



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

APPELLANT: Cindy Leonard
DOCKET NO.: 19-08690.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 10-28-101-002

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Cindy Leonard, 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: \$42,171
IMPR.: \$134,142
TOTAL: \$176,313

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 is improved with a two-story dwelling of wood siding exterior construction containing 3,550 square feet of living area. The dwelling was built in 2004 and is approximately 15 years old. Features of the home include an unfinished full basement, central air conditioning, one fireplace and an attached garage with 1,066 square feet of building area. The property has a site with approximately 118,480 square feet or 2.72 acres of land and is located in Hawthorn Woods, Fremont 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 three equity comparables improved with two-story dwellings of wood siding or brick exterior construction ranging in size from 3,746 to 4,269 square feet of living area. The dwellings are 19 or 20 years old. Each comparable has a full or partial unfinished basement, central air conditioning, one

fireplace, and an attached garage ranging in size from 660 to 935 square feet of building area. The comparables have the same assessment neighborhood code as the subject property and are located within approximately .40 of one mile from the subject property. The improvement assessments on these properties range from \$128,126 to \$147,598 or from \$34.11 to \$34.84 per square foot of living area. The appellant requested the subject's improvement assessment be reduced to \$122,060.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" disclosing the total assessment for the subject of \$176,313. The subject property has an improvement assessment of \$134,142 or \$37.79 per square foot of living area.

In support of its contention of the correct assessment the board of review submitted a uniformity grid analysis containing information on five equity comparables improved with two-story dwellings of brick or wood siding and brick exterior construction ranging in size from 3,375 to 4,219 square feet of living area. The dwellings were built from 2001 to 2003. Each comparable has a full basement with one having finished area, central air conditioning, one or two fireplaces, and an attached garage ranging in size from 672 to 931 square feet of building area. The comparables have the same assessment neighborhood code as the subject property and are located within approximately .44 of one mile from the subject property. The improvement assessments on these properties range from \$124,110 to \$150,289 or from \$35.28 to \$37.95 per square foot of living area.

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 eight comparables submitted by the parties to support their respective positions. The comparables are similar to the subject property in location and improved with homes similar to the subject dwelling in style and age. The Board gives less weight to appellant's comparables #1 and #3 due to differences from the subject dwelling in size. The Board gives less weight to board of review comparable #4 and #5 due to differences from the subject dwelling in size. The Board also gives less weight to board of review comparable #1 as it has finished basement, unlike the subject's unfinished basement. The Board gives most weight to appellant's comparable #2 and board of review comparables #2 and #3 as these properties are most similar to the subject dwelling in size and features with the exception each has a smaller garage ranging in size from 660 to 734 square feet building area in relation to the subject's garage containing 1,066 square feet of building area. These comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$124,110 to \$138,088 or from \$34.20 to \$36.77 per square foot of living area. The subject's improvement assessment of \$134,142 or \$37.79 per square foot of living area is within overall range but slightly above the range on a per square foot basis as

established by the best comparables in this record but appears justified when considering the subject's larger garage. Based on this record 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: June 21, 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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COUNTY

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