



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

APPELLANT: Una Ortell  
DOCKET NO.: 20-05477.001-R-1  
PARCEL NO.: 16-34-202-025

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Una Ortell, 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:** \$41,556  
**IMPR.:** \$44,304  
**TOTAL:** \$85,860

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 1-story dwelling of brick exterior construction with 1,120 square feet of living area. The dwelling was constructed in 1955. Features of the home include a basement with finished area and central air conditioning. The property has an approximately 7,478 square foot site and is located in Highland Park, Moraine 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. The comparables are located within 0.47 of a mile from the subject property. The comparables have sites that range in size from 7,762 to 11,182 square feet of land area. The comparables are improved with 1-story dwellings ranging in size from 1,426 to 1,638 square feet of living area that were built from 1950 to 1958 with comparables #2 and #3 having an effective year built of 1960 and 1971, respectively. Each comparable has central air conditioning. Two comparables are reported to have a basement. Two comparables each have one fireplace and a garage of 286 or 360 square feet of building area. The comparables sold from May 2019 to March 2020 for prices ranging from \$207,000 to \$360,000

or from \$136.27 to \$219.78 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 \$85,860. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$257,915 or \$230.28 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 0.40 of a mile from the subject property. The comparables have sites ranging in size from 7,280 to 9,990 square feet of land area. The comparables are improved with 1-story dwellings of brick construction each containing 1,120 square feet of living area. The dwellings were built from 1955 to 1958 with comparables #1 and #3 having effective year built of 1977 and 1975, respectively. Four comparables each have a basement with finished area and one comparable has a concrete slab foundation. Each comparable has central air conditioning and a garage ranging in size from 336 to 484 square feet of building area. Comparable #4 has two fireplaces. The comparables sold from March 2017 to August 2020 for prices ranging from \$278,000 to \$312,500 or from \$248.21 to \$279.02 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 Board finds the parties submitted a total of eight comparable sales for the Board's consideration. The Board has given less weight to the board of review comparables #1, #3 and #5, which sold less proximate in time to the January 1, 2020 assessment date than other comparables in this record. The Board also gives less weight to the appellant's comparables, which are less similar to the subject in dwelling size than other comparables in this record.

The Board finds the best evidence of market value to be the board of review comparables #2 and #4, which are similar to the subject in location, age, dwelling size and some features. These best comparables sold in October 2019 and August 2020 for prices of \$305,000 and \$312,500 or for \$272.32 and \$279.02 per square foot of living area, including land, respectively. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$257,915 or \$230.28 per square foot of living area, including land, which falls below the range established by the comparable sales in the record. Based on this record and after considering adjustments to the best comparables for differences when compared to the subject, the Board finds no 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



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:

April 18, 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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