



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

APPELLANT: Robert Pearlstein
DOCKET NO.: 20-41358.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 04-21-207-015-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Robert Pearlstein, the appellant, by attorney Adam E. Bossov of the Law Offices of Adam E. Bossov, P.C. 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: \$15,651
IMPR.: \$33,762
TOTAL: \$49,413

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 two-story dwelling of frame and masonry exterior construction with 2,709 square feet of living area. The dwelling is approximately 48 years old. Features of the home include a partial unfinished basement, central air conditioning, a fireplace and a two-car garage. The property has an approximately 13,320 square foot site and is located in Northbrook, Northfield Township, Cook County. The subject is classified as a class 2-78 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 this argument the appellant submitted information on four equity comparables that have the same assessment neighborhood code as the subject. The comparables are class 2-78 properties that are improved with two-story¹ dwellings of stucco or frame and

¹ The photographic evidence provided by the appellant depicts each comparable dwelling with a two-story design.

masonry exterior construction ranging in size from 2,199 to 3,449 square feet of living area. The dwellings are 31 to 52 years old. The comparables each have a partial basement, two of which have finished area. Each comparable has central air conditioning and a two-car or a three-car garage. Three comparables each have a fireplace. The comparables have improvement assessments that range from \$21,278 to \$34,494 or from \$6.88 to \$10.09 per square foot of living area. Based on this evidence, the appellant requested the subject's improvement assessment be reduced to \$24,869 or \$9.18 per square foot of living area.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" disclosing the total assessment for the subject of \$49,413. The subject property has an improvement assessment of \$33,762 or \$12.46 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 that have the same assessment neighborhood code as the subject. The comparables are class 2-78 properties that are improved with two-story dwellings of frame and masonry exterior construction ranging in size from 2,280 to 2,684 square feet of living area. The dwellings are 45 to 48 years old. Comparable #3 has a crawl space foundation and the remaining three comparables each have a full or partial basement, one of which has finished area. Each comparable has central air conditioning, a fireplace and a two-car garage. The board of review also indicated that comparables #1 and #3 have other improvements but did not provide a description of these improvements. The comparables have improvement assessments that range from \$32,525 to \$35,492 or from \$12.79 to \$15.05 per square foot of living area. Based on this evidence, the board of review requested confirmation of the subject's assessment.

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 a total of eight comparable properties for the Board's consideration. The Board has given less weight to the appellant's comparables #1, #2 and #3, as well as board of review comparables #1 and #4 which differ from the subject in dwelling size and where three of these five comparables also have finished basement area, unlike the subject. Additionally, the appellant's comparable #1 has a newer dwelling age when compared to the subject. The Board has also given less weight to board of review comparable #3 due to its dissimilar crawl space foundation when compared to the subject's basement foundation.

The Board finds the best evidence of assessment equity to be the appellant's comparable #4 and board of review comparable #2 which have unfinished basements like the subject and are overall more similar to the subject in location, dwelling size, design, age and some features. However, both comparables have somewhat smaller dwelling sizes, when compared to the subject

suggesting adjustments would be required to make the comparables more equivalent to the subject. Nevertheless, these two comparables have improvement assessments of \$26,358 and \$32,525 or \$10.09 and \$12.79 per square foot of living area, respectively. The subject's improvement assessment of \$33,762 or \$12.46 per square foot of living area is greater than the two best comparables in the record in terms of total improvement assessment but is bracketed by the comparables on a per square foot basis. The subject's higher total improvement assessment appears to be logical given its larger dwelling size. Therefore, 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 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

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

Robert Pearlstein, by attorney:
Adam E. Bossov
Law Offices of Adam E. Bossov, P.C.
1074 W. Taylor Street
Suite 407
Chicago, IL 60607

COUNTY

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