



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

APPELLANT: David Stafseth
DOCKET NO.: 19-05990.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 16-06-403-022

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are David Stafseth, 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 ***a reduction*** 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: \$114,492
IMPR.: \$125,341
TOTAL: \$239,833

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 two-story dwelling of brick exterior construction with 3,013 square feet of living area. The dwelling was constructed in 1986 and is approximately 33 years old. Features of the home include a concrete slab foundation, central air conditioning, two fireplaces and a 624 square foot attached garage. The property has a site with approximately 25,260 square feet of land area and is located in Lake Forest, 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 equity comparables located within the same assessment neighborhood code as the subject property. The comparables are improved with 1.8-story or 2-story dwellings of brick or wood siding exterior construction ranging in size from 2,660 to 3,335 square feet of living area. The dwellings are 40

or 42 years old. The appellant reported that each comparable has a concrete slab foundation, central air conditioning, one to three fireplaces and an attached garage that ranges in size from 539 to 624 square feet of building area. The comparables have improvement assessments that range from \$107,618 to \$138,149 or from \$40.46 to \$41.42 per square foot of living area. Based on this evidence, the appellant requested the subject's improvement assessment be reduced to \$106,328 or \$35.29 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 \$249,070. The subject property has an improvement assessment of \$134,578 or \$44.67 per square foot of living area. In support of its contention of the correct assessment, the board of review submitted information on three equity comparables located within the same assessment neighborhood code as the subject property. The comparables are improved with two-story dwellings of brick and wood siding exterior construction ranging in size from 2,918 to 3,124 square feet of living area. The dwellings were built from 1979 to 1988. The board of review reported that each comparable has a concrete slab foundation, central air conditioning, one or two fireplaces and an attached garage that ranges in size from 608 to 1,012 square feet of building area. Comparable #1 also has a 440 square foot detached garage. The comparables have improvement assessments that range from \$126,890 to \$145,764 or from \$42.23 to \$49.95 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 met this burden of proof and a reduction in the subject's assessment is warranted.

The record contains a total of seven suggested equity comparables for the Board's consideration. The Board gives less weight to the appellant's comparables #1 and #4 due to their dissimilar dwelling sizes when compared to the subject. The Board gives reduced weight to board of review comparable #1 as its attached garage is considerably larger in size when compared to the subject and it has an additional detached garage, unlike the subject. The Board finds the best evidence of assessment equity to be the appellant's comparables #2 and #3, along with board of review comparables #2 and #3. These comparables are relatively similar to the subject in location, dwelling size, design, age and most features. The comparables have improvement assessments that range from \$129,234 to \$131,918 or from \$40.91 to \$43.01 per square foot of living area. The subject's improvement assessment of \$134,578 or \$44.67 per square foot of living area falls above the range established by the best comparables in the record. After considering adjustments to the comparables for differences from the subject, the Board finds the subject's assessment is excessive. Therefore, based on this record, the Board finds the appellant demonstrated with clear and convincing evidence that the subject's improvement was inequitably assessed and a reduction in the subject's assessment is warranted.

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:

February 15, 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

AGENCY

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