



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

APPELLANT: Richard Wetherald
DOCKET NO.: 20-04210.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 12-31-205-001

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Richard Wetherald, the appellant, by attorney Ronald Kingsley, of Lake County Real Estate Tax Appeal, LLC in Lake Forest; 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: \$110,854
IMPR.: \$162,470
TOTAL: \$273,324

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 brick and wood siding exterior construction with 3,418 square feet of living area. The dwelling was constructed in 1964. Features of the home include an unfinished basement, central air conditioning, a fireplace, an attached 529 square foot garage, a detached 672 square foot garage and an inground swimming pool. The property has a 41,160 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 grid analyses on seven comparable sales located within the same assessment neighborhood code as the subject and from 0.23 to 0.95 of a mile from the subject property. The comparables have sites ranging in size from 20,168 to 77,972 square feet of land area that are improved with 1-story, 1.5-story, 1.75-story or 2-story dwellings that range in size from 2,921 to 4,027 square feet of living area. The dwellings were built from 1964 to 1987. The comparables

each have a basement.¹ Each of the comparables has central air conditioning, one fireplace and a garage ranging in size from 506 to 1,240 square feet of building area. The properties sold from May 2019 to July 2020 for prices ranging from \$530,000 to \$927,500 or from \$169.57 to \$254.60 per square foot of living area, including land. Based on this evidence, the appellant requested the subject's assessment be reduced to \$232,401, which would reflect a market value of \$697,273 or \$204.00 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 \$273,324. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$821,039 or \$240.21 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 located within the same assessment neighborhood code as the subject and from 0.10 to 0.80 of a mile from the subject property. The board of review's comparable #5 is the same property as the appellant's comparable #6. The comparables have sites ranging in size from 23,270 to 49,120 square feet of land area that are improved with 2-story dwellings of brick or wood siding exterior construction ranging in size from 2,921 to 3,357 square feet of living area. The dwellings were built from 1957 to 1968. Each comparable has a full or partial basement, three of which has finished area, central air conditioning, one fireplace and a garage ranging in size from 506 to 759 square feet of building area. The properties sold from April 2019 to October 2020 for prices ranging from \$674,500 to \$799,000 or from \$223.41 to \$266.96 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 record contains a total of eleven comparable properties for the Board's consideration, with one common comparable. The Board gave less weight to the appellant's comparables #1, #2, #4, #6 and #7, which includes the parties common comparable for their dissimilar design, age, and/or dwelling size when compared to the subject.

The Board finds the best evidence of market value to be the appellant's comparables #3 and #5 along with the board of review comparables #1 through #4, which are relatively similar to the

¹ The MLS listing sheet for comparable #1, provided by the appellant, revealed the dwelling has basement finished area.

subject in location, dwelling size, design, age, and some features. However, the Board finds none of the comparables have an inground swimming pool or additional garage like the subject. Nevertheless, these comparables sold from October 2019 to October 2020 for prices ranging from \$560,000 to \$799,000 or from \$185.19 to \$266.96 per square foot of living area, including land. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$821,039 or \$240.21 per square foot of living area, including land, which is greater than the best comparable sales in terms of total market value but is below the best comparables on a price per square foot basis. The subject's higher overall market value appears to be logical given its inground swimming pool feature and additional garage. Based on this evidence and after considering appropriate adjustments to the best comparables for differences from the subject, such as foundation type and dwelling size, 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: March 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

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