



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

APPELLANT: Todd Cohan  
DOCKET NO.: 20-02396.001-R-1  
PARCEL NO.: 15-33-212-052

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Todd Cohan, the appellant, by Jessica Hill-Magiera, Attorney at Law in Lake Zurich; 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:** \$46,881  
**IMPR.:** \$106,579  
**TOTAL:** \$153,460

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 with wood siding containing 2,561 square feet of living area. The dwelling was constructed in 1989. Features of the home include an unfinished basement, central air conditioning and an attached 462 square foot garage. The property has a 9,740 square foot site and is located in Buffalo Grove, Vernon Township, Lake County.

The appellant contends overvaluation as the basis of the appeal. In support of this argument the appellant submitted information on four comparable sales that are located from .02 to .06 of a mile from the subject. The comparables have sites ranging in size from 9,287 to 14,578 square feet of land area that are improved with two-story dwellings containing 2,577 or 3,061 square feet of living area. The dwellings were built in 1989. The comparables have unfinished basements, central air conditioning, a fireplace and a 462 or 484 square foot garage. The

comparables sold from November 2019 to August 2020 for prices ranging from \$461,000 to \$485,000 or from \$150.60 to \$180.44 per square foot of living area, including land.

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

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" disclosing the total assessment for the subject of \$159,262. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$478,408 or \$186.81 per square foot of living area, land included, when using the 2020 three-year average median level of assessment for Lake County of 33.29% as determined by the Illinois Department of Revenue.

In support of its contention of the correct assessment the board of review submitted information on three comparable sales that are located .07 or .29 of a mile from the subject, in addition to information on the appellant's comparables. The comparables have sites ranging in size from 9,236 to 11,750 square feet of land area that are improved with two-story or split-level dwellings containing from 2,199 to 3,061 square feet of living area. The dwellings were built in 1989. The comparables have basements, two of which have finished area, central air conditioning, one or two fireplaces and an attached garage ranging in size from 462 to 528 square feet of building area. The comparables sold in May or September 2018 for prices ranging from \$510,000 to \$573,500 or from \$187.36 to \$241.93 per square foot of living area, including land.

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

The appellant submitted rebuttal critiquing the board of review's submission. The appellant argued the appellant's comparables support a request to lower the subject's market value to \$403,686 or \$157.63 per square foot of living area, including land, based on the comparables' median sale prices.

### **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 met this burden of proof and a reduction in the subject's assessment is warranted.

The parties submitted a total of seven comparable sales for the Board's consideration. The Board gives less weight to the board of review's comparables due to their sale date occurring greater than 15 months prior to the January 1, 2020 assessment date at issue. The Board finds the appellant's comparables are similar to the subject in location, style, age and some features. However, three of the appellant's comparables have significantly smaller dwellings, in addition to smaller basements, when compared to the subject. Nevertheless, the appellant's comparables sold from November 2019 to August 2020 for prices ranging from \$461,000 to \$485,000 or from \$150.60 to \$180.44 per square foot of living area, including land. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$478,408 or \$186.81 per square foot of living area, including land, which falls within the range established by the best comparable sales in the record on a total

market value basis but slightly above the range on a square foot basis. However, after considering adjustments to the best comparables for differences when compared to the subject, the Board finds the subject's higher per square foot estimated market value as reflected by its assessment is slightly excessive. Based on this evidence the Board finds 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: \_\_\_\_\_

November 22, 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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APPELLANT

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COUNTY

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