



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

APPELLANT: George King
DOCKET NO.: 17-24450.001-R-1 through 17-24450.002-R-1
PARCEL NO.: See Below

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are George King, the appellant(s), by attorney John W. Zapala, of the Law Offices of John Zapala, P.C. 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:

DOCKET NO	PARCEL NUMBER	LAND	IMPRVMT	TOTAL
17-24450.001-R-1	28-12-212-006-0000	866	2,734	\$3,600
17-24450.002-R-1	28-12-212-007-0000	866	2,734	\$3,600

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 is a 60-year-old, one-story, building of frame construction containing 936 square feet of gross building area. Features of the subject include a full unfinished basement and a one-car garage. The property is situated on two contiguous parcels with a total of 3,150 square feet of land in Posen, Bremen Township, Cook County. The property is a class 2 property under the Cook County Real Property Assessment Classification Ordinance.

The appellant's appeal is based on assessment inequity and on overvaluation. In support of the overvaluation argument, the appellant submitted an illegible settlement statement and a Special Warranty Deed. The appellant submitted a brief in which he disclosed he purchased the subject on January 5, 2016, for \$55,250. The subject's sale price reflects a market value of \$59.03 per

square foot of gross building area including land. The appellant disclosed in Section IV—Recent Sale Data of the Residential Appeal that the subject was not transferred between related parties; and was sold in settlement of a foreclosure. The appellant did not supply information of whether the subject was advertised for sale and whether it was sold by a realtor, the owner or at auction. Based on this evidence, the appellant requested a reduction in the subject's assessment to reflect the purchase price.

The appellant also submitted five suggested sale comparable properties in support of the overvaluation argument; and five suggested equity comparable properties in support of the assessment inequity argument.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" disclosing the total assessment for the subject of \$8,784. The subject property has an improvement assessment of \$7,052, or \$7.53 per square foot of gross building area. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$87,840, or \$93.85 per square foot of gross building area including land, when applying the 2017 level of assessment of 10.00% for Class 2 property under the Cook County Real Property Assessment Classification Ordinance. In support of its contention of the correct assessment, the board of review submitted information on four suggested equity comparable properties and on the February 2016 sale of the subject.

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 has met this burden of proof and a reduction in the subject's assessment is warranted.

In addressing the appellant's market value argument, the Board finds the sale lacked evidence of exposure to the market. There was no evidence whether the subject was advertised for sale or was sold by a realtor. The Board also finds that the sale of the subject in January 2016 for \$55,250 was a "compulsory sale." A "compulsory sale" is defined as:

- (i) the sale of real estate for less than the amount owed to the mortgage lender or mortgagor, if the lender or mortgagor has agreed to the sale, commonly referred to as a "short sale" and
- (ii) the first sale of real estate owned by a financial institution as a result of a judgment of foreclosure, transfer pursuant to a deed in lieu of foreclosure, or consent judgment, occurring after the foreclosure proceeding is complete.

35 ILCS 200/1-23. Real property in Illinois must be assessed at its fair cash value, which can only be estimated absent any compulsion on either party.

Illinois law requires that all real property be valued at its fair cash value, estimated at the price it would bring at a fair voluntary sale where the owner is ready, willing, and able to sell but not compelled to do so, and the buyer is likewise ready, willing, and able to buy, but is not forced to do so.

Bd. of Educ. of Meridian Cmty. Unit Sch. Dist. No. 223 v. Ill. Prop. Tax Appeal Bd., 961 N.E. 2d 794, 802 (2d Dist. 2011) (citing Chrysler Corp. v. Ill. Prop. Tax Appeal Bd., 69 Ill. App. 3d 207, 211 (2d Dist. 1979)).

The Board may consider market value evidence, such as sales of comparable properties submitted by the parties, to determine whether the subject was sold at fair cash value. 86 Ill.Admin.Code §1910.65(c)(4); *See Calumet Transfer LLC v. Illinois Property Tax Appeal Board*, 401 Ill.App.3d 652 (1st Dist. 2010).

In determining the fair market value of the subject property, the Board may look to other evidence presented by the parties. The Board finds the appellant's comparables #1, #2, #3, #4 and #5 set the range of market value for the subject. These comparables were similar with the subject in location, style, construction, features, age, living area and land area. They ranged from \$45.70 to \$78.66 per square foot of living area including land. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$93.85 per square foot of living area including land, which is above the range established by the best comparable sale properties in this record. Based on this evidence, the Board finds a reduction in the subject's assessment based on overvaluation is justified. As a result, the Board finds the subject property is equitably assessed, thereby obviating the need to rule on the appellant's assessment inequity argument.

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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