



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

APPELLANT: Scott A. Root  
DOCKET NO.: 19-08078.001-R-1  
PARCEL NO.: 09-20-207-021

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Scott A. Root, the appellant, by attorney Brian S. Maher, of Weis, DuBrock, Doody & Maher in Chicago; and the DuPage 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 **DuPage** County Board of Review is warranted. The correct assessed valuation of the property is:

**LAND:** \$51,850  
**IMPR.:** \$52,360  
**TOTAL:** \$104,210

Subject only to the State multiplier as applicable.

**Statement of Jurisdiction**

The appellant timely filed the appeal from a decision of the DuPage 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 frame exterior construction with 1,200 square feet of living area. The dwelling was constructed in 1965. Features of the home include a basement, central air conditioning, two fireplaces and a 484 square foot garage. The property has a 10,947 square foot site and is located in Downers Grove, Downers Grove Township, DuPage 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 three suggested equity comparables located in the same neighborhood code as the subject property. The comparables were improved with one-story dwellings of frame exterior construction that ranged in size from 1,344 to 1,640 square feet of living area. The dwellings were built in 1965 or 1966. Two comparables have basements with finished area, two comparables have central air

conditioning, two comparables have a fireplace and each comparable has a garage that contains either 440 or 520 square feet of building area.<sup>1</sup> The comparables have improvement assessments that ranged from \$52,940 to \$63,710 or from \$37.80 to \$39.39 per square foot of living area. Based on this evidence, the appellant requested that the improvement assessment be reduced to \$46,488 or \$38.74 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 \$104,210. The subject property has an improvement assessment of \$52,360 or \$43.63 per square foot of living area.

In support of its contention of the correct assessment the board of review through the township assessor submitted property record cards and a grid analysis on six suggested equity comparables located in the same neighborhood code as the subject property. The comparables were improved with one-story dwellings of frame exterior construction ranging in size from 1,200 to 1,452 square feet of living area. The dwellings were built from 1965 to 1972. Each comparable has a basement with four comparables having finished area, five comparables have central air conditioning, four comparables have a fireplace and each comparable has a garage ranging in size from 200 to 520 square feet of building area. The comparables have improvement assessments that ranged from \$51,830 to \$64,760 or from \$43.19 to \$44.60 per square foot of living area. Based on this evidence, the board of review requests 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 equity comparables for the Board's consideration. The Board gave less weight to the appellant's comparables along with the board of review comparable #2 and #3 as these comparables are larger in dwelling size, lack a basement and/or lack central air conditioning when compared to the subject.

The Board finds the best evidence of assessment equity to be the board of review comparables #1, #4 through #6. These comparables are similar when compared to the subject in location, age, dwelling size, and some features. These comparables had improvement assessments that ranged from \$51,830 to \$59,970 or from \$43.19 to \$44.44 per square foot of living area. The subject's improvement assessment of \$52,360 or \$43.63 per square foot of living area falls within the range established by the best comparables in this record. Based on this record and after

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<sup>1</sup> Some of the descriptive information for the appellant's comparables was derived from the additional grid analysis and property record cards submitted by the board of review.

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.

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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