



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

APPELLANT: Jerry Graunke
DOCKET NO.: 19-47795.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 14-32-227-026-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Jerry Graunke, the appellant, by attorney Robert Rosenfeld, of Robert H. Rosenfeld & Associates, LLC in Chicago; 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: \$22,935
IMPR.: \$98,585
TOTAL: \$121,520

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 2-story townhome of masonry exterior construction with 2,464 square feet of living area. The home is approximately 130 years old. Features of the home include an unfinished basement, central air conditioning, two fireplaces, and a 1.5-car garage. The property has a 2,085 square foot site and is located in Chicago, North Chicago Township, Cook County. The subject is classified as a class 2-10 property under the Cook County Real Property Assessment Classification Ordinance.

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 neighborhood code as the subject. The comparables are improved with 2-story or 3-story¹ class 2-10 townhomes of masonry exterior construction that range in size

¹ The appellant's comparables' story height was gleaned from the photographic evidence presented by the appellant.

from 2,102 to 2,792 square feet of living area. The comparables range in age from 94 to 140 years old. Each comparable has a basement with three having finished area, central air conditioning, and one or two fireplaces. Two comparables each have a 1-car or a 2-car garage. The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$66,673 to \$90,171 or from \$30.61 to \$35.56 per square foot of living area. Based on this evidence, the appellant requested that the subject's improvement assessment be reduced to \$80,080 or \$32.50 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 \$121,520. The subject property has an improvement assessment of \$98,585 or \$40.01 per square foot of living area. In support of its contention of the correct assessment, the board of review submitted information on four equity comparables with the same neighborhood code as the subject. In addition, two comparables are located on the same block and street as the subject property. The comparables are improved with 2-story or 3-story class 2-10 townhomes of masonry exterior construction that range in size from 1,760 to 2,826 square feet of living area. The comparables are 130 or 140 years old. Three comparables each have a basement with one having finished area and one comparable has a concrete slab foundation. Three comparables each have central air conditioning and one to five fireplaces. Three comparables each have a 1-car or a 2-car garage. The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$79,200 to \$124,020 or from \$43.89 to \$45.30 per square foot of living area. Based on this evidence, the board of review requested the subject's assessment be confirmed.

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 eight suggested comparables for the Board's consideration. The Board gives less weight to the appellant's comparables and board of review comparables #3 and #4 which differ from the subject in design/story height, basement finish, and/or foundation type.

The Board finds the best evidence of assessment equity to be board of review comparables #1 and #2 which are located on the same block and street as the subject as well as being similar to the subject in age with varying degrees of similarity in other features. Each of these comparables is a smaller dwelling than the subject. Nevertheless, the comparables have improvement assessments of \$79,200 and \$85,254 or of \$45.00 and \$45.30 per square foot of living area, respectively. The subject's improvement assessment of \$98,585 or \$40.01 per square foot of living area falls above the improvement assessments of the two best comparables in this record on an overall basis but below on a per square foot basis. The subject's improvement assessment is logical considering its larger dwelling and garage sizes as well as having superior features

when compared to the two best comparables. Based on this record and after considering adjustments to the two best comparables for differences from 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 improvement assessment based on inequity is not 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: June 27, 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

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