



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

APPELLANT: Andrew Lotts  
DOCKET NO.: 21-01795.001-R-1  
PARCEL NO.: 12-20-402-013

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Andrew Lotts, 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:** \$82,249  
**IMPR.:** \$99,559  
**TOTAL:** \$181,808

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 2,277 square feet of living area. The dwelling was constructed in 1961 and is approximately 60 years old. Features of the home include a basement with finished area, central air conditioning and a 441 square foot garage. The property has an 11,200 square foot site and is located in Lake Bluff, 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 in the same neighborhood code as the subject and within .37 of a mile from the subject property. The comparables have sites that range from 10,402 to 12,493 square feet of land area. The comparables are improved with either a 1.5-story or 2-story dwellings of either brick or wood siding exterior construction ranging in size from 1,997 to 2,542 square feet of living area that are from 53 to 59 years old. The appellant reported that each comparable has a basement with finished area, central air conditioning, either one or two fireplaces and a garage ranging in size from 440 to 483 square feet of building area.

The comparables sold from April to July 2020 for prices ranging from \$365,000 to \$505,000 or from \$159.74 to \$215.85 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 \$181,808. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$546,791 or \$240.14 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 with four comparables being located in the same neighborhood code as the subject and all comparables located within .35 of a mile from the subject property. Comparable #2 is the same property as the appellant's comparable #1.<sup>1</sup> The comparables have sites ranging from 10,450 to 14,110 square feet of land area. The comparables are improved with either 2-story or split-level dwellings of brick, wood siding or brick and wood siding exterior construction that range in size from 1,354 to 2,398 square feet of living area that were built from 1962 to 1975. Four comparables each have a basement with finished area and one comparable has finished lower-level. Each comparable has central air conditioning, either one or two fireplaces and a garage ranging in size from 441 to 522 square feet of building area. The comparables sold from June 2020 to October 2021 for prices ranging from \$365,000 to \$639,000 or from \$159.70 to \$391.43 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 eight suggested comparable sales for the Board's consideration, with one comparable being common to both parties and a listing of appellant's comparable #1/board of review comparable #2. The Board has given less weight to appellant's comparables #3 and #4 along with board of review comparable #5 due to their dissimilar dwelling sizes and/or design when compared to the subject. The Board gave less weight the listing of the common comparable.

The Board finds the best evidence of market value to be appellant's comparables #1 and #2 along with board of review comparables #1, #2, #3 and #4, which includes the common comparable. The Board finds that these comparables are relatively similar to the subject in location, design, dwelling size, age and features. The comparables sold from June 2020 to October 2021 for prices

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<sup>1</sup> The board of review submitted multiple MLS data sheets for the common comparable, stating the sale of the property June 2020 for \$365,000 and the listing of the property in March 2022 for \$549,000.

ranging from \$365,000 to \$639,000 or from \$159.70 to \$391.43 per square foot of living area, including land. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$546,791 or \$240.14 per square foot of living area, including land, which falls within the range of the best comparable sales in the record. Based on this record and after considering adjustments to the best comparables for differences when compared to the subject, the Board finds no reduction in the subject's assessment is 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:

December 19, 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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