



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

APPELLANT: Christopher Bauder  
DOCKET NO.: 21-01086.001-R-1  
PARCEL NO.: 12-28-308-019

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Christopher Bauder, the appellant, by attorney Eric Feldman, of Eric Feldman & Assoc. P.C. 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:** \$148,928  
**IMPR.:** \$348,225  
**TOTAL:** \$497,153

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 two-story dwelling of wood siding exterior construction with 4,537 square feet of living area. The dwelling was constructed in 1920 and has an effective year built of 1927. Features of the home include a basement with finished area, central air conditioning, a fireplace and a 462 square foot garage. The property has an approximately 21,920 square foot site and is located in Lake Forest, Shields Township, Lake County.

The appellant contends overvaluation as the basis of the appeal. In support of this argument the appellant submitted information on four comparable sales located within 0.93 of a mile from the subject property. The comparables have sites that range in size from 11,780 to 21,650 square feet of land area and are improved with two-story dwellings of brick or wood siding exterior construction that range in size from 3,240 to 4,472 square feet of living area. The dwellings were built from 1900 to 1948. Each comparable has a basement with one having finished area.

Each dwelling has central air conditioning and one or four fireplaces. Three comparables have one or two garages ranging in size from 294 to 556 square feet of building area. Comparable #4 has a fully finished attic. The properties sold from May 2020 to April 2021 for prices ranging from \$930,000 to \$1,350,000 or from \$214.53 to \$304.57 per square foot of living area, land included. Based on this evidence, the appellant requested the subject's total assessment be reduced to \$435,176 which reflects a market value of \$1,305,659 or \$287.78 per square foot of living area, land included, when applying the statutory level of assessment of 33.33%.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" disclosing the total assessment for the subject of \$497,153. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$1,495,197 or \$329.56 per square foot of living area, land included, when using the 2021 three-year average median level of assessment for Lake County of 33.25% as determined by the Illinois Department of Revenue.

In support of its contention of the correct assessment the board of review submitted information on five comparable sales located from 0.44 of a mile to 1.27 miles from the subject property. The comparables have sites that range in size from 24,350 to 31,390 square feet of land area and are improved with two-story dwellings of stucco, brick, wood siding or brick and wood siding exterior construction that range in size from 3,779 to 5,322 square feet of living area. The homes were built from 1900 to 1930 and have effective ages ranging from 1906 to 1942. Each comparable has a basement with two having finished area. Each dwelling has central air conditioning, one to five fireplaces and a garage ranging in size from 420 to 680 square feet of building area. Comparables #1 and #3 each have a fully finished attic while comparable #5 has an inground swimming pool. The properties sold from February 2020 to August 2021 for prices ranging from \$1,345,500 to \$2,200,000 or from \$296.43 to \$483.49 per square foot of living area, land included. Based on this evidence, the board of review requested the subject's assessment be confirmed.

### **Conclusion of Law**

The appellant 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 value of the property must be proved by a preponderance of the evidence. 86 Ill.Admin.Code §1910.63(e). 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 is not warranted.

The parties submitted nine comparable sales for the Board's consideration. The Board gives less weight to appellant comparables #1 and #4 as well as board of review comparables #1, #3 and #5 which are less similar to the subject in dwelling size and/or feature either a fully finished attic or inground swimming pool which the subject property lacks.

The Board finds the best evidence of market value to be appellant comparables #2 and #3 along with board of review comparables #2 and #4 which are more similar to the subject in design and dwelling size but have varying degrees of similarity to the subject in location, site size, age/effective age and other features. Nevertheless, these comparables sold from June 2020 to August 2021 for prices ranging from \$930,000 to \$1,600,000 or from \$214.53 to \$330.92 per

square foot of living area, including land. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$1,495,197 or \$329.56 per square foot of living area, including land, which falls within the range established by the best comparable sales in this record. After considering appropriate adjustments to the comparables for differences from the subject, the Board finds a reduction in the subject's assessment is not warranted.

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:

August 22, 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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