



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

APPELLANT: Vuyani Wakaba
DOCKET NO.: 21-01693.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 08-20-309-002

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Vuyani Wakaba, the appellant, by attorney Gregory Riggs, of Tax Appeals Lake County in Lake Zurich; 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: \$6,704
IMPR.: \$45,586
TOTAL: \$52,290

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 1.5-story dwelling of wood siding exterior construction with 1,665 square feet of living area. The dwelling was constructed in 1957. Features of the home include an unfinished basement, central air conditioning and a 720 square foot garage. The property has an approximately 7,530 square foot site and is located in Waukegan, Waukegan Township, Lake County.

The appellant contends overvaluation as the basis of the appeal. In support of this argument, the appellant submitted information on three comparable sales that are located within .49 of a mile from the subject property. The comparables have sites that range from 6,360 to 11,190 square feet of land area. The comparables are improved with either 1.5-story or part 1-story and part 2-story dwellings of either brick or aluminum siding exterior construction ranging in size from 1,217 to 1,642 square feet of living area that were built from 1926 to 1946. The appellant reported that each comparable has an unfinished basement and a garage containing either 360 or 400 square feet of building area. Two comparables each have central air conditioning and two

comparables each have a fireplace. The comparables sold from May 2020 to January 2021 for prices ranging from \$110,000 to \$129,900 or from \$75.52 to \$90.39 per square foot of living area, including land. Based on this evidence, the appellant requested a reduction in the subject's assessment.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" disclosing the total assessment for the subject of \$52,290. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$157,263 or \$94.45 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 .60 of a mile to 1.33 miles from the subject property. The comparables have sites ranging from 5,690 to 6,900 square feet of land area. The comparables are improved with 1.5-story dwellings of either brick or wood siding exterior construction that range in size from 1,232 to 1,873 square feet of living area that were built from 1941 to 1953. Four comparables have an unfinished basement and one comparable has a concrete slab foundation. One comparable has central air conditioning, one comparable has a fireplace and three comparables each have a garage ranging in size from 252 to 600 square feet of building area. The comparables sold from October 2020 to November 2021 for prices ranging from \$130,000 to \$190,000 or from \$71.01 to \$154.22 per square foot of living area, including land. Based on this evidence, the board of review requested confirmation of the subject's assessment.

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 record contains seven suggested comparable sales for the Board's consideration. The Board has given less weight to the appellant's comparables #2 and #3 along with board of review comparables #3 and #4 due to their dissimilar dwelling size and/or differences in age when compared to the subject. The Board gave reduced weight to the board of review comparable #2 due to its dissimilar foundation type when compared to the subject.

The Board finds the best evidence of market value to be the appellant's comparable #1 along with the board of review comparables #1 and #5. The Board finds that these comparables are relatively similar to the subject in location, dwelling size and foundation type. However, the Board finds these three comparable dwellings are inferior to the subject in age and board of review comparables lack central air conditioning and a garage, both features of the subject suggesting upward adjustments would be required to make the comparables more equivalent to the subject. Nevertheless, the comparables sold from May to December 2020 for prices ranging from \$129,900 to \$149,000 or from \$87.34 to \$90.53 per square foot of living area, including land. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$157,263 or \$94.45 per square foot of

living area, including land, which falls above the range of the best comparable sales in the record, but appears to be justified given its newer age and superior features. Based on this record and after considering adjustments to the best comparables for differences when compared to 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:

November 21, 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

State of Illinois
Property Tax Appeal Board
William G. Stratton Building, Room 402
401 South Spring Street
Springfield, IL 62706-4001

APPELLANT

Vuyani Wakaba, by attorney:
Gregory Riggs
Tax Appeals Lake County
830 West IL Route 22
Suite 286
Lake Zurich, IL 60047

COUNTY

Lake County Board of Review
Lake County Courthouse
18 North County Street, 7th Floor
Waukegan, IL 60085