



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

APPELLANT: Peter Suttle  
DOCKET NO.: 19-06289.001-R-1  
PARCEL NO.: 16-25-404-022

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Peter Suttle, 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:** \$97,562  
**IMPR.:** \$129,831  
**TOTAL:** \$227,393

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 stone exterior construction with 3,333 square feet of living area. The dwelling was constructed in 1937 and has an effective age of 1946.<sup>1</sup> Features of the home include a basement, central air conditioning, two fireplaces, and an attached 437 square foot garage. The property has an approximately 11,884 square foot site and is located in Highland Park, Moraine Township, Lake County.

The appellant contends assessment inequity with respect to the improvement assessment as the basis of the appeal. In support of this argument the appellant submitted information on four equity comparables. The comparables are located from 0.21 to 0.57 of a mile from the subject property and within the same assessment neighborhood code as the subject property. The

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<sup>1</sup> Additional details regarding the subject property not reported by the appellant are found in the subject's property record card presented by the board of review.

comparables are improved with 2-story or 2.5-story homes of brick, stucco, or wood siding exterior construction ranging in size from 3,305 to 4,694 square feet of living area. The dwellings are from 91 to 105 years old. Each home has a basement, one of which has finished area, central air conditioning, and one or two fireplaces. Two of the comparables are reported have either a 380 or a 399 square foot attached garage and one of the comparables is reported to have an attached garage. The comparables have improvement assessment ranging from \$111,924 to \$164,346 or from \$32.15 to \$35.01 per square foot of living area. Based upon this evidence, the appellant requested the subject property's improvement assessment be reduced to \$113,238 or \$33.97 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 \$227,393. The subject property has an improvement assessment of \$129,831 or \$38.95 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. The comparables are located from 0.04 of a mile to 1.25 miles from the subject property and within the same assessment neighborhood code as the subject property. The comparables are improved with 2-story homes of brick, stone, or brick and stone exterior construction ranging in size from 2,958 to 3,644 square feet of living area. The dwellings were built from 1926 to 1958 with two comparables having effective ages of 1956 and 1972. Each home has a basement, one of which has a walkout-style basement and four of which each have a recreation room. Each home has central air conditioning, one or two fireplaces, and an attached garage ranging in size from 456 to 546 square feet of building area. The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$143,322 to \$188,786 or from \$41.27 to \$56.25 per square foot of living area. Based upon this evidence, the board of review requested confirmation of the subject property'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 the appellant did not meet this burden of proof and a reduction in the subject's assessment is not warranted.

The record contains a total of nine equity comparables for the Board's consideration. The Board gives less weight to the appellant's comparables, due to differences from the subject in dwelling size and/or design. Moreover, the appellant's comparable #1 lacks a garage which is a feature of the subject. The Board gives less weight to the board of review's comparables #3, #4, and #5, which are located more than one mile from the subject.

The Board finds the best evidence of assessment equity to be the board of review's comparables #1 and #2, which are relatively similar to the subject in dwelling size, location, and some features. These comparables have improvement assessments of \$150,372 and \$143,322 or

\$41.27 and \$48.45 per square foot of living area, respectively. The subject's improvement assessment of \$129,831 or \$38.95 per square foot of living area falls below the best comparables in this record. Based on this record and after considering appropriate adjustments to the best 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.

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:

April 19, 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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