



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

APPELLANT: Sofia Castillo
DOCKET NO.: 19-25566.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 16-20-412-030-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Sofia Castillo, the appellant(s), by attorney George N. Reveliotis, of Reveliotis Law, P.C. in Park Ridge; and the Cook 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 **Cook** County Board of Review is warranted. The correct assessed valuation of the property is:

LAND: \$3,534
IMPR.: \$10,985
TOTAL: \$14,519

Subject only to the State multiplier as applicable.

Statement of Jurisdiction

The appellant timely filed the appeal from a decision of the Cook 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 two-story dwelling with 2,628 square feet of living area of masonry construction. The dwelling was constructed in 1926. Features of the home include a full basement with a formal recreational room. The property has a 4,158 square foot site and is located in Cicero, Cicero Township, Cook County. The subject is classified as a class 2-11 property under the Cook County Real Property Assessment Classification Ordinance.

The appellant contends overvaluation and assessment inequity as the basis of the appeal. The appellant only checked the box for Comparable Sales but submitted evidence to support both an assessment inequity and overvaluation argument. In support of the overvaluation argument the appellant submitted information on four comparable sales. The comparable properties sold between June 2004 and January 2016 for prices ranging from \$82,000 to \$325,000 or \$32.89 to \$164.81 per square foot, including land.

The appellant also contends assessment inequity as the basis of the appeal. In support of this argument the appellant submitted information on six equity comparables of either masonry or frame and masonry construction. The improvement assessments ranged: in age from 94 to 104 years old; in size from 1,972 to 3,072 square feet of living area; and in improvement assessment from \$3.60 to \$4.17 per square foot of living area. Based on this evidence, the appellant arrived at a requested assessment for the subject of \$11,456.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" disclosing the total assessment for the subject of \$14,519 with an improvement assessment of \$10,985 or \$4.18 per square foot of living area. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$145,190 or \$55.25 per square foot of living area, including land, when applying the level of assessment for class 2 property under the Cook County Real Property Assessment Classification Ordinance of 10% as determined by the Illinois Department of Revenue.

In support of its contention of the correct assessment the board of review submitted information on four equity comparables, all reflecting sales data. The improvement assessments ranged: in age from 93 to 99 years old; in size from 2,305 to 2,783 square feet of living area; and in improvement assessment from \$4.95 to \$5.68 per square foot of living area. The sales occurred between March 2016 and September 2018. The comparable properties ranged: in price between \$130,000 to \$270,000; and in sale price per square foot between \$56.40 to \$104.09, including land.

Conclusion of Law

The appellant contends the market value of the subject property is not accurately reflected in its assessed valuation. When market value is the basis of the appeal the value of the property must be proved by a preponderance of the evidence. 86 Ill.Admin.Code §1910.63(e). Proof of market value may consist of an appraisal of the subject property, a recent sale, comparable sales, or construction costs. 86 Ill.Admin.Code §1910.65(c). 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 best evidence of market value to be *the board of review comparable sales #2, #3, and #4*. These comparable sales were given greater weight due to their size relative to the subject. These comparable properties sold between March 2016 and September 2018 for prices ranging from \$61.09 to \$104.09 per square foot of living area, including land. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$55.25 per square foot of living area, including land, which is below the range established by the best comparable sales in this record. Based on this evidence the Board finds a reduction in the subject's assessment *is not* justified.

The taxpayer also 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 best evidence of assessment equity to be *the board of review's comparables #2, #3, and #4*. These comparables were given greater weight due to their size relative to the subject. These comparables had improvement assessments ranging of \$4.96 to \$5.68 per square foot of building area. In comparison the subject's improvement assessment of \$4.18 per square foot of building area is below the range of the best comparables in this record. 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 improvements *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: July 18, 2023



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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