



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

APPELLANT: Francis Libbe
DOCKET NO.: 20-20379.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 15-01-214-013-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Francis Libbe, the appellant, by attorney Noah J. Schmidt, of Schmidt Salzman & Moran, Ltd. in Chicago; and the Cook 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 **Cook** County Board of Review is warranted. The correct assessed valuation of the property is:

LAND: \$12,455
IMPR.: \$45,197
TOTAL: \$57,652

Subject only to the State multiplier as applicable.

Statement of Jurisdiction

The appellant timely filed the appeal from a decision of the Cook 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 masonry exterior construction with 2,682 square feet of living area. The dwelling is approximately 74 years old. Features of the home include a partial basement with finished area, central air conditioning, two fireplaces and a 1.5-car garage. The property has a 9,400 square foot site and is located in River Forest, River Forest Township, Cook County. The subject is classified as a class 2-06 property under the Cook County Real Property Assessment Classification Ordinance.

The appellant contends assessment inequity concerning the improvement as the basis of the appeal. In support of this argument the appellant submitted information on five equity comparables with the same assessment neighborhood code as the subject. The comparables are class 2-03 properties improved with 2-story dwellings of masonry, frame or frame and masonry exterior construction ranging in size from 2,607 to 3,148 square feet of living area. The

comparables are 70 to 92 years old and have full basements with finished area. Each comparable has central air conditioning and a 2-car or a 2.5-car garage. Three comparables each have one to three fireplaces. The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$35,553 to \$46,408 or from \$13.64 to \$14.74 per square foot of living area. Based on this evidence, the appellant requested a reduction in the subject's improvement assessment.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" disclosing the total assessment for the subject of \$57,652. The subject property has an improvement assessment of \$45,197 or \$16.85 per square foot of living area. In support of its contention of the correct assessment the board of review submitted information on four equity comparables with the same assessment neighborhood code as the subject. The comparables are class 2-06 properties improved with 2-story dwellings of masonry exterior construction ranging in size from 2,237 to 3,326 square feet of living area. The dwellings are 76 to 83 years old and have full basements with finished area. Each comparable has central air conditioning, one or two fireplaces and a 2-car or a 2.5-car garage. The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$40,512 to \$58,409 or from \$17.35 to \$18.11 per square foot of living area.

Conclusion of Law

The appellant contends assessment inequity as the basis of the appeal. When unequal treatment in the assessment process is the basis of the appeal, the inequity of the assessments must be proved by clear and convincing evidence. 86 Ill.Admin.Code §1910.63(e). Proof of unequal treatment in the assessment process should consist of documentation of the assessments for the assessment year in question of not less than three comparable properties showing the similarity, proximity and lack of distinguishing characteristics of the assessment comparables to the subject property. 86 Ill.Admin.Code §1910.65(b). 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 nine equity comparables for the Board's consideration. The Board gives less weight to board of review comparables #3 and #4 which are less similar in dwelling size to the subject and the remaining comparables in the record.

The Board finds the best evidence of assessment equity to be the appellant's comparables and board of review comparables #1 and #2 which overall are more similar to the subject in location, age, dwelling size and features. These comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$35,553 to \$53,330 or from \$13.64 to \$17.56 per square foot of living area. The subject's improvement assessment of \$45,197 or \$16.85 per square foot of living area falls within the range established by the best comparables in this record. Based on this record and after considering adjustments to the best comparables for differences when compared to the subject, the Board finds the appellant did not prove by clear and convincing evidence that the subject's improvement was inequitably assessed and 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: July 16, 2024



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

Francis Libbe, by attorney:
Noah J. Schmidt
Schmidt Salzman & Moran, Ltd.
111 W. Washington St.
Suite 1300
Chicago, IL 60602

COUNTY

Cook County Board of Review
County Building, Room 601
118 North Clark Street
Chicago, IL 60602