



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

APPELLANT: Ye Zhang  
DOCKET NO.: 20-41359.001-R-1  
PARCEL NO.: 04-07-401-047-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Ye Zhang, 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:** \$13,912  
**IMPR.:** \$42,630  
**TOTAL:** \$56,542

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 3,249 square feet of living area. The dwelling is approximately 43 years old. Features of the home include a full unfinished basement, central air conditioning, a fireplace and a two-car garage. The property has an approximately 11,594 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 and are located from 1 mile to 1.5 miles from the subject property. The comparables are class 2-78 properties

that are improved with two-story<sup>1</sup> dwellings of masonry or frame and masonry exterior construction ranging in size from 2,789 to 3,567 square feet of living area. The dwellings are 24 to 42 years old. The comparables each have a full basement, one of which has finished area. Each comparable has central air conditioning, a fireplace and a two-car or a three-car garage. The comparables have improvement assessments that range from \$25,515 to \$29,597 or from \$7.79 to \$10.61 per square foot of living area. Based on this evidence, the appellant requested the subject's improvement assessment be reduced to \$29,891 or \$9.20 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 \$56,542. The subject property has an improvement assessment of \$42,630 or \$13.12 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 and are located within the same block as the subject property. The comparables are class 2-78 properties that are improved with two-story dwellings of frame and masonry exterior construction ranging in size from 2,647 to 3,053 square feet of living area. The dwellings are 43 to 48 years old. The 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 or a three-car garage. The comparables have improvement assessments that range from \$35,285 to \$44,334 or from \$13.33 to \$14.52 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 due to their distant locations from the subject being 1 mile or more away. Additionally, the appellant's comparable #1 has a newer dwelling age when compared to the subject and the appellant's comparable #2 has basement finish, not a feature of the subject. The Board has given reduced weight to board of review comparable #4 which has a finished basement, unlike the subject.

The Board finds the best evidence of assessment equity to be board of review comparables #1, #2 and #3, which are located within the same block as the subject, have unfinished basements like the subject and are similar to the subject in design, age and some features. However, all

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

three comparables have somewhat smaller dwelling sizes when compared to the subject, suggesting an upward adjustment would be required to make the comparables more equivalent to the subject. Nevertheless, these three comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$35,285 to \$44,334 or from \$13.33 to \$14.52 per square foot of living area. The subject's improvement assessment of \$42,630 or \$13.12 per square foot of living area falls within the range established by the best comparables in the record in terms of total improvement assessment but below the comparables on a per square foot basis. 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. Therefore, based on this record, 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

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

Ye Zhang, 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