



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

APPELLANT: Nicole Higgins
DOCKET NO.: 20-30968.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 18-31-300-007-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Nicole Higgins, 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: \$32,670
IMPR.: \$51,839
TOTAL: \$84,509

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 1-story dwelling of frame and masonry exterior construction with 3,100 square feet of living area. The dwelling is approximately 71 years old. Features of the home include an unfinished basement, one fireplace, and a 2-car garage. The property has an 217,800 square foot site and is located in Burr Ridge,¹ Lyons Township, Cook County. The subject is classified as a class 2-04 property under the Cook County Real Property Assessment Classification Ordinance.

The appellant contends assessment inequity with respect to the improvement as the basis of the appeal. In support of the inequity argument, the appellant submitted information on two grid

¹ The parties differ as to the subject's location. The appellant reports the subject is located in Burr Ridge and the board of review reports Hinsdale. The Board finds this single discrepancy will not materially affect the Board's final decision.

analyses for five equity comparables located in the same neighborhood code as the subject property. For clarity in the record, the single comparable on the second grid was renumbered #5. The comparables are improved with 1-story or "1.5-1.9"-story, class 2-04 dwellings of frame, masonry, or frame and masonry exterior construction ranging in size from 2,381 to 3,538 square feet of living area. The comparables range in age from 16 to 79 years old. Four comparables each have a basement, two of which have finished area, and one comparable lacks a basement foundation. Four comparables each have central air conditioning. Each comparable has from one to three fireplaces, and from a 2-car to a 4-car garage. Comparable #5 has a full attic with living area. The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$6,619 to \$44,033 or from \$2.00 to \$15.47 per square foot of living area. Based on this evidence, the appellant requested that the subject's improvement assessment be reduced.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" disclosing the total assessment for the subject of \$84,509. The subject property has an improvement assessment of \$51,839 or \$16.72 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 located in the same neighborhood code as the subject property. The comparables are improved with 1-story or 1.5-story dwellings of masonry or frame and masonry exterior construction ranging in size from 3,387 to 5,189 square feet of living area. The dwellings range in age from 13 to 42 years old. Each comparable has a basement, three of which has finished area, central air conditioning, one to three fireplaces, and a 2.5-car to a 3.5-car garage. The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$71,987 to \$100,246 or from \$16.74 to \$29.60 per square foot of living area.

Conclusion of Law

The taxpayer 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 parties submitted nine suggested comparables for the Board's consideration. The Board finds none of the parties' comparables to be truly similar to the subject due to significant differences from the subject in design, age, dwelling size, basement finish, and/or other amenities/features. Nevertheless, the Board gives diminished weight to the appellant's comparable #1 which appears to be an outlier with an improvement assessment that is significantly lower than other comparables in this record. The eight remaining comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$26,464 to \$100,246 or from \$9.80 to \$29.60 per square foot of living area. The subject's improvement assessment of \$51,839 or \$16.72 per square foot of living area falls within the range established by the remaining comparables in this record. Based on this record, the Board finds the appellant did not demonstrate with 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



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: June 18, 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

Nicole Higgins, 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