



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

APPELLANT: Steve & Stacy Zendel
DOCKET NO.: 20-02143.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 16-25-105-029

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Steve & Stacy Zendel, the appellants, 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: \$115,171
IMPR.: \$116,280
TOTAL: \$231,451

Subject only to the State multiplier as applicable.

Statement of Jurisdiction

The appellants 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 brick exterior construction with 3,230 square feet of living area. The dwelling was constructed in 1964 and is approximately 56 years old. Features of the home include a full basement, central air conditioning, a fireplace and a 484 square foot garage. The property has an approximately 15,690 square foot site and is located in Highland Park, Moraine Township, Lake County.

The appellants contend assessment inequity with regard to the improvement as the basis of the appeal. In support of this argument the appellants submitted information on four equity comparables located within the same assessment neighborhood code as the subject property. The comparables are improved with 2-story homes of brick or wood siding exterior construction ranging in size from 2,745 to 3,444 square feet of living area. The dwellings range in age from 49 to 94 years old. Each home has a full basement, two of which have finished area, central air

conditioning, one or two fireplaces, and a garage ranging in size from 440 to 720 square feet of building area. The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$85,766 to \$120,740 or from \$31.24 to \$35.06 per square foot of living area.

Based on this evidence the appellant requested a reduction in the subject's improvement assessment.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" disclosing the total assessment for the subject of \$231,451. The subject property has an improvement assessment of \$116,280 or \$36.00 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 located within the same assessment neighborhood code as the subject property. The comparables are improved with 2-story homes of stone, brick and wood siding, or brick and vinyl siding exterior construction ranging in size from 3,008 to 3,582 square feet of living area. The dwellings were built from 1951 to 1968 with comparables #1, #3, and #5 having effective ages ranging from 1971 to 1998. Four homes have a full basement with finished area and one home has a concrete slab foundation. Each home has central air conditioning and one or two fireplaces. Four comparables each have a garage ranging in size from 440 to 504 square feet of building area. The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$129,023 to \$225,487 or from \$40.68 to \$66.01 per square foot of living area.

Based on this evidence the board of review requested confirmation of the subject's improvement assessment.

Conclusion of Law

The appellants contend 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 appellants did not meet this burden of proof and a reduction in the subject's assessment is not warranted.

The record contains a total of nine equity comparables for the Board's consideration. The Board gives less weight to the appellant's comparables and the board of review's comparables #1, #2, and #3, due to substantial differences from the subject in dwelling size, age/effective age, foundation type, and/or garage amenity.

The Board finds the best evidence of assessment equity to be the board of review's comparables #4, and #5, which are similar to the subject in dwelling size, age/effective age, location, and some features, although these comparables have finished basement area unlike the subject, suggesting that downward adjustments to these comparables would be needed to make them more similar to the subject. These comparables have improvement assessments of \$129,023 and \$147,556 or \$40.68 and \$43.30 per square foot of living area, respectively. The subject's

improvement assessment of \$116,280 or \$36.00 per square foot of living area falls below the best comparables in this record. Based on this record and after considering appropriate adjustments to the best comparables for differences when compared to the subject, such as finished basement area, the Board finds the appellants 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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