



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

APPELLANT: Norma Fabbri-Blake  
DOCKET NO.: 21-03794.001-R-1  
PARCEL NO.: 16-15-403-004

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Norma Fabbri-Blake, the appellant, by Jessica Hill-Magiera, Attorney at Law 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:** \$33,781  
**IMPR.:** \$95,209  
**TOTAL:** \$128,990

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 2,281 square feet of living area. The dwelling was constructed in 1918 and has an effective age of 1963.<sup>1</sup> Features of the home include a basement with finished area, central air conditioning, a fireplace and a garage with 576 square feet of building area. The property has an approximately 7,560 square foot site and is located in Highwood, Moraine Township, Lake County.

The appellant contends assessment inequity with respect to the improvement as the basis of the appeal. In support of this argument, the appellant submitted information on sixteen suggested equity comparables located in the same assessment neighborhood code as the subject and within .44 of a mile from the subject property. The comparables are improved with 2-story dwellings of brick, stucco, aluminum siding, wood siding, or vinyl siding exterior construction ranging in size from 2,058 to 2,468 square feet of living area. The dwellings were built from 1910 to 1928. Each

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<sup>1</sup> The Board finds the best description of the subject is found in the property record card provided by the board of review which was not refuted by the appellant in the rebuttal filing.

comparable is reported to have an unfinished basement and a garage ranging in size from 360 to 828 square feet of building area. Seven comparables each have central air conditioning and two comparables each have a fireplace. The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$61,919 to \$70,403 or from \$28.12 to \$31.17 per square foot of living area. Based on this evidence, the appellant requested the subject's improvement assessment be reduced to \$67,170 or \$29.45 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 \$128,990. The subject property has an improvement assessment of \$95,209 or \$41.74 per square foot of living area.

In support of its contention of the correct assessment the board of review submitted information on five suggested equity comparables that are in the same assessment neighborhood code as the subject and located within .46 of a mile from the subject property. The comparables are improved with either 2-story or 2.5-story dwellings of either brick or wood siding exterior construction ranging in size from 1,995 to 2,565 square feet of living area. The dwellings were built from 1918 to 1933, with each of the comparables having effective ages ranging from 1931 to 1983. Each comparable has a basement, three with finished area and a garage ranging in size from 420 to 696 square feet of building area. Four comparables each have central air conditioning and one comparable has a fireplace. The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$83,208 to \$156,495 or from \$35.63 to \$76.79 per square foot of living area. Based on this evidence, the board of review requested confirmation of the subject's assessment.

In rebuttal, counsel for the appellant argued the board of review comparables should be given less weight due to difference in size and/or age when compared to the subject. Furthermore, counsel for the appellant argued that board of review comparable #1 is 87% larger than the subject and to "see attached Property Record Card" which was not included to support the argument.

### **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 parties submitted twenty-one suggested comparables for the Board's consideration. The Board has given less weight to board of review comparables #2 and #4 due to their dissimilar dwelling sizes when compared to the subject. The Board gave reduced weight to board of review comparable #1 which appears to be an outlier when compared to the other comparables in the record.

The Board finds the best evidence of assessment equity to be the appellant's comparables along with board of review comparables #3 and #5 which are relatively similar to the subject in

location, dwelling size, age/effective age, and some features. These comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$61,919 to \$106,174 or from \$28.12 to \$43.20 per square foot of living area. The subject's improvement assessment of \$95,209 or \$41.74 per square foot of living area, which falls within the range established by the best comparables contained in the record and appears justified when giving due consideration to differences in effective age, dwelling size and some features of the best comparables when compared to the subject. Based on this record, 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 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: January 16, 2024



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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APPELLANT

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