



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

APPELLANT: Anthony Rusinak  
DOCKET NO.: 19-07357.001-R-1  
PARCEL NO.: 15-13-201-047

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Anthony Rusinak, 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:** \$102,583  
**IMPR.:** \$170,335  
**TOTAL:** \$272,918

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 brick exterior construction with 3,034 square feet of living area. The dwelling is 30 years old. Features of the home include an unfinished basement, central air conditioning, one fireplace, and a 667 square foot garage. The property has a 45,248 square foot site and is located in Lake Forest, Vernon 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 with the same assessment neighborhood code as the subject. The comparables are described as two-story dwellings of brick exterior construction ranging in size from 2,972 to 3,528 square feet of living area. The dwellings are 29 to 36 years old. Each comparable has an unfinished basement, central air conditioning, one or two fireplaces, and a garage ranging in size

from 682 to 792 square feet of building area. The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$130,627 to \$184,071 or from \$43.95 to \$52.91 per square foot of living area.

The appellant submitted a copy of the final decision of the board of review disclosing the property has a total assessment of \$272,918 and an improvement assessment of \$170,335 or \$56.14 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 did not submit its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" nor any evidence in support of its assessed valuation of the subject property and was found to be in default by letter dated July 1, 2021, from the Property Tax Appeal Board.

### **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 Board finds the only evidence of assessment equity to be the appellant's comparables which are dissimilar two-story dwellings when compared to the subject's one-story dwelling. Nevertheless, the Board gives less weight to appellant's comparable #4 due to its larger dwelling size when compared to the subject. The Board finds the best evidence of equity to be the appellant's remaining comparables which are relatively similar in location, dwelling size, age, and features. These comparables had improvement assessments that ranged from \$130,627 to \$173,972 or from \$43.95 to \$52.91 per square foot of living area. The subject's improvement assessment of \$170,335 or \$56.14 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. The higher improvement assessment per square foot is logical when considering the subject's one-story design, somewhat newer age, and larger basement. Therefore, the Board finds the appellant failed to prove by clear and convincing evidence that a reduction in the assessed valuation of the subject property 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:

May 17, 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

Anthony Rusinak, 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