



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

APPELLANT: Debra Venckus  
DOCKET NO.: 21-03829.001-R-1  
PARCEL NO.: 16-36-405-009

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Debra Venckus, the appellant, by attorney Ronald Kingsley, of Lake County Real Estate Tax Appeal, LLC in Lake Forest; 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:** \$95,267  
**IMPR.:** \$129,077  
**TOTAL:** \$224,344

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<sup>1</sup> with 2,874 square feet of living area. The dwelling was constructed in 1951 and has an effective age of 1958. Features of the home include a basement, central air conditioning, a fireplace, and a 378 square foot garage. The property has an approximately 11,552 square foot site and is located in Highland Park, Moraine 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 located within 0.49 of a mile from the subject. The parcels range in size from 13,643 to 15,442 square feet of land area and are improved with 2-story homes ranging in size from 2,622 to 3,134 square feet of living area. The

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<sup>1</sup> Descriptive details regarding the subject not reported by the appellant are found in the subject's property record card presented by the board of review and were not refuted by the appellant in written rebuttal.

dwelling were built from 1926 to 1941 and have effective ages ranging from 1953 to 1964. Each home has a basement, central air conditioning, a fireplace, and a garage ranging in size from 420 to 515 square feet of building area. The comparables sold from March to July 2020 for prices ranging from \$548,750 to \$700,000 or from \$207.40 to \$224.57 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 \$224,344. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$674,719 or \$234.77 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 within 0.23 of a mile from the subject. The parcels range in size from 13,870 to 25,300 square feet of land area and are improved with 2-story homes of brick, brick and wood siding, or stone and brick exterior construction ranging in size from 2,600 to 3,304 square feet of living area. The dwellings were built from 1939 to 1949 and have effective ages ranging from 1951 to 1969. Each home has a basement with finished area, central air conditioning, one or two fireplaces, and a garage ranging in size from 253 to 528 square feet of building area. The comparables sold from September 2020 to December 2021 for prices ranging from \$717,500 to \$964,500 or from \$229.72 to \$307.56 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 a total of eight comparable sales for the Board's consideration. The Board gives less weight to the appellant's comparable #2, which sold for considerably less than the other comparables in this record, and the board of review's comparable #2, which sold for considerably more than the other comparables, suggesting these sales are outliers.

The Board finds the best evidence of market value to be the appellant's comparables #1 and #3 and the board of review's comparables #1, #3, #4, and #5, which are relatively similar to the subject in dwelling size, age, location, and some features. These comparables sold for prices ranging from \$650,000 to \$759,000 or from \$207.40 to \$288.46 per square foot of living area, including land. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$674,719 or \$234.77 per square foot of living area, including land, which is within the range established by the best comparable sales in this record. Based on this evidence and after considering appropriate adjustments to the best comparables for differences from the subject, the Board finds 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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APPELLANT

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COUNTY

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