

# FINAL ADMINISTRATIVE DECISION ILLINOIS PROPERTY TAX APPEAL BOARD

APPELLANT: Maureen McCarthy DOCKET NO.: 19-03689.001-R-1 16-29-308-002

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Maureen McCarthy, 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:** \$48,819 **IMPR.:** \$93,789 **TOTAL:** \$142,608

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 2019 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 wood siding exterior construction with 1,914 square feet of living area. The dwelling was constructed in 1958 and is approximately 61 years old. Features of the home include a partial basement with finished area, central air conditioning, a fireplace, and an attached garage with 420 square feet of building area. The property has approximately 9,226 square feet of land area and is located in Deerfield, West Deerfield Township, Lake County.

The appellant contends assessment inequity with respect to the improvement as the basis of the appeal. In support of this argument, the appellant submitted information on four suggested equity comparables located from .06 to 1.36 of a mile from the subject property and within the same assessment neighborhood code as the subject. The comparables are improved with one-story dwellings of brick or wood siding exterior construction that range in size from 1,428 to 2,485 square feet of living area. The dwellings range in age from 59 to 72 years old. Each comparable has a partial basement, one of which has finished area. Two comparables each have central air conditioning. Three comparables each have a fireplace. Each comparable has either an attached or detached garage ranging in size from 314 to 480 square feet of building area. The comparables have

improvement assessments that range from \$64,944 to \$97,994 or from \$35.14 to \$45.48 per square foot of living area. Based on this evidence, the appellant requested the subject's improvement assessment be reduced to \$79,957 or \$41.77 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 \$142,608. The subject property has an improvement assessment of \$93,789 or \$49.00 per square foot of living area. In support of its contention of the correct assessment the board of review submitted the subject's property record card and a grid analysis of five suggested equity comparables located within the same assessment neighborhood and from 0.25 to 0.65 of a mile from the subject property. The comparables are improved with one-story dwellings of brick, wood siding or brick and wood siding exterior construction ranging in size from 1,853 to 2,082 square feet of living area. The dwellings were built from 1953 to 1973<sup>1</sup>. Each comparable has either a full or partial basement with three comparables having finished area, one or two fireplaces, and either an attached or detached garage ranging in size from 480 to 625 square feet of building area. Four comparables each have central air conditioning. One comparable has a reinforced concrete swimming pool. The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$104,085 to \$140,898 or from \$50.39 to \$69.61 per square foot of living area. Based on this evidence, the board of review requested confirmation of the subject's assessment.

# **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 nine suggested comparables for the Board's consideration. The Board gave less weight to the appellants comparables #1, #3, and #4 along with board of review comparables #2 and #3 for differences in size and/or lack of basement finished area and central air conditioning when compared to the subject. The Board gave less weight to the board of review comparable #5 based on its reinforced concrete swimming pool that the subject lacks.

The Board finds the best evidence of assessment equity to be the parties' three remaining comparables as they are similar to the subject in size and some features. These comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$70,021 to \$130,575 or from \$43.01 to \$64.42 per square foot of living area. The subject's improvement assessment of \$93,789 or \$49.00 per square foot of living area falls within the range established by the best comparables in the record. Based on this record and after considering adjustments to the comparables for differences when compared to 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.

 $<sup>^{1}</sup>$  Comparables #2 and #3 were built in 1953 and 1954 and have effective ages of 1966 and 2004, respectively.

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.

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|             | Chairman       |
| a de R      | Robert Stoffen |
| Member      | Member         |
| Dan Dikinin | Swah Schler    |
| 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 19, 2022 |
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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 <u>PETITION AND EVIDENCE</u> 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**

State of Illinois Property Tax Appeal Board William G. Stratton Building, Room 402 401 South Spring Street Springfield, IL 62706-4001

## **APPELLANT**

Maureen McCarthy, by attorney: Robert Rosenfeld Robert H. Rosenfeld and Associates, LLC 33 North Dearborn Street Suite 1850 Chicago, IL 60602

# **COUNTY**

Lake County Board of Review Lake County Courthouse 18 North County Street, 7th Floor Waukegan, IL 60085