



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

APPELLANT: Carolyn Kontrick  
DOCKET NO.: 21-00653.001-R-1  
PARCEL NO.: 12-32-301-009

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Carolyn Kontrick, the appellant, by attorney Robert Rosenfeld, of Robert H. Rosenfeld and Associates, LLC in Chicago; and the Lake County Board of Review.<sup>1</sup>

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:** \$101,043  
**IMPR.:** \$160,733  
**TOTAL:** \$261,776

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 brick exterior construction with 2,936 square feet of living area. The dwelling was constructed in 1967 and is approximately 54 years old. Features of the home include an unfinished basement, central air conditioning, two fireplaces and a 550 square foot garage. The property has an approximately 21,400 square foot site and is located in Lake Forest, Shields Township, Lake County.

The appellant contends assessment inequity, with respect to the improvement assessment, as the basis of the appeal. In support of this argument, the appellant submitted information on four equity comparables located in the same assessment neighborhood code as the subject. The comparables are improved with 2-story dwellings of brick or wood siding exterior construction

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<sup>1</sup> The parties agreed to forego the scheduled virtual hearing on this case and have the Board issue a decision based on the evidence in the record.

that range in size from 2,812 to 3,532 square feet of living area. The homes range in age from 42 to 113 years old. Each comparable has a basement, one with finished area, central air conditioning and a garage ranging in size from 529 to 768 square feet of building area. Three comparables have either two or three fireplaces. The comparables have improvement assessments that range from \$92,542 to \$165,087 or from \$32.91 to \$47.01 per square foot of living area. Based on this evidence, the appellant requested the subject's improvement assessment be reduced to \$124,706 or \$42.47 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 \$261,776. The subject has an improvement assessment of \$160,733 or \$54.75 per square foot of living area. In support of its contention of the correct assessment, the board of review submitted information on five equity comparables located in the same assessment neighborhood code as the subject property. The comparables are improved with 1.75-story or 2-story dwellings of brick, wood siding or brick and wood siding exterior construction that range in size from 2,704 to 3,190 square feet of living area. The homes were built from 1957 to 1976 with the oldest property reported to have an effective year built of 1962. Each comparable has a basement, two with finished area, central air conditioning, one or two fireplaces and a garage ranging in size from 437 to 616 square feet of building area. The comparables have improvement assessments that range from \$151,824 to \$182,092 or from \$53.18 to \$58.72 per square foot of living area. Based on this evidence, the board of review requested the subject's assessment be confirmed.

### **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 parties submitted nine equity comparables for the Board's consideration. The Board gives less weight to appellant comparables #1 and #2 and board of review comparables #1 and #2 which have a finished basement in contrast to the subject's unfinished basement and/or is substantially older in age when compared to the subject.

The Board finds the best evidence of assessment equity to be appellant comparables #3 and #4 along with board of review comparables #3, #4 and #5 which are generally similar to the subject in location, age/effective age, design, dwelling size, unfinished basement and other features. These best comparables have improvement assessments that range from \$146,092 to \$182,092 or from \$46.74 to \$58.74 per square foot of living area. The subject's improvement assessment of \$160,733 or \$54.75 per square foot of living area falls within the range established by the best comparables in this record. After considering appropriate adjustments to the best comparables for differences from the subject, 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



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 20, 2022



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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COUNTY

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