



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

APPELLANT: Ghassan Zahdan
DOCKET NO.: 20-32973.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 12-16-317-019-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Ghassan Zahdan, the appellant(s), by attorney George N. Reveliotis, of Reveliotis Law, P.C. in Park Ridge; 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: \$4,232
IMPR.: \$13,863
TOTAL: \$18,095

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 54-year-old, one-story, single-family dwelling of masonry construction with 1,128 square feet of living area. Features of the home include a full finished basement with a formal recreation room, central air conditioning and a two-car garage. The property's site is 6,512 square feet, and it is located in Schiller Park, Leyden Township, Cook County. The subject is classified as a class 2-03 property under the Cook County Real Property Assessment Classification Ordinance.

The appellant contends overvaluation and inequity as the bases of the appeal. In support of the market value argument and the equity argument, the appellant submitted sales and equity information four comparable properties. The properties had varying degrees of similarity to the subject. The appellant did not report the exact proximity of the comparable properties to the subject but disclosed that the suggested properties had the same neighborhood code as the

subject. They sold from 2018 to 2020 for prices ranging from \$114.11 to \$137.94 per square foot of living area, including land. The comparable properties had improvement assessments ranging from \$9.17 to \$15.62 per square foot of living area.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" disclosing the subject's total assessment of \$18,095 with an improvement assessment of \$13,863 or \$12.29 per square foot of building area. The total assessment reflects a market value of \$180,950 or \$160.42 per square foot of living area using the Cook County Real Property Assessment Classification Ordinance level of assessment for class 2 property of 10%. In support of its contention of the correct assessment the board of review submitted sales and equity information on four suggested comparable properties. The board of review requested that the assessment be confirmed.

Prior to a scheduled August 1, 2024, hearing before a PTAB Administrative Law Judge the parties entered into a written agreement to waive hearing and have a decision rendered based on the previously submitted evidence.

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 comparable properties to the subject property. 86 Ill.Admin.Code §1910.65(b). The Board finds the appellant did not meet this burden of proof, and that a reduction in the subject's assessment is not warranted.

The Board finds the best evidence of assessment equity to be the appellant's comparable properties #1 through #4 and the board of review's comparable properties #1 through #4. These equity comparable properties had improvement assessments that ranged from \$9.17 to \$16.25 per square foot of living area. The subject's improvement assessment of \$12.29 per square foot of living area falls within the range established by the best comparable properties in this record. After considering all the comparable properties submitted by the parties with emphasis on those properties that are more proximate in location and with similar features relative to the subject and after further considering adjustments to the best comparable properties for differences from the subject, the Board finds the subject's improvement assessment is supported. The Board finds that the appellant did not demonstrate by clear and convincing evidence that the subject was inequitably assessed and, therefore, a reduction in the subject's assessment is *not* justified.

The appellant also 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 taxpayer must prove the value of the property by a preponderance of the evidence. 86 Ill. Admin. Code §1910.63(e); *Winnebago County Bd. of Review v. Property Tax Appeal Bd.*, 313 Ill. App. 3d 1038, 1043 (2d Dist. 2000). 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 on this basis is not warranted.

The Board finds the best evidence of market value to be the appellant's comparable properties #1 through #4 and the board of review's comparable properties #1 through #4. These comparable properties had sale prices ranging from \$114.11 to \$247.88 per square foot of building area, land included. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$160.42 per square foot of living area, including land, which is within the range established by the best comparable sales in this record. After considering the differences and similarities between the suggested comparable properties and the subject, the Board finds the subject's improvement assessment is supported. Based on this record the Board finds the appellant did not demonstrate by a preponderance of the evidence that the subject was overvalued 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: _____

December 17, 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

Ghassan Zahdan, by attorney:
George N. Reveliotis
Reveliotis Law, P.C.
1030 Higgins Road
Suite 101
Park Ridge, IL 60068

COUNTY

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