



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

APPELLANT: Debra Hirsch
DOCKET NO.: 18-02033.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 15-25-106-028

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Debra Hirsch, 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: \$88,163
IMPR.: \$370,574
TOTAL: \$458,737

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 two-story dwelling of brick exterior construction with 6,156 square feet of living area. The dwelling was constructed in 1994. Features of the home include an unfinished basement, central air conditioning, four fireplaces and a 1,008 square foot garage. The property has a 41,628 square foot site and is located in Riverwoods, Vernon Township, Lake County.

The appellant, through counsel, contends assessment inequity with respect to the improvement assessment as the basis of the appeal. In support of this argument the appellant submitted information on three equity comparables in the same neighborhood code as the subject property. The comparables are improved with two-story dwellings of brick or Dryvit exterior construction that range in size from 6,016 to 6,334 square feet of living area. The homes were built from 1996 to 2003. Each comparable has a basement, two with finished area, central air conditioning,

three or five fireplaces and a garage ranging in size from 738 to 1,330 square feet of building area. Comparable #1 also features an inground swimming pool. The comparables had improvement assessments ranging from \$247,837 to \$315,069 or from \$41.20 to \$49.74 per square foot of living area. Based on this evidence, the appellant requested the subject's improvement assessment be reduced to \$278,353 or \$45.22 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 \$458,737. The subject property has an improvement assessment of \$370,574 or \$60.20 per square foot of living area.

In support of its contention of the correct assessment the board of review submitted information on eight equity comparables located in the same neighborhood code as the subject property. The comparables are improved with two-story dwellings of brick exterior construction that range in size from 5,903 to 6,412 square feet of living area. The homes were built from 1990 to 2003. Seven comparables have a basement, three of which have finished area and one comparable has a crawl space foundation. Each comparable has central air conditioning, one to five fireplaces and a garage ranging in size from 805 to 1,410 square feet of building area. Comparables #2 and #5 feature inground swimming pools and comparable #2 also has a 350 square foot dog kennel amenity.¹ The comparables had improvement assessments ranging from \$331,660 to \$416,283 or from \$54.85 to \$70.52 per square foot of living area. Based on this evidence, the board of review requested the subject's 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 eleven comparables for the Board's consideration. The Board gave less weight to the appellant's comparables #1 and #3 along with board of review comparables #2, #5, #6 and #8 which are dissimilar to the subject in either a crawl space foundation, finished basement and/or inground swimming pool feature which the subject lacks.

The Board finds the best evidence of assessment equity to be appellant's comparable #2 and board of review comparables #1, #3, #4 and #7 which are similar to the subject in terms of location, age, design, dwelling size and most features. These comparables had improvement assessments that ranged from \$280,690 to \$398,927 or from \$44.71 to \$64.22 per square foot of living area. The subject's improvement assessment of \$370,574 or \$60.20 per square foot of living area falls within the range established by the best comparables in this record. After

¹ Inground swimming pools and comparable #1's dog kennel features were disclosed in the property record cards submitted by the board of review.

considering adjustments to the comparables for differences with the subject, 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:

December 15, 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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