



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

APPELLANT: Elizabeth Baetzel  
DOCKET NO.: 17-29458.001-R-1  
PARCEL NO.: 22-35-409-012-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Elizabeth Baetzel, the appellant(s), by attorney Kelly J. Keeling, of KBC Law Group 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:** \$9,049  
**IMPR.:** \$48,577  
**TOTAL:** \$57,626

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, single family dwelling of masonry construction containing 4,038 square feet of living area. The dwelling was constructed in 1996. Features of the dwelling include a partial finished basement, two and two-half baths, and a three-car garage. The property has a 36,198 square foot site in Lemont, Lemont Township, Cook County. The subject is a Class 2-08 property under the Cook County Real Property Assessment Classification Ordinance.

The appellant contends overvaluation as the basis of the appeal. In support of this argument, the appellant submitted evidence showing that the subject unit sold in March 2014 for \$485,900. The appellant's pleadings regarding Section IV- Recent Sale Data confirmed: the closing date; sale price; that the parties to the transaction were not related; that the subject was sold via a realtor; and that the sale was listed on the MLS. In support of the sale of the subject, the appellant

submitted a copy of the settlement statement and warranty deed. The appellant requested a reduction of the subject's assessed value to \$44,864.

The appellant contends assessment inequity as the basis of the appeal. In support of this argument, the appellant submitted information on four equity comparables and sale data for comparables #1 and #2 and Cook County Assessor printouts for each comparable.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" wherein the subject's combined total assessment of \$57,626 was disclosed. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$576,260 when applying the 2017 level of assessment for class 2 property under the Cook County Real Property Assessment Classification Ordinance of 10%. The subject has a total improvement assessment of \$48,577 or \$12.03 per square foot of living area. In support, the board of review submitted four equity comparables and four sale comparables. 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 Board finds the best evidence of assessment equity to be the appellant's comparable #2 and the board of review's comparables #1 and #3. These comparables are similar in location, amenities, age, and size. These comparables had improvement assessments that ranged from \$9.10 to \$15.52 per square foot of living area. The subject's improvement assessment of \$12.03 per square foot of living area falls within the range established by the best comparables in this record. Based on this record, 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.

The appellant also 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 did not meet this burden of proof and a reduction in the subject's assessment is not warranted.

The Board finds that the subject's sale price in March 2014 is reflective of the market value in 2014 and not the 2017 tax lien year. The 2014 sale date is too far removed in time from the January 1, 2017 lien date. Furthermore, the year the subject was sold was in a different assessment triennial than the 2017 tax year. Based on this evidence, the Board finds a reduction in the subject's assessment is not justified based on the market data submitted into evidence.



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: July 20, 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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