 square feet of living area. The dwelling is approximately 86 years old. Features of the home include a full unfinished basement, central air conditioning, one fireplace, and a one-car garage. The property has an 8,575 square foot site and is located in Wilmette, New Trier Township, Cook County. The subject dwelling is classified as a Class 2-05 property under the Cook County Real Property Assessment Classification Ordinance.

The subject property is an owner-occupied residence that was the subject matter of an appeal before the Property Tax Appeal Board the prior year under Docket Number 16-20841.001-R-1.<sup>1</sup> In that appeal the Property Tax Appeal Board rendered a decision lowering the assessment of the subject property to \$59,539. The Property Tax Appeal Board takes notice that 2016 and 2017

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<sup>1</sup> The appellant's mailing address is the same as the subject property's address.

are within the same general assessment period for New Trier Township. (86 Ill.Admin.Code §1910.90(i)).

For this 2017 tax year appeal, the appellant contends assessment inequity with respect to the improvement as the basis of the appeal. In support of this argument, the appellant submitted information on three equity comparables. The comparables are improved with Class 2-05 dwellings of masonry or frame and masonry exterior construction ranging in size from 1,865 to 2,190 square feet of living area. The comparables' other features have varying degrees of similarity when compared to the subject property. The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$25,300 to \$39,279 or from \$12.33 to \$18.82 per square foot of living area. The appellant's submission included a copy of the "Cook County Board of Review" final decision disclosing the subject has a total assessment of \$64,371. The submission by the appellant also revealed the subject has a land assessment of \$15,435 and an improvement assessment of \$48,936 or \$25.92 per square foot of living area.

Based on this evidence, the appellant requested that the improvement assessment be reduced to \$28,150 or \$14.91 per square foot of living area.

The board of review did not submit its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" nor any evidence in support of its assessed valuation of the subject property and was found to be in default by the Property Tax Appeal Board from a letter dated July 18, 2019.

### **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 pursuant to Section 16-185 of the Property Tax Code a reduction in the subject's assessment is warranted.

The Board finds the board of review did not timely submit any evidence in support of its assessment of the subject property or to refute the evidence submitted by the appellant as required by Section 1910.40(a) of the rules of the Property Tax Appeal Board and is in default pursuant to Section 1910.69(a) of the rules of the Board. (86 Ill.Admin.Code §1910.40(a); 1910.69(a)).

Furthermore, the Board finds the subject property is an owner-occupied residence that was the subject matter of an appeal before the Property Tax Appeal Board for the 2016 tax year under Docket Number 16-20841.001-R-1. In that appeal, the Property Tax Appeal Board issued a decision lowering the assessment of the subject property to \$59,539. The Property Tax Appeal Board takes notice that Cook County's triennial general assessment period began in the 2016 tax year and continues through the 2018 tax year. The Board further finds section 16-185 of the Property Tax Code is controlling in this appeal. (35 ILCS 200/16-185).

Section 16-185 of the Property Tax Code (35 ILCS 200/16-185) provides in part:

If the Property Tax Appeal Board renders a decision lowering the assessment of a particular parcel on which a residence occupied by the owner is situated, such reduced assessment, subject to equalization, shall remain in effect for the remainder of the general assessment period as provided in Sections 9-215 through 9-225, unless that parcel is subsequently sold in an arm's length transaction establishing a fair cash value for the parcel that is different from the fair cash value on which the Board's assessment is based, or unless the decision of the Property Tax Appeal Board is reversed or modified upon review. (35 ILCS 200/16-185)

Therefore, the Board finds that the prior year's decision should be carried forward to the 2017 tax year pursuant to section 16-185 of the Property Tax Code (35 ILCS 200/16-185). The appellant's appeal form indicates the property is owner occupied since the appellant has the same mailing address as the subject property. The record contains no evidence indicating that the assessment year in question is in a different general assessment period. For these reasons, the Property Tax Appeal Board finds that a reduction in the subject's assessment is warranted to reflect the Board's prior year's decision.

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 19, 2021



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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