



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

APPELLANT: Neal Geitner
DOCKET NO.: 21-04610.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 16-04-203-012

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Neal Geitner, 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: \$81,482
IMPR.: \$48,100
TOTAL: \$129,582

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 is described as a 1-story dwelling of wood siding exterior construction with 1,431 square feet of living area. The dwelling was constructed in 1953. Features of the home include a basement, that has finished area, central air conditioning, a fireplace and a detached 240 square foot garage. The property has an approximately 7,800 square foot site and is located in Lake Forest, Moraine 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 that are located within .14 of a mile from the subject. The comparables have sites ranging in size from 8,107 to 11,064 square feet of land area that are improved with what are described as 1-story dwellings ranging in size from 1,389 to 1,669 square feet of living area. The dwellings were built from 1948 to 1960, with homes built in 1954 and 1960 having 1976 and 1963 effective ages, respectively. The

comparables have basements, one of which has finished area, a fireplace, and a garage ranging in size from 440 to 660 square feet of building area. One comparable has central air conditioning. The comparables sold from March 2020 to April 2021 for prices ranging from \$300,000 to \$482,500 or from \$215.98 to \$311.09 per square foot of living area, including land. The appellant critiqued the comparables and included Multiple Listing Service (MLS) information for the appellant's comparable #3, which disclosed the property was rehabilitated in 2011 but has an unfinished basement. 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 \$129,582. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$389,720 or \$272.34 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 that are located within .30 of a mile from the subject. The board of review's comparables #3 and #4 are the same properties as the appellant's comparables #4 and #3, respectively. The comparables have sites ranging in size from 7,100 to 16,720 square feet of land area that are improved with what are described as 1-story dwellings of brick or wood siding exterior construction ranging in size from 1,284 to 1,669 square feet of living area. The dwellings were built from 1953 to 1960, with homes built in 1954 and 1960 having 1976 and 1963 effective ages, respectively. The comparables have basements, two of which have finished area, and a fireplace.¹ Three comparables have central air conditioning and four comparables have an attached or detached garage ranging in size from 441 to 528 square feet of building area. The comparables sold from November 2020 to December 2021 for prices ranging from \$435,000 to \$605,000 or from \$275.61 to \$471.18 per square foot of living area, including land. The board of review submitted MLS information for the appellant's comparable #1, which disclosed the property was an estate sale, that sold "As Is," and needed rehabilitation. The board of review also noted that the subject sold for \$270,000 on August 14, 2019. 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 parties submitted a total of seven comparable properties for the Board's consideration, two of which were submitted by both parties. The Board gives less weight to the appellant's comparable #1, due to its inferior condition at the time of its sale. The Board also gives less

¹ The appellant's MLS data for the board of review's comparable #4 reports the comparable has an unfinished basement.

weight to the board of review's comparable #1, due to its considerably larger site when compared to the subject. The Board finds the parties' remaining comparables, which includes the parties' common comparables, have varying degrees of similarity to the subject. The best comparables sold from June 2020 to December 2021 for prices ranging from \$348,000 to \$490,000 or from \$224.52 to \$324.07 per square foot of living area, including land. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$389,720 or \$272.34 per square foot of living area, including land, which falls within the range established by the best comparables in the record. After considering adjustments to the best comparables for differences when compared to the subject, the Board finds the subject's estimated market value as reflected by its assessment is supported and 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: 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

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

APPELLANT

Neal Geitner, by attorney:
Ronald Kingsley
Lake County Real Estate Tax Appeal, LLC
40 Landover Parkway
Suite 2
Hawthorn Woods, IL 60047

COUNTY

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