



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

APPELLANT: Angela Catania  
DOCKET NO.: 18-37711.001-R-1  
PARCEL NO.: 25-07-121-026-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Angela Catania, the appellant(s); 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:** \$ 4,960  
**IMPR.:** \$29,410  
**TOTAL:** \$34,370

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 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 masonry construction with 1,700 square feet of living area. The dwelling is 78 years old. The property has a 4,960 square foot site and is located in Lake Township, Cook County. The subject is classified as a class 2-05 property under the Cook County Real Property Assessment Classification Ordinance.

The appellant's appeal is based on overvaluation and equity. In support of this argument the appellant submitted a one-page ALTA Settlement Statement as evidence disclosing the subject property was purchased by the appellant on April 6, 2018 for a price of \$300,000, or \$176.47 per square foot, including land, in a cash transaction. The appellant also indicated the property was not advertised for sale on the open market and was sold "by owner." The appellant did not indicate a realtor had been involved in the transaction. The appellant did not submit any other evidence regarding the sale or any sale comparables to demonstrate that the sale was at fair

market value. Based on this evidence, the appellant requested a reduction in the subject's assessment to reflect the purchase price.

The appellant also contends assessment inequity as the basis of the appeal. No evidence was submitted in support of this claim.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review-Notes on Appeal" disclosing the total assessment for the subject of \$34,370. The subject property has an improvement assessment of \$29,410, or \$17.30 per square foot of living area. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$343,700 or \$202.18 per square foot of living area, including land, when applying a 10% level of assessment for Class 2 properties as determined by the Cook County Classification Ordinance.

In support of its contention of the correct assessment, the board of review submitted information on four equity comparables, each reflecting sale data. They ranged in improvement assessment per square foot from \$17.19 to \$20.09. These comparables also ranged: in sale date from March 2017 to June 2018 and in sale price from \$218.67 to \$245.81 per square foot, including land. The sale of the subject in April 2018 for \$300,000 was also reflected on the grid sheet. 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 Board gives no weight to the subject's sale due to the fact it did not have the elements of an arm's length transaction as it was not advertised for sale or exposed on the open market. Additionally, the appellant failed to provide any sale comparables as supporting evidence that the sale price was at fair market value. Accordingly, the Board finds the best evidence of market value to be the sale comparables submitted by the board of review.

The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$202.18 per square foot of living area, including land, while its purchase price reflects a market value of \$176.47 per square foot of living area, including land. The board of review provided four sale comparables that were located in the subject's neighborhood, two of which were located within two blocks of the subject property. They all sold at a time proximate to the valuation date. These comparables sold for prices ranging from \$218.67 to \$245.81 per square foot, including land, which is above the subject's purchase price as well as its current market value. As such, the Board finds that a reduction in the subject's assessment based on overvaluation is not justified based on the evidence contained in the record.

The taxpayer also 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 Board finds the best evidence of assessment equity to be the board of review's comparable(s) #1 through #4, as they are most similar to the subject property in size, location, design and construction. Although the appellant indicated she was presenting an equity argument, no evidence was submitted to support this contention. The board of review's comparables had improvement assessments that ranged from \$17.19 to \$20.09 per square foot of living area. The subject's improvement assessment of \$17.30 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:

October 19, 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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