



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

APPELLANT: Gary Fletcher
DOCKET NO.: 21-00325.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 16-03-401-005

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Gary Fletcher, the appellant, by attorney Robert Rosenfeld, of Robert H. Rosenfeld & Associates, LLC in Chicago; and the Lake 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 **Lake** County Board of Review is warranted. The correct assessed valuation of the property is:

LAND: \$174,279
IMPR.: \$262,911
TOTAL: \$437,190

Subject only to the State multiplier as applicable.

Statement of Jurisdiction

The appellant timely filed the appeal from a decision of the Lake County Board of Review pursuant to section 16-160 of the Property Tax Code (35 ILCS 200/16-160) challenging the assessment for the 2021 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 wood siding exterior construction with 4,839 square feet of living area. The dwelling was constructed in 1976, is approximately 45 years old, and has a reported effective age of 1978. Features of the home include a basement with 1,299 square feet of finished area, central air conditioning, four fireplaces, and an 873 square foot garage. The property has a 55,726 square foot site and is located in Lake Forest, Moraine Township, Lake County.

The appellant contends assessment inequity concerning the improvement assessment as the basis of the appeal. In support of this argument the appellant submitted information on four equity comparables located within the same assessment neighborhood code as the subject. The comparables are improved with 2-story homes of brick, stucco, or wood siding exterior construction ranging in size from 4,454 to 5,066 square feet of living area. The dwellings range

in age from 40 to 53 years old. Each home has a basement with 1,177 to 1,972 square feet of finished area, central air conditioning, one to three fireplaces, and a garage ranging in size from 552 to 1,161 square feet of building area. The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$228,222 to \$262,943 or from \$51.24 to \$51.98 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 \$437,190. The subject property has an improvement assessment of \$262,911 or \$54.33 per square foot of living area.

In support of its contention of the correct assessment the board of review submitted information on seven equity comparables located within the same assessment neighborhood code as the subject. The comparables are improved with 1.75-story or 2-story homes of brick or brick and wood siding exterior construction ranging in size from 4,327 to 5,148 square feet of living area. The dwellings were built from 1969 to 1980 with reported effective ages ranging from 1971 to 1992. Each home has a basement with 1,386 to 2,610 square feet of finished area, central air conditioning, one to four fireplaces, and a garage ranging in size from 648 to 912 square feet of building area. Comparable #5 has an inground swimming pool. The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$239,553 to \$318,052 or from \$54.39 to \$61.78 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 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 a total of eleven equity comparables for the Board's consideration. The Board gives less weight to the appellant's comparables #1, #2, and #4 and the board of review's comparables #5 and #6 due to substantial differences from the subject in dwelling size, effective age, garage size, and/or inground swimming pool amenity.

The Board finds the best evidence of assessment equity to be the appellant's comparable #3 and the board of review's comparables #1 through #4 and #7, which are more similar to the subject in dwelling size, age/effective age, location, and features, although these comparables all have larger finished basement area than the subject, suggesting downward adjustments to these comparables would be needed to make them more equivalent to the subject. These comparables have improvement assessments that range from \$262,943 to \$287,683 or from \$51.90 to \$57.78 per square foot of living area. The subject's improvement assessment of \$262,911 or \$54.33 per square foot of living area falls below the range established by the best comparables in terms of

total improvement assessment and within the range on a per square foot basis. Based on this record and after considering appropriate 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



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 18, 2023



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

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