



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

APPELLANT: Susan Buttler  
DOCKET NO.: 20-02982.001-R-1  
PARCEL NO.: 07-18-404-005

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Susan Buttler, 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:** \$30,784  
**IMPR.:** \$119,021  
**TOTAL:** \$149,805

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 and brick exterior construction with 3,332 square feet of living area. The dwelling was constructed in 1995. Features of the home include a full basement, that has finished area, central air conditioning, a fireplace and an attached 762 square foot garage. The property has an approximately 15,680 square foot site and is located in Gurnee, Warren 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 .11 to .48 of a mile from the subject. The comparables have sites ranging in size from 10,454 to 16,117 square feet of land area that are improved with 2-story dwellings of wood siding exterior construction ranging in size from 3,156 to 3,989 square feet of living area. The dwellings were built from 1994 to 2002. The comparables have full basements, one of which has finished area, central air

conditioning, a fireplace and an attached garage ranging in size from 440 to 782 square feet of building area. The comparables sold from October 2018 to April 2019 for prices ranging from \$300,000 to \$495,000 or from \$95.06 to \$124.09 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 \$162,682. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$488,681 or \$146.66 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 five comparable sales that are located from .02 to .39 of a mile from the subject. The comparables have sites ranging in size from 10,020 to 14,370 square feet of land area that are improved with 2-story dwellings of wood siding exterior construction ranging in size from 3,051 to 3,247 square feet of living area. The dwellings were built from 1995 to 2003. The comparables have full basements, three of which have finished area, central air conditioning, one or two fireplaces, and an attached garage ranging in size from 570 to 903 square feet of building area. The comparables sold from August 2019 to October 2020 for prices ranging from \$447,000 to \$474,900 or from \$137.67 to \$154.70 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 met this burden of proof and a reduction in the subject's assessment is warranted.

The parties submitted a total of nine comparable sales for the Board's consideration. The Board gives less weight to the appellant's comparables, as well as the board of review's comparables #1 and #2, due to their lack of finished basement area and/or their difference in dwelling size when compared to the subject. In addition, the appellant's comparables #3 and #4 have sale dates occurring greater than 13 months prior to the January 1, 2020 assessment date at issue. The Board finds the board of review's remaining comparables are similar to the subject in location, style, age, size and most features. The best comparables sold from March to October 2020 for prices ranging from \$447,000 to \$455,000 or from \$137.67 to \$143.58 per square foot of living area, including land. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$488,681 or \$146.66 per square foot of living area, including land, which falls above the range established by the best comparables in the record. After considering adjustments to the best comparables for differences when compared to the subject, the Board finds the subject's estimated market value as reflected by its assessment is excessive. Based on this evidence the Board finds a reduction in the subject's assessment is warranted.

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

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: January 17, 2023



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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