



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

APPELLANT: Nancy Smith  
DOCKET NO.: 20-04225.001-R-2  
PARCEL NO.: 12-29-201-003

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Nancy Smith, 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:** \$402,601  
**IMPR.:** \$485,667  
**TOTAL:** \$888,268

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 exterior construction with 6,647 square feet of living area. The dwelling was constructed in 1940. Features of the home include a basement finished with a recreation room, central air conditioning, five fireplaces, and a 511 square foot garage.<sup>1</sup> The property has a 178,160 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 information on five comparable sales located from .54 to 2.37 miles from the subject property. The comparables have sites ranging in size from 49,223 to 69,696 square feet of land area and are improved with 1.75-story or 2-story dwellings ranging in size from 5,802 to

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<sup>1</sup> The Board finds the best description of the subject property was found in the property record card presented by the board of review.

7,734 square feet of living area. The dwellings were constructed from 1908 to 1998 with comparable #5 having an effective year built of 1930. Each comparable has an unfinished basement, central air conditioning, one fireplace and a garage ranging in size from 768 to 1,248 square feet of building area. The comparables sold from May 2019 to January 2020 for prices ranging from \$1,510,000 to \$2,600,000 or from \$90.71 to \$124.32 per square foot of living area, land included. 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 \$888,268. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$2,668,273 or \$401.43 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 from .99 to 1.21 miles from the subject. These properties have sites ranging in size from 29,180 to 242,630 square feet of land area and are improved with 1-story, 2-story or 2.5-story dwellings of brick, wood siding, or brick and wood siding exterior construction ranging in size from 5,322 to 7,845 square feet of living area and were built from 1925 to 1990 with comparable #1 having an effective year built of 1953. Each comparable has a basement, three of which are finished with a recreation room, central air conditioning, two to nine fireplaces and a garage ranging in size from 420 to 1,000 square feet of building area. Comparable #2 has a greenhouse. Comparables #3, #4 and #5 each have an inground swimming pool. The comparables sold from August 2019 to November 2020 for prices ranging from \$2,200,000 to \$3,975,000 or from \$404.20 to \$534.61 per square foot of living area, land included. Based on this evidence, the board of review requested that the subject's assessment be confirmed.

### **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 not warranted.

The record contains ten comparable sales for the Board's consideration, none of which are truly similar to the subject due to differences in location, site size, style, age and/or dwelling size. Nevertheless, the Board gives less weight to the appellant's comparables #1 and #4 as well as board of review comparables #1, #3, #4 and #5 due to differences from the subject dwelling in size, style, or age.

The Board finds the best evidence of market value to be appellant's comparables #2 and #3 along with board of review comparable #2. These comparables are overall more similar to the subject dwelling in style, age and size with varying degrees of similarity in features. These comparables sold from May 2019 to November 2020 for prices ranging from \$1,740,000 to \$3,900,000 or

from \$299.90 to \$534.61 per square foot of living area, including land. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$2,668,273 or \$401.43 per square foot of living area, including land, which is within the range established by the best comparable sales 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 supported. Based on this evidence, 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

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

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COUNTY

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