



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

APPELLANT: Nick Debello
DOCKET NO.: 17-44330.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 31-24-441-025-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Nick Debello, 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 ***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: \$3,159
IMPR.: \$6,341
TOTAL: \$9,500

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 consists of a one-story dwelling of frame and masonry construction with 1,551 square feet of living area. The dwelling is approximately 59 years old. Features of the property include a slab foundation, central air conditioning, two bathrooms, and a 2½-car detached garage. The property has a 9,720 square foot site and is located in Park Forest, Rich Township, Cook County. The subject is classified as a class 2-03 property under the Cook County Real Property Assessment Classification Ordinance.

The appellant contends overvaluation and assessment inequity with respect to the improvement assessment as the bases of the appeal. In support of the overvaluation argument the appellant submitted information on four comparable sales classified as class 2-03 properties improved with dwellings of frame and masonry construction ranging in size from 1,092 to 1,699 square feet of living area. Each of the homes is 60 years old. Each property has a slab foundation or a crawl

space, one comparable has central air conditioning, one comparable as a fireplace, each property has one bathroom, and each property has either a one-car or a two-car garage. The comparables have sites ranging in size from 8,750 to 11,250 square feet of land area. Each property has the same assessment neighborhood code as the subject property. The sales occurred from September 2015 to September 2017 for prices of \$70,800 or \$85,000 or ranging from \$50.03 to \$68.11 per square foot of living area, including land. These properties have improvement assessments ranging from \$3.80 to \$4.67 per square foot of living area.

With respect to the assessment equity argument, the appellant submitted information on six equity comparables improved with one-story class 2-03 dwellings of frame or frame and masonry construction with either 1,480 or 1,551 square feet of living area. The dwellings are either 53 or 59 years old. One comparable has a partial unfinished basement with the remaining comparables having either a slab or crawl space foundation. Five comparables have central air conditioning, and five comparables have either a 1-car or a 2-car detached garage. Each property has the same assessment neighborhood code as the subject property. The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$5,432 to \$6,601 or from \$3.50 to \$4.26 per square foot of living area.

The appellant requested the subject's total assessment be reduced to \$9,264 and the improvement assessment be reduced to \$6,105.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" disclosing the total assessment for the subject of \$11,078. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$110,780 or \$71.42 per square foot of living area, including land, when applying the Cook County Real Property Assessment Classification Ordinance level of assessment for class 2-03 property of 10%. The subject has an improvement assessment of \$7,919 or \$5.11 per square foot of living area.

In support of its contention of the correct assessment the board of review submitted information on four comparables improved with one-story class 2-03 or 2-04 dwellings of frame or frame and masonry construction ranging in size from 1,551 to 1,835 square feet of living area. The comparables are either 18 or 59 years old. Three comparables have a slab foundation and one comparable has a partial basement with a recreation room. Three comparables have central air conditioning, three comparables each have one fireplace, and each property has either a 2-car or a 2½-car garage. These properties have sites ranging in size from 7,200 to 8,364 square feet of land area. The comparables have the same assessment neighborhood code as the subject property. These properties have improvement assessments ranging from \$8,726 to \$10,586 or from \$5.63 to \$6.60 per square foot of living area.

Conclusion of Law

The appellant contends in part 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 on this basis.

The record contains information on four comparable sales submitted by the appellant to support the overvaluation argument. The Cook County Board of Review did not submit any comparable sales to support the assessment or refute the appellant's overvaluation argument. The appellant's comparables are relatively similar to the subject in location, age, style, dwelling size, land area and features with the exception each comparable has one bathroom while the subject has two bathrooms and three comparables have no central air conditioning while the subject has central air conditioning. The Board further recognizes that three of the sales occurred in 2015, nevertheless, they will be considered as the data was not refuted or questioned by the board of review. The appellant's comparables sold for prices of \$70,800 or \$85,000 or ranging from \$50.03 to \$68.11 per square foot of living area, including land. The subject's assessment reflecting a market value of \$110,780 or \$71.42 per square foot of living area, inclusive of the land, is above the overall price range and above the range on a square foot basis as established by the appellant's comparable sales. Based on this evidence the Board finds a reduction in the subject's assessment is justified to reflect a market value of \$95,000 or approximately \$61.25 per square foot of living area, including land. This results in a total assessment \$9,500 and an improvement assessment of \$6,341 or \$4.09 per square foot of living area.

Alternatively, the appellant 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, after considering the reduction to the subject's assessment based on market value, a further reduction in the subject's assessment based on assessment equity is not warranted.

Excluding board of review comparable #2, which differs from the subject in size and board of review comparable #4, which differs from the subject in age and foundation, the Board finds the appellant's comparables, including the comparable sales, as well as board of review comparables #1 and #3 are similar to the subject in most respects. These properties have improvement assessments ranging from \$3.50 to \$5.63 per square foot of living area. The subject's revised improvement assessment of \$4.09 per square foot of living area is within this range.

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

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