



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

APPELLANT: Ken Bloom  
DOCKET NO.: 20-02107.001-R-1  
PARCEL NO.: 16-36-302-042

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Ken Bloom, 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 **A Reduction** 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:** \$78,348  
**IMPR.:** \$134,316  
**TOTAL:** \$212,664

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 two-story dwelling of brick and wood siding exterior construction with 3,444 square feet of living area. The dwelling was constructed in 1965 and is approximately 55 years old. Features of the home include a full unfinished basement, central air conditioning, a fireplace, and a garage containing 616 square feet of building area. The property has an approximately 15,640 square foot site and is located in Highland Park, Moraine Township, Lake County.

The appellant contends assessment inequity concerning the improvement as the basis of the appeal. In support of this argument the appellant submitted information on four equity comparables located in the same neighborhood code as the subject property. The comparables consist of two-story dwellings of brick exterior construction ranging in size from 3,491 to 3,810 square feet of living area. The homes are 50 to 55 years old. Each dwelling has central air

conditioning, an unfinished basement, a fireplace, a garage ranging in size from 462 to 640 square feet of building area. The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$123,962 to \$147,350 or from \$35.51 to \$39.14 per square foot of living area. Based on this evidence, the appellant requested a reduced improvement assessment of \$130,553 or \$37.91 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 \$253,037. The subject property has an improvement assessment of \$174,689 or \$50.72 per square foot of living area. In support of its contention of the correct assessment the board of review submitted information on five equity comparables that are located in the same assessment neighborhood code as the subject property. The comparables consist of two-story dwellings of brick, stucco, or wood siding exterior construction that were built from 1963 to 1978 with effective ages ranging from 1963 to 1991. The homes range in size from 3,204 to 3,742 square feet of living area. Each dwelling has central air conditioning, a fireplace, and a garage ranging in size from 512 to 702 square feet of building area. Each of the comparables has a basement, four of which have finished area. Comparable #3 has an inground swimming pool. The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$187,004 to \$203,608 or from \$54.15 to \$58.37 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 met this burden of proof and a reduction in the subject's assessment is warranted.

The parties submitted a total of nine equity comparables to support their respective positions before the Property Tax Appeal Board. The Board has given reduced weight to the board of review's comparables due to their newer effective ages, finished basement area, and/or inground swimming pool when compared to the subject.

The Board finds the best evidence of assessment equity to be the appellant's comparables which are more similar to the subject in age, dwelling size, location, and features. These comparables had improvement assessments that ranged from \$123,962 to \$147,350 or from \$35.51 to \$39.14 per square foot of living area. The subject's improvement assessment of \$174,689 or \$50.72 per square foot of living area falls above the range established by the best comparables in this record. Based on this record and after considering adjustments to the best comparables for differences, the Board finds the appellant did demonstrate with clear and convincing evidence that the subject's improvement was inequitably assessed and a reduction in the subject's assessment is 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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COUNTY

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