



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

APPELLANT: David Grzesnikowski  
DOCKET NO.: 17-28819.001-R-1  
PARCEL NO.: 18-33-408-006-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are David Grzesnikowski, 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:

**LAND:** \$8,235  
**IMPR.:** \$4,265  
**TOTAL:** \$12,500

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 improved with a 90-year-old, one-story, building of frame construction containing 1,268 square feet of gross building area. Features of the subject include a full unfinished basement, central air conditioning and one fireplace. The property is situated on 18,300 square feet of land in Willow Springs, Lyons Township, Cook County. The subject is classified as a Class 2 property under the Cook County Real Property Assessment Classification Ordinance.

The appellant's appeal is based on overvaluation and on assessment inequity. In support of the overvaluation argument, the appellant submitted a settlement statement disclosing the subject property was purchased on October 9, 2014, for \$125,000. The subject's sale price reflects a

market value of \$98.58 per square foot of gross building area including land. The appellant also submitted a deed trail for the subject. The appellant provided information in Section IV–Recent Sale Data of the Residential Appeal that the subject was not transferred between related parties; and was advertised for sale on the Multiple Listing Service. In further support of the overvaluation argument, the appellant submitted five suggested sale comparable properties. In support of the assessment inequity argument, the appellant also submitted five suggested equity comparable properties. Based on this evidence, the appellant requested a reduction in the subject's assessment.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" disclosing the total assessment for the subject of \$28,298. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$282,980, or \$223.17 per square foot 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 three suggested equity comparable properties and on the October 2014 sale of the subject for \$125,000.

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

The Board finds the best evidence of market value to be the purchase of the subject property in October 2014 for \$125,000. The appellant provided evidence demonstrating the sale had the elements of an arm's-length transaction. The appellant provided information in Section IV–Recent Sale Data of the appeal that the parties to the transaction were not related, that the property was sold using a Realtor, and that the property had been advertised on the open market with the Multiple Listing Service. In further support of the transaction, the appellant submitted a copy of the settlement statement that disclosed the subject was sold by a realtor. There was no evidence from the parties that the subject was sold short or from a foreclosure. The Board finds the purchase price was below the market value reflected by the assessment. Based on this record, the Board finds the subject property had a market value of \$125,000 as of January 1, 2017, and that a reduction in the subject's assessment is justified. Since market value has been determined, the 2017 level of assessment of 10.00% for Class 2 property under the Cook County Real Property Assessment Classification Ordinance shall apply. 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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