



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

APPELLANT: Austin Holdings  
DOCKET NO.: 18-00998.001-R-1  
PARCEL NO.: 06-11-359-015

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Austin Holdings, the appellant, by Jessica Hill-Magiera, Attorney at Law in Lake Zurich; and the Kane 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 **Kane** County Board of Review is warranted. The correct assessed valuation of the property is:

**LAND:** \$12,695  
**IMPR.:** \$31,071  
**TOTAL:** \$43,766

Subject only to the State multiplier as applicable.

**Statement of Jurisdiction**

The appellant timely filed the appeal from a decision of the Kane County Board of Review pursuant to section 16-160 of the Property Tax Code (35 ILCS 200/16-160) challenging the assessment for the 2018 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 construction containing 955 square feet of living area. The dwelling was constructed in 1915. Features of the home include a 600 square foot basement, with 200 square feet of finished area, central air conditioning and a woodstove. The property has a 6,969 square foot site and is located in Elgin, Elgin Township, Kane County.

The appellant's appeal is based on overvaluation. In support of this argument the appellant submitted evidence disclosing the subject property was purchased on January 19, 2017 for a price of \$73,500 or \$76.96 per square foot of living area, including land. To document the sale the appellant provided a copy of a court ordered sheriff's sale document acknowledging receipt of a full bid amount of \$73,500 and the bidder as Austin Holdings, LLC. The appellant also submitted a copy of the PTAX-203 Illinois Real Estate Transfer Declaration associated with the

sale. The transfer declaration indicates the property was advertised for sale and the sale was court ordered. The transfer declaration identified the seller as the Kane County Sheriff's Office.

The appellant's submission included a grid analysis containing three comparable sales that were located from 1.31 to 1.42 miles from the subject property. The comparables site sizes were not disclosed. The comparables were one-story dwellings of unknown exterior construction that ranged in size from 798 to 1,170 square feet of living area. The homes were built in 1890 or 1920. The comparables had basements ranging in size from 781 to 936 square feet of building area. Finished basement area was not disclosed by the appellant. The comparables had other features with varying degrees of similarity to the subject. The comparables had sale dates occurring in August 2017 or January 2018 and sold for prices ranging from \$27,500 to \$114,000 or from \$34.46 to \$121.79 per square foot of living area, including land.

Based on this evidence, the appellant requested that the subject's assessment be reduced to \$17,085 or a market value of approximately \$51,260.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" disclosing the total assessment for the subject of \$43,766. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$131,232 or \$137.42 per square foot of living area, land included, when using the 2018 three-year average median level of assessment for Kane County of 33.35% as determined by the Illinois Department of Revenue.

In support of its contention of the correct assessment the board of review submitted information on five comparable sales that were located from .10 to .64 of a mile from the subject property. The comparables had sites ranging in size from 6,600 to 12,243 square feet of land area. The comparables were one-story dwellings of frame construction that ranged in size from 735 to 936 square feet of living area. The homes were built from 1900 to 1956. Four of the comparables had basements ranging in size from 735 to 936 square feet of building area, three of which had 200 square feet of finished area. The comparables had other features with varying degrees of similarity to the subject. The comparables had sale dates occurring from November 2016 to July 2017 and sold for prices ranging from \$122,000 to \$179,900 or from \$154.04 to \$200.56 per square foot of living area, including land.

The board of review indicated in its analysis that the sale of the subject property was a court-ordered Sheriff's sale and that the average buyer is unable to purchase property in this way, which limits the number of buyers. The board of review also stated that the subject had an addition made to the property and had many new items including new doors, new windows, flooring and kitchen. The board of review requested the assessment be sustained.

The appellant's counsel submitted rebuttal comments arguing the board of review did not dispute the sale, its evidence was not responsive or relevant and the properties were not comparable to the subject.

### **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 Board gives little weight to the sale of the subject property due to the fact the transaction was ordered by the court and was sold by the Sheriff. The Board finds the elements of compulsion and/or duress undermine the conclusion the property sold in an arm's length transaction reflective of fair cash value.

The Board finds the best evidence of market value in the record to be board of review comparable sale #3. This transaction also helps to demonstrate the sale of the subject property is not representative of fair cash value and lend credence to the appropriateness of the subject's assessment. This comparable was similar to the subject in location, style, construction, age and features. This comparable also sold proximate in time to the January 1, 2017 assessment date at issue. The best comparable sold for a price of \$139,000 or \$189.12 per square foot of living area, land included. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$131,232 or \$137.42 per square foot of living area, including land, which is below the market value established by the best comparable sale in this record demonstrating the subject property is not overvalued. The Board gave less weight to the board of review's remaining comparables due to their newer ages when compared to the subject. The Board also gave less weight to the appellant's comparables, due to the lack of information regarding their lot sizes, which would be necessary when analyzing their comparability to the subject. In addition, the comparables were located over a mile from the subject property. Based on this record the Board finds 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.



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 21, 2020



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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COUNTY

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