



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

APPELLANT: Greg Schlax  
DOCKET NO.: 20-02891.001-R-1  
PARCEL NO.: 12-28-309-024

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Greg Schlax, 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:** \$91,459  
**IMPR.:** \$140,184  
**TOTAL:** \$231,643

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 stucco exterior construction with 2,401 square feet of living area. The dwelling was constructed in 1996 and is approximately 24 years old. Features of the home include a basement with finished area, central air conditioning, two fireplaces, and a 528 square foot garage. The property has a 10,550 square foot site and is located in Lake Forest, Shields Township, Lake County.

The appellant contends overvaluation as the basis of the appeal. In support of this argument the appellant submitted information on three comparable sales located in the same neighborhood code as the subject property. The comparables consist of 2-story dwellings of wood siding exterior construction ranging in size from 2,448 to 2,820 square feet of living area. The homes are 23 to 34 years old. Each dwelling has central air conditioning, a fireplace, a basement with two having finished area, and a garage ranging in size from 441 to 484 square feet of building

area. The parcels range in size from 9,147 to 10,876 square feet of land area. The comparables sold from December 2018 to February 2020 for prices ranging from \$665,000 to \$785,000 or from \$270.97 to \$278.37 per square foot of living area, including land. Based on this evidence, the appellant requested a reduced assessment of \$219,051.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" disclosing the total assessment for the subject of \$231,643. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$695,834 or \$289.81 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 four comparable sales, two of which are located in the same neighborhood code as the subject. The comparables consist of 1.5 or 2-story dwellings of brick, stucco or wood siding exterior construction ranging in size from 2,270 to 2,726 square feet of living area. The dwellings were built from 1895 to 1994 with comparable #2 having an effective age of 1950. Each dwelling has central air conditioning, one to three fireplaces, a basement with finished area, and a garage ranging in size from 360 or 672 square feet of building area. Comparable #2 has a finished attic. The parcels range in size from 6,800 to 10,920 square feet of land area. The comparables sold from March 2019 to October 2020 for prices ranging from \$757,000 to \$895,000 or from \$291.64 to \$356.86 per square foot of living area, including land. Based on this evidence, the board of review requested confirmation of the subject's assessment.

### **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 did not meet this burden of proof and a reduction in the subject's assessment is not warranted.

The parties submitted a total of seven comparable sales to support their respective positions before the Property Tax Appeal Board. The Board has given reduced weight to appellant's comparable #3 due to its unfinished basement and less proximate sale date for valuation as of January 1, 2020. The Board also gives reduced weight to board of review comparables #2, #3, and #4 due to their significantly older ages and/or finished attic when compared to the subject.

The Board finds the best evidence of market value to be appellant's comparable sales #1 and #2 along with board of review comparable sale #1 which are more similar to the subject in age, dwelling size, and features. These most similar comparables sold for prices ranging from \$665,000 to \$795,000 or from \$270.97 to \$291.64 per square foot of living area, including land. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$695,834 or \$289.81 per square foot of living area, including land, which is within the range established by the best comparable sales in this record. Based on this evidence and after considering adjustments to the best comparables for differences, the Board finds 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:

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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