



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

APPELLANT: Harold Plucienik  
DOCKET NO.: 17-37335.001-R-1  
PARCEL NO.: 32-28-204-015-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Harold Plucienik, the appellant(s); 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:** \$ 1,406  
**IMPR.:** \$ 4,329  
**TOTAL:** \$ 5,735

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 the appeal.

**Findings of Fact**

The subject consists of a one and one-half-story dwelling of frame construction with 1,600 square feet of living area. The dwelling is 101 years old. Features of the home include a full unfinished basement and a three-car garage. The property has a 4,500 square foot site, and is located in Chicago Heights, Bloom Township, Cook County. The subject is classified as a class 2-11 property under the Cook County Real Property Assessment Classification Ordinance. No evidence was submitted as to whether the subject is owner occupied.

The appellant contends assessment inequity as the basis of the appeal. In support of this argument, the appellant submitted information on three equity comparables.

The appellant also contends overvaluation as the basis of the appeal. In support of this argument, the appellant submitted information on 10 sale comparables. These comparables sold between December 2010 and September 2017 for \$8,500 to \$55,000. Sale comparables #1, #2, and #3

were sold for \$4.11 to \$8.33 per square foot of living area, including land. The improvement sizes of the remaining seven sale comparables were not disclosed. The appellant also submitted information on five expired sale listings, one cancelled listing, six active listings, and one pending listing.

The subject's total assessment is \$7,362. The subject property has an improvement assessment of \$5,956, or \$3.72 per square foot of living area. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$73,620, or \$46.01 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. Based on this evidence, the appellant requested a reduction in the subject's assessment to \$5,735.

The board of review was defaulted, and, therefore, did not submit any evidence in support of the subject's current assessment.

### **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 did not meet this burden of proof, and a reduction in the subject's assessment is not warranted.

Sale comparables #1, #2, and #3 submitted by the appellant were given no weight in the Board's analysis, as these sales are too remote in time to accurately depict the market for the subject as of January 1, 2017. Additionally, the appellant did not disclose the improvement size of the seven remaining sale comparables. Thus, the Board is unable to determine the sale price per square foot of these comparables, and then set a range. As such, the Board is unable to determine whether the subject is overvalued based on these comparables. Moreover, the five expired sale listings, one cancelled listing, six active listings, and one pending listing submitted by the appellant were given no weight in the Board's analysis, as these comparables were not completed transactions. 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.

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

The Board finds the best evidence of assessment equity to be appellant's comparables #1, #2, and #3. These comparables had improvement assessments that ranged from \$1.06 to \$2.93 per

square foot of living area. The subject's assessment of \$3.72 per square foot of living area falls above the range established by the best comparables in this record. Based on this record, the Board finds the appellant did demonstrate, with clear and convincing evidence, that the subject's improvement was inequitably assessed, and that a reduction in the subject's assessment is justified to that requested by the appellant.

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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Chairman



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Member



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Member



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Member



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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: December 23, 2019



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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 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

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

APPELLANT

Harold Plucienik  
52 E. Normandy Dr.  
Chicago Heights, IL 60411

COUNTY

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