

# FINAL ADMINISTRATIVE DECISION ILLINOIS PROPERTY TAX APPEAL BOARD

APPELLANT: Jeff Nelson

DOCKET NO.: 17-33108.001-R-1 PARCEL NO.: 03-19-112-020-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Jeff Nelson, the appellant(s), by attorney Joanne Elliott, of Elliott & Associates, P.C. in Des Plaines; 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:** \$ 3,919 **IMPR.:** \$ 59,698 **TOTAL:** \$ 63,617

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 (the "Board") finds that it has jurisdiction over the parties and the subject matter of this appeal.

#### **Findings of Fact**

The subject consists of a two-story dwelling of frame construction with 3,189 square feet of living area. The dwelling is 12 years old. Features of the home include a full unfinished basement, central air conditioning, a fireplace, and a two-car garage. The property's site is 8,710 square feet, and it is located in Wheeling Township, Cook County. The subject is classified as a class 2-78 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 information on three sale comparables. These comparables sold between September 2016 and July 2017 for \$505,000 to \$527,000, or \$156.78 to \$194.32 per square foot of living area, including land.

The subject property was the subject matter of an appeal before the board of review in 2016 under complaint number 3816839-001. In that appeal, the board of review rendered a decision lowering the subject's assessment to \$59,439. The appellant requests that the subject's assessment for tax year 2016 as determined by the board of review be carried forward to the instant tax year of 2017 based on section 16-185 of the Property Tax Code. In the appellant's brief, the appellant stated that the subject is owner-occupied. Based on this evidence, the appellant requested a reduction in the subject's assessment to \$54,158.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" disclosing that the total assessment for the subject is \$63,617. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$636,170, or \$199.49 per square foot of living area, including land, when applying the 2017 statutory level of assessment for class 2 property of 10.00% 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 equity comparables, and four sale comparables. These sale comparables sold from July 2015 to August 2016 for \$720,000 to \$840,000, or \$218.80 to \$247.17 per square foot of living area, including land.

In rebuttal, the appellant argued that the board of review's sale comparables were "raw and unconfirmed," and, as such, should be given no weight by the Board.

### **Conclusion of Law**

Section 16-185 of the Property Tax Code provides, in relevant 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. Additionally, "Standard of proof. Unless otherwise provided by law or stated in the agency's rules, the standard of proof in any contested case hearing conducted under this Act by an agency shall be the preponderance of the evidence." 5 ILCS 100/10-15. It is clear from the plain reading of section 16-185 of the Property Tax Code that the statute is only applicable when the Property Tax Appeal Board renders a decision lowering the subject's assessment. The appellant did not appeal the 2016 assessment to the Board, and, thus, the Board never rendered a decision for the subject for tax year 2016. There is no provision in the Property Tax Code, implicit or otherwise, that requires the Board to carry forward an assessment from a previous tax year if the board of review was the final decider of that previous year's assessment. For these reasons, the Board finds that the appellant has not proven, by a preponderance of the evidence, that the subject's assessment should be carried forward, pursuant to section 16-185 of the Property Tax Code, as that section is not applicable to the instant appeal.

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 proven 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 the best evidence of market value to be appellant's sale comparables #1 and #2, and board of review sale comparables #1 and #2. These sale comparables sold for prices ranging from \$156.78 to \$247.17 per square foot of living area, including land. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$199.49 per square foot of living area, including land, which is within the range established by the best comparables in this record. Based on this record, the Board finds the appellant has not proven, by a preponderance of the evidence, that the subject is overvalued, and that 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.

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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.

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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 <u>PETITION AND EVIDENCE</u> 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**

State of Illinois Property Tax Appeal Board William G. Stratton Building, Room 402 401 South Spring Street Springfield, IL 62706-4001

# **APPELLANT**

Jeff Nelson, by attorney: Joanne Elliott Elliott & Associates, P.C. 1430 Lee Street Des Plaines, IL 60018

# **COUNTY**

Cook County Board of Review County Building, Room 601 118 North Clark Street Chicago, IL 60602