



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

APPELLANT: Paul & Tina Drake
DOCKET NO.: 18-39882.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 13-03-134-036-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Paul & Tina Drake, the appellants, 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 **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: \$11,932
IMPR.: \$36,059
TOTAL: \$47,991

Subject only to the State multiplier as applicable.

Statement of Jurisdiction

The appellants 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 multi-level, single-family dwelling of frame and masonry construction with 1,794 square feet of living area. The dwelling is 60 years old. Features include a partial basement with a formal recreation room, air conditioning, and a two-car garage. The property has a 7,458 square foot site and is located in Chicago, Jefferson Township, Cook County. The subject is classified as a class 2-34 property under the Cook County Real Property Assessment Classification Ordinance.

The taxpayers assert assessment inequity as a basis of the appeal. In support of this argument, the appellants submitted information on four suggested equity comparables. The taxpayers also assert that the market value of the subject property is not accurately reflected in its assessed valuation. The taxpayers submitted information on four suggested sales comparables in support of this argument.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" disclosing the total assessment for the subject of \$47,991. The subject property has an improvement assessment of \$36,059 or \$20.10 per square foot of living area. The subject property's assessment reflects a market value of \$479,910, land included, or \$267.51 per square foot of living area. In support of its contention of the correct assessment, the board of review submitted information on four suggested comparables. One was an equity comparable, and the others were both equity and sales comparables.

Conclusions of Law

The Illinois Constitution requires that real estate taxes "be levied uniformly by valuation ascertained as the General Assembly shall provide by law." Ill. Const., art. IX, § 4 (1970); *Walsh v. Property Tax Appeal Board*, 181 Ill. 2d 228, 234 (1998). This uniformity provision of the Illinois Constitution does not require absolute equality in taxation, however, and it is sufficient if the taxing authority achieves a reasonable degree of uniformity. *Peacock v. Property Tax Appeal Board*, 339 Ill. App. 3d 1060, 1070 (4th Dist. 2003).

When unequal treatment in the assessment process is a basis of the appeal, the inequity of the assessments must be proved by clear and convincing evidence. 86 Ill. Admin. Code §1910.63(e); *Walsh*, 181 Ill. 2d at 234 (1998). Clear and convincing evidence means more than a preponderance of the evidence, but it does not need to approach the degree of proof needed for a conviction of a crime. *Bazyldo v. Volant*, 164 Ill. 2d 207, 213 (1995). 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 appellants did not meet this burden of proof and a reduction in the subject's assessment is not warranted.

The Board finds that the best evidence of assessment equity is the board of review's comparables one, two, and three. Like the subject property, these comparables have multi-level, single-family residences of frame and masonry construction with air conditioning and partial basements with formal recreation rooms. The dwellings on these comparables are similar in age to the subject dwelling. These comparables are located within a quarter mile of the subject, and one is on the same block as the subject

These comparables had improvement assessments that ranged from \$19.65 to \$25.40 per square foot of living area. The subject's improvement assessment of \$20.10 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 appellants did not demonstrate with clear and convincing evidence that the subject's improvement was inequitably assessed, and a reduction in the subject's assessment on this basis is not justified.

The taxpayers also asserted that 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 taxpayer must prove the value of the property by a preponderance of the evidence. 86 Ill. Admin. Code §1910.63(e); *Winnebago County Bd. of Review v. Property Tax Appeal Bd.*, 313 Ill. App. 3d

1038, 1043 (2d Dist. 2000). 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 appellants did not meet this burden of proof and a reduction in the subject's assessment on this basis is not warranted.

The Board concludes that the best evidence of the subject's market value is the board of review's comparables two and three and the appellants' sales comparables two and three. Like the subject property, these comparables have multi-level, single-family dwellings of frame and masonry construction with central air conditioning, partial basements with formal recreation rooms, and garages of varying sizes.

These comparables sold between May 1, 2016, and June 29, 2017, for amounts ranging from \$201.27 to \$561.84 per square foot of living area, land included in the sale price. The subject property's assessment reflects a market value of \$479,910, land included, or \$267.51 per square foot of living area, which is within the range established by the best comparables in the record. Accordingly, the Board determines that the appellants have failed to establish by a preponderance of the evidence that the subject property was overvalued. Based on the evidence, the Board therefore finds that a reduction in the subject's assessment on this basis 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 20, 2022



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

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