



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

APPELLANT: Marija Pekaj  
DOCKET NO.: 17-42195.001-R-1  
PARCEL NO.: 04-17-201-026-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Marija Pekaj, the appellant, by attorney George N. Reveliotis of Reveliotis Law, P.C. in Park Ridge; 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:** \$22,711  
**IMPR.:** \$19,681  
**TOTAL:** \$42,392

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 1.5-story dwelling of masonry exterior construction with 2,144 square feet of living area. The dwelling is approximately 73 years old. Features of the home include a crawl space foundation and central air conditioning. The property has a 19,749 square foot site and is located in Northbrook, Northfield Township, Cook County. The subject is classified as a class 2-04 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 four comparable sales located within the same neighborhood code as the subject property. The comparables have sites that range in size from 12,090 to 20,000 square feet of land area. The comparables are similar class 2-04 properties improved with dwellings of masonry or frame and masonry exterior construction ranging in size from

2,477 to 2,738 square feet of living area. The dwellings range in age from 39 to 49 years old. Each comparable has a partial basement with two having finished area. The comparables each have central air conditioning, one fireplace and a 2-car or a 2.5-car garage. The properties sold from August 2016 to June 2017 for prices ranging from \$365,000 to \$495,000 or from \$133.31 to \$189.36 per square foot of living area, land included. Based on this evidence, the appellant requested the subject's assessment be reduced to \$35,734, reflecting a market value of \$357,340 or \$166.67 per square foot of living area, land included, when applying the level of assessment for class 2 property under the Cook County Real Property Assessment Classification Ordinance of 10%.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" disclosing the total assessment for the subject of \$42,392. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$423,920 or \$197.72 per square foot of living area, including land, when applying the level of assessment for class 2 property under the Cook County Real Property Assessment Classification Ordinance of 10%.

In support of its contention of the correct assessment the board of review submitted information on four comparable sales, two of which are located in Northbrook. The comparables have sites that range in size from 11,700 to 28,170 square feet of land area. The comparables are similar class 2-04 properties improved with one-story dwellings of frame, masonry or frame and masonry exterior construction ranging in size from 1,887 to 2,449 square feet of living area. The dwellings range in age from 51 to 67 years old. Each comparable has a full or partial unfinished basement, three comparables have central air conditioning, each comparable has one or two fireplaces and a 1.5-car or a 2-car garage. The properties sold from July to October 2016 for prices ranging from \$499,000 to \$736,000 or from \$215.60 to \$390.04 per square foot of living area, land included. Based on this evidence, the board of review requested confirmation of the subject's 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.

The parties submitted a total of eight comparable sales for the Board's consideration. The Board finds none of these comparables are truly similar to the subject due to significant differences in location, site size, dwelling size, design, age and/or features. Nevertheless, the board gives less weight to appellant's comparables #2 and #4 due to their larger dwelling sizes when compared to the subject. The Board gives reduced weight to board of review comparables #2 and #4 as they are located outside of Northbrook, the subject's city.

The Board finds the best evidence of market value to be the appellant's comparables #1 and #3, along with board of review comparables #1 and #3. These comparables sold from July 2016 to June 2017 for prices ranging from \$412,000 to \$528,000 or from \$160.31 to \$249.38 per square

foot of living area, including land. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$423,920 or \$197.72 per square foot of living area, including land, which is within the range established by the best comparable sales in this record. After considering necessary adjustments to the comparables for differences when compared to the subject, the Board finds no reduction in the subject's estimated market value as reflected by its assessment is warranted.

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: April 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

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

APPELLANT

Marija Pekaj, by attorney:  
George N. Reveliotis  
Reveliotis Law, P.C.  
1030 Higgins Road  
Suite 101  
Park Ridge, IL 60068

COUNTY

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