



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

APPELLANT: Lisa Morgensai
DOCKET NO.: 20-05739.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 16-23-207-006

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Lisa Morgensai, 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: \$107,481
IMPR.: \$89,399
TOTAL: \$196,880

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 3,064 square feet of living area. The dwelling was constructed in 1926. Features of the home include a basement, central air conditioning, and one fireplace. The property has a 15,730 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 four comparable sales located from .36 of a mile to 1.04 miles from the subject. The comparables have sites ranging in size from 9,265 to 27,391 square feet of land area and are improved with 2-story dwellings ranging in size from 2,910 to 3,351 square feet of living area. The dwellings were constructed from 1920 to 1930 with comparable #3 having a reported effective year built of 1935. The comparables each have a basement, one of which has finished area. Three comparables have central air conditioning. Each comparable has

one fireplace and a garage ranging in size from 460 to 576 square feet of building area. The appellant reported comparables #1 and #4 were recent rehabs in 2013 and 2015, respectively, based on the Multiple Listing Service sheets associated with the sales. The comparables sold from July 2019 to July 2020 for prices ranging from \$250,000 to \$762,500 or from \$83.92 to \$243.45 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 \$196,880. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$591,409 or \$193.02 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 .51 of a mile from the subject where comparable #5 is the same as appellant's comparable #4. The properties have sites ranging in size from 8,720 to 35,320 square feet of land area and are improved with 2-story or 2.5-story dwellings of wood siding, brick, stucco, or brick and wood siding exterior construction. The dwellings range in size from 2,956 to 3,276 square feet of living area and were built from 1907 to 1987 with effective years built from 1944 to 1987. The comparables are reported to have basements, three¹ of which have finished area. Each comparable has central air conditioning, one or three fireplaces and a garage ranging in size from 240 to 572 square feet of building area. Comparable #1 has an inground swimming pool and bath house. The comparables sold from July 2019 to September 2020 for prices ranging from \$650,000 to \$765,000 or from \$219.89 to \$243.45 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 did not meet this burden of proof and a reduction in the subject's assessment is not warranted.

The record contains eight comparable sales for the Board's consideration where one comparable was common to both parties. These comparables have varying degrees of similarity to the subject in location, age, dwelling size and features. Nevertheless, the Board gives less weight to appellant's comparable #1 which is located over 1 mile away, board of review comparable #1 which has an inground swimming pool and bath house, and board of review comparable #4 which is a significantly newer dwelling when compared to the subject.

¹ The parties differ as to the finished basement area for their common comparable. The Board finds the best evidence was the MLS sheet provided by the appellant that disclosed an unfinished basement.

The Board finds the best evidence of market value to be parties' five remaining comparables which includes the common comparable. These comparables are similar to the subject in location, year built, dwelling size and some features. However, the comparables each have a garage unlike the subject, suggesting downward adjustments are necessary to make them more equivalent to the subject. Nevertheless, these comparables sold from July 2019 to September 2020 for prices ranging from \$399,000 to \$762,500 or from \$119.07 to \$243.45 per square foot of living area, including land. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$591,409 or \$193.02 per square foot of living area, including land, which is within the range established by the best comparable sales. 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



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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