



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

APPELLANT: Steve Keller
DOCKET NO.: 19-06171.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 16-23-102-008

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Steve Keller, 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: \$62,051
IMPR.: \$169,126
TOTAL: \$231,177

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 2-story dwelling of brick exterior construction with 3,284 square feet of living area. The dwelling was built in 1996 and is 23 years old. Features of the home include an unfinished basement, central air conditioning, one fireplace, and a 500 square foot garage. The property has approximately a 9,448 square foot site and is located in Highland Park, Moraine 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. The comparables are improved with 2-story, 2.5-story or 3-story dwellings of wood siding, brick, stucco, or Dryvit exterior construction that range in size from 3,488 to 6,316 square feet of living area and are 18 to 42 years old. The appellant reported each comparable has a basement with one having finished area. Other features of each comparable include central air conditioning,

one or three fireplaces, and a garage ranging in size from 576 to 1,369 square feet of building area. The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$174,659 to \$294,929 or from \$45.19 to \$50.07 per square foot of living area. Based on this evidence, the appellant requested a reduction in the subject's improvement assessment.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" disclosing the total assessment for the subject of \$238,762. The subject has an improvement assessment of \$176,711 or \$53.81 per square foot of living area. In support of its contention of the correct assessment the board of review submitted information on five equity comparables located within the same assessment neighborhood code as the subject. Board of review comparable #2 is a duplicate of appellant's comparable #4. The comparables are improved with 2-story dwellings of Dryvit or wood siding exterior construction that range in size from 3,234 to 3,632 square feet of living area and were built from 1988 to 2004. Each comparable has a basement with three having finished recreation rooms, central air conditioning, one to three fireplaces and a garage ranging in size from 420 to 580 square feet of building area. The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$136,339 to \$261,307 or from \$42.16 to \$71.95 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 appellant 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 a reduction in the subject's assessment is warranted based on the evidence in the record.

The parties submitted nine equity comparables for the Board's consideration. The Board gives less weight to appellant's comparables #1, #2, and #3 along with board of review comparables #1, #3 and #5 which have significantly larger dwelling sizes and/or basements with finished area when compared to the subject.

The Board finds the best evidence of assessment equity to be appellant's comparable #4 and board of review comparables #2 and #4 which includes the common comparable. These two comparables are overall more similar to the subject in location, age, style, dwelling size and features. These comparables have improvement assessments of \$174,659 and \$180,392 or for \$50.07 and \$50.89 per square foot of living area. The subject's improvement assessment of \$176,711 or \$53.81 per square foot of living area, falls within the range established by the best comparables in this record on an overall basis but higher on a square foot basis. Based on this evidence and after considering adjustments to the comparables for differences when compared to the subject, the Board finds the subject's improvement was inequitably assessed and a reduction in the subject's assessment is 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: March 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

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

APPELLANT

Steve Keller, 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