



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

APPELLANT: Soula Sloth
DOCKET NO.: 18-01922.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 16-29-408-024

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Soula Sloth, the appellant, by attorney Robert Rosenfeld, of Robert H. Rosenfeld and Associates, LLC in Chicago; and the Lake 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 **Lake** County Board of Review is warranted. The correct assessed valuation of the property is:

LAND: \$40,561
IMPR.: \$89,751
TOTAL: \$130,312

Subject only to the State multiplier as applicable.

Statement of Jurisdiction

The appellant timely filed the appeal from a decision of the Lake 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 2-story dwelling of wood siding exterior construction with 1,902 square feet of living area. The dwelling was constructed in 1928. Features of the home include an unfinished basement, central air conditioning, a fireplace and a detached 528 square foot garage. The property is located in Deerfield, West Deerfield Township, Lake County.

The appellant through counsel contends assessment inequity as the basis of the appeal. The subject's land assessment was not contested. In support of this argument the appellant submitted information on three suggested equity comparables located in the same neighborhood and within 0.30 of a mile from the subject property. The comparables were improved with 2-story dwellings of wood siding exterior construction that range in size from 1,958 to 2,077 square feet of living area. The dwellings were built from 1908 to 1922.¹ Each comparable has an

¹ Appellant's comparable #2 has an actual age of 1910, but an effective age of 1953.

unfinished basement, two comparables have central air conditioning, two comparables each have a fireplace and each comparable has a detached garage ranging in size from 308 to 624 square feet of building area. The comparables have improvement assessments that range from \$77,650 to \$80,415 or from \$37.69 to \$39.66 per square foot of living area. Based on this evidence, the appellant requested that the improvement assessment be reduced to \$73,740 or \$38.77 per square foot of living area.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" disclosing the total assessment for the subject of \$130,312. The subject property has an improvement assessment of \$89,751 or \$47.19 per square foot of living area.

In support of its contention of the correct assessment the board of review submitted information on four suggested equity comparables located in the same neighborhood and within 0.383 of a mile from the subject property. The comparables were improved with three, 2-story dwellings and one, 1.5-story dwelling of wood siding exterior construction ranging in size from 1,904 to 1,976 square feet of living area. The dwellings were built from 1920 to 1948. Each comparable has a basement with one having finished area, two comparables have central air conditioning, two comparables each have a fireplace and three comparables have a garage ranging in size from 406 to 449 square feet of building area. The comparables have improvement assessments that range from \$94,358 to \$102,001 or from \$48.29 to \$53.57 per square foot of living area. Based on this evidence, the board of review requested that the assessment be confirmed.

Conclusion of Law

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

The parties submitted seven suggested comparables for the Board's consideration. The Board gave less weight to the appellant's comparable #2 along with the board of review comparables #2 and #3 based on their lack of central air conditioning when compared to the subject property. The Board gave less weight to the board of review's comparable #4 due to its finished basement when compared to the subject's unfinished basement.

The Board finds the best evidence of assessment equity to be appellant's comparables #1 and #3 along with the board of review comparable #1. These comparables have varying degrees of similarity when compared to the subject in location, dwelling size, age and features. These comparables had improvement assessments that ranged from \$77,650 to \$94,358 or from \$38.96 to \$48.29 per square foot of living area. The subject's improvement assessment of \$89,751 or \$47.19 per square foot of living area falls within the range established by the best comparables in this record. Based on this record, the Board finds the appellant did not demonstrate with clear

and convincing evidence that the subject's improvement was inequitably assessed and 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:

November 17, 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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