



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

APPELLANT: Nick Grage  
DOCKET NO.: 17-23837.001-R-1  
PARCEL NO.: 28-22-420-004-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Nick Grage, the appellant, by attorney Michael R. Davies, of Ryan Law LLP, 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:

**LAND:** \$ 2,812  
**IMPR.:** \$10,382  
**TOTAL:** \$13,194

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 multi-level dwelling of frame and masonry exterior construction with 1,008 square feet of living area. The dwelling is approximately 46 years old. Features of the home include a lower level with finished area and a two-car garage. The property has a 7,500 square foot site and is located in Oak Forest, Bremen Township, Cook County. The subject is classified as a class 2-34 property under the Cook County Real Property Assessment Classification Ordinance.

The appellant contends assessment inequity as the basis of the appeal concerning the improvement. In support of this argument the appellant submitted information in a grid analysis

on five equity comparables along with printouts concerning five properties that differ from the comparables set forth in the grid analysis. The Board has focused its analysis solely on the grid analysis which consists of properties located in the same neighborhood code as the subject. The comparables consist of multi-level dwellings of frame or frame and masonry exterior construction. The homes range in age from 43 to 56 years old and range in size from 1,102 to 1,254 square feet of living area. Each comparable has a lower level, four of which have finished areas. Two comparables each have central air conditioning and four comparables have either a one-car or a two-car garage. The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$9,592 to \$11,796 or from \$7.81 to \$9.62 per square foot of living area. Based on this evidence, the appellant requested a reduced improvement assessment of \$9,153 or \$9.08 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 \$13,194. The subject property has an improvement assessment of \$10,382 or \$10.30 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 located in the same neighborhood code as the subject. The comparables consist of multi-level dwellings of frame and masonry exterior construction. The homes are either 48 or 50 years old and contain either 1,008 or 1,040 square feet of living area. Each comparable has a lower level with finished area. Three of the comparables each have central air conditioning and each comparable has a two-car garage. The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$11,943 to \$14,425 or from \$11.85 to \$13.87 per square foot of living area. Based on this evidence, the board of review requested confirmation of the subject's assessment.

### **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 a total of nine equity comparables to support their respective positions before the Property Tax Appeal Board. The Board has given reduced weight to appellant's comparables #4 and #5 due to differences in age, lack of a finished lower level and/or lack of a garage when compared to the subject property.

The Board finds the best evidence of assessment equity to be appellant's comparables #1, #2 and #3 along with the board of review comparables which present varying degrees of similarity to the subject in age, size and/or some features. These comparables had improvement assessments that ranged from \$9,592 to \$14,425 or from \$7.81 to \$13.87 per square foot of living area. The subject's improvement assessment of \$10,382 or \$10.30 per square foot of living area falls within the range established by the best comparables in this record. Based on this record and after considering adjustments to the best comparables for differences when compared to the subject,

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: September 21, 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

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