



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

APPELLANT: Sunil Kokkalera
DOCKET NO.: 21-02864.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 14-32-303-005

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Sunil Kokkalera, 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: \$44,258
IMPR.: \$132,101
TOTAL: \$176,359

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 2,852 square feet of living area. The dwelling was constructed in 1977. Features of the home include a basement, central air conditioning, one fireplace, and a 598 square foot garage. The property has an approximately 43,987 square foot site and is located in Deer Park, Ela 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 within the same neighborhood code as the subject property, and three of which are located within the same city as the subject property. The comparables are improved with 2-story dwellings of brick or brick and frame exterior construction that range in size from 3,102 to 3,419 square feet of living area. The homes were built from 1973 to 1977 with

comparable #3 having an effective year built of 1981. Each comparable has a basement, central air conditioning, one or two fireplaces, and a garage ranging in size from 506 to 817 square feet of building area. Comparable #1 has an inground swimming pool and comparable #3 has a barn. The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$98,080 to \$147,007 or from \$31.62 to \$43.29 per square foot of living area. Based on this evidence, the appellant requested the subject's improvement assessment be reduced to \$108,810 or \$38.15 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 \$176,359. The subject property has an improvement assessment of \$132,101 or \$46.32 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 within the same neighborhood code as the subject property, and four of which are located within the same city as the subject property. The comparables are improved with 2-story dwellings of wood siding or brick and wood siding exterior construction that range in size from 2,610 to 2,900 square feet of living area. The homes were built from 1973 to 1987. Each comparable has a basement, central air conditioning, one fireplace, and a garage ranging in size from 462 to 866 square feet of building area. Comparable #3 has an inground swimming pool. The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$124,569 to \$152,319 or from \$46.26 to \$55.23 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 taxpayer 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 nine suggested equity comparables for the Board's consideration. The Board gives less weight to the appellant's comparables #1, #3 and #4 as well as the board of review comparable #3 which differ from the subject in dwelling size and/or have a barn or an inground swimming pool, unlike the subject. The Board also gives less weight to the appellant's comparable #2 and board of record comparable #2 which are located within a different city than the subject property.

The Board finds the best evidence of assessment equity to be the board of review's remaining comparables which are overall more similar to the subject in location, dwelling size, age, foundation type, and other features. These three comparables have improvement assessments that range from \$124,569 to \$134,409 or from \$46.26 to \$47.73 per square foot of living area. The subject's improvement assessment of \$132,101 or \$46.32 per square foot of living area falls within the range established by the best comparables 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 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: 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

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