



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

APPELLANT: Mark Koller  
DOCKET NO.: 20-04092.001-R-1  
PARCEL NO.: 16-08-211-012

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Mark Koller, the appellant, by attorney Eric Feldman, of Eric Feldman & Assoc. P.C. 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:** \$78,573  
**IMPR.:** \$114,403  
**TOTAL:** \$192,976

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 exterior construction with 2,978 square feet of living area. The dwelling was built in 1986. Features of the home include a basement, central air conditioning, one fireplace, and a 506 square foot attached garage. The property has an approximately 16,700 square feet of land area and is located in Lake Forest, West Deerfield Township, Lake County.

The appellant contends overvaluation as the basis of the appeal. In support of this argument, the appellant submitted information on five comparable sales with the same assessment neighborhood code as the subject property and located within 0.35 of a mile from the subject. The comparables have sites with 13,500 or 15,000 square feet of land area. The appellant reported that the comparables are improved with 2-story dwellings of wood siding exterior construction ranging in size from 2,821 to 3,511 square feet of living area. The dwellings were

built from 1985 to 1991 with comparable #2 having an effective year built of 1991. The appellant reported that each comparable has a basement with two having finished area, central air conditioning, one fireplace, and a 420 to 529 square foot attached garage. The properties sold from September 2019 to May 2020 for prices ranging from \$495,000 to \$700,000 or from \$170.69 to \$205.96 per square foot of living area, land included.

Based on this evidence, the appellant requested the subject's assessment be reduced to \$192,976, which would reflect a market value of \$578,986 or \$194.42 per square foot of living area, including land, when using the statutory level of assessment of 33.33%.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" disclosing the total assessment for the subject of \$232,031 reflecting a market value of \$696,999 or \$234.05 per square foot of living area, including land, 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 the subject's assessment, the board of review submitted information on five comparable sales with three having the same assessment neighborhood code as the subject property and located within 0.72 of a mile from the subject. The comparables have sites ranging from 13,400 to 60,550 square feet of land area. The board of review reported that the comparables are improved with 2-story dwellings of brick, wood siding, or brick and wood siding exterior construction ranging in size from 2,518 to 3,567 square feet of living area. The dwellings were built from 1972 to 1995. The board of review reported that each comparable has an unfinished basement, central air conditioning, and a 572 to 1,116 square foot attached garage. Four comparables each have one or three fireplaces. Comparable #5 has an inground swimming pool. The properties sold from May to September 2020 for prices ranging from \$724,400 to \$842,500 or from \$203.08 to \$315.73 per square foot of living area, land included. 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 record contains ten comparable sales for the Board's consideration. The Board gives less weight to the appellant's comparables #2 and #5 which differ from the subject in dwelling size and/or have basement finish, not a feature of the subject. The Board gives less weight to the board of review comparables which differ from the subject in age, lot size, and/or dwelling size. Additionally, board of review comparable #5 has an inground swimming pool, not a feature of the subject.

The Board finds the best evidence of market value to be the appellant's three remaining comparables which are more similar to the subject in location, design, age, dwelling size, and most features. These three properties sold from September 2019 to March 2020 for prices

ranging from \$495,000 to \$650,000 or from \$170.69 to \$205.96 per square foot of living area, land included. The subject's assessment reflects an estimated market value of \$696,999 or \$234.05 per square foot of living area, land included, which falls above the range of the best comparable sales in the record and is excessive. Based on the record and after considering adjustments to the best comparables for differences from the subject, the Board finds the subject's estimated market value as reflected by its assessment is supported and a reduction in the subject's assessment commensurate with the appellant's request 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: February 21, 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

State of Illinois  
Property Tax Appeal Board  
William G. Stratton Building, Room 402  
401 South Spring Street  
Springfield, IL 62706-4001

APPELLANT

Mark Koller, by attorney:  
Eric Feldman  
Eric Feldman & Assoc. P.C.  
123 W. Madison St.  
Suite 1704  
Chicago, IL 60602

COUNTY

Lake County Board of Review  
Lake County Courthouse  
18 North County Street, 7th Floor  
Waukegan, IL 60085