



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

APPELLANT: Stuart Levin  
DOCKET NO.: 20-01959.001-R-1  
PARCEL NO.: 16-35-403-017

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Stuart Levin, 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:** \$55,657  
**IMPR.:** \$78,805  
**TOTAL:** \$134,462

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 2020 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 dwelling of wood siding exterior construction with 1,739 square feet of living area. The dwelling was constructed in 1981 and is 39 years old. Features of the home include an unfinished basement and a 462 square foot garage. The property has an approximately 17,080 square foot site and is located in Highland Park, Moraine 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 located within the same assessment neighborhood code as the subject property. The comparables are improved with 1.75-story or 2-story dwellings of brick or wood siding exterior construction ranging in size from 2,010 to 2,458 square feet of living area. The dwellings range in age from 42 to 69 years old. The appellant reported the comparables have basements, one of

which has finished area. Other features include central air conditioning and garages that range in size from 441 to 575 square feet of building area. Three comparables each have a fireplace. The comparables have improvement assessments that range from \$85,678 to \$99,060 or from \$38.65 to \$42.63 per square foot of living area. Based on this evidence, the appellant requested the subject's improvement assessment be reduced to \$71,994.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" disclosing the total assessment for the subject of \$134,462. The subject property has an improvement assessment of \$78,805 or \$45.32 per square foot of living area.

In support of its contention of the correct assessment, the board of review submitted information on three equity comparables located within the same assessment neighborhood code as the subject property. The comparables are improved with 1.5-story or 2-story dwellings of wood siding or brick and wood siding exterior construction ranging in size from 1,604 to 2,272 square feet of living area. The dwellings were built from 1981 to 1987. Comparable #1 has a reported effective age of 1994. Each comparable has a basement with two having a recreation room, central air conditioning, one fireplace, and a garage that ranges in size from 418 to 528 square feet of building. The comparables have improvement assessments that range from \$82,526 to \$103,703 or from \$45.64 to \$53.26 per square foot of living area. Based on this evidence, the board of review requested 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 record contains a total of seven suggested equity comparables for the Board's consideration. The Board gives less weight to the appellant's comparables and to board of review comparable #2 due to differences in dwelling size or age when compared to the subject. The Board finds the best evidence of assessment equity to be comparables #1 and #3 submitted by the board of review. These comparables are more similar to the subject in dwelling size and age. However, both comparables have central air conditioning and one comparable has a recreation room in the basement which are not features of the subject. Nevertheless, these comparables have improvement assessments of \$82,526 and \$85,427 or \$50.26 and \$53.26 per square foot of living area. The subject's improvement assessment of \$78,805 or \$45.32 per square foot of living area falls below the two best comparables in the record. Based on this record and after considering adjustments to the best comparables for differences including features 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:

October 18, 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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Property Tax Appeal Board  
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**APPELLANT**

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**COUNTY**

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