



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

APPELLANT: Varughese Philip  
DOCKET NO.: 21-07082.001-R-1  
PARCEL NO.: 03-18-402-015

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Varughese Philip, the appellant, by attorney Ryan Schaeffges, of the Law Office of Ryan Schaeffges, P.C. in Wheeling; and the DuPage County Board of Review.

Based on the facts and exhibits presented in this matter, the Property Tax Appeal Board hereby finds **A Reduction** in the assessment of the property as established by the **DuPage** County Board of Review is warranted. The correct assessed valuation of the property is:

**LAND:** \$40,290  
**IMPR.:** \$86,790  
**TOTAL:** \$127,080

Subject only to the State multiplier as applicable.

**Statement of Jurisdiction**

The appellant timely filed the appeal from a decision of the DuPage 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 and frame exterior construction with 3,120 square feet of living area. The dwelling was constructed in 1989 and is approximately 32 years old. Features of the home include a basement, central air conditioning, a fireplace, and a 600 square foot garage. The property has a 9,440 square foot site and is located in Addison, Addison Township, DuPage 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 one block of the subject. The parcels range in size from 8,480 to 12,956 square feet of land area and are improved with 2-story homes of brick and frame exterior construction ranging in size from 2,964 to 3,420 square feet of living area. The dwellings are 33 years old. Each home has a basement,

one of which has finished area,<sup>1</sup> central air conditioning, and a garage ranging in size from 472 to 540 square feet of building area. Two homes have a fireplace. The comparables sold in June and August 2021 for prices ranging from \$382,000 to \$395,000 or from \$111.70 to \$133.27 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 \$144,480. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$432,187 or \$138.52 per square foot of living area, land included, when using the 2021 three year average median level of assessment for DuPage County of 33.43% 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, together with a grid analysis of the appellant's comparables, property record cards for both parties' comparables, and a map depicting the locations of the parties' comparables in relation to the subject. The board of review's comparables are located within the same assessment neighborhood code as the subject and have sites ranging from 6,600 to 10,648 square feet of land area. The comparables are improved with 2-story homes of brick and frame or frame and brick exterior construction ranging in size from 2,265 to 3,019 square feet of living area. The dwellings were built from 1983 to 1987. Each home has a basement, central air conditioning, a fireplace, and a garage ranging in size from 462 to 504 square feet of building area. The comparables sold from March 2018 to July 2020 for prices ranging from \$370,000 to \$415,000 or from \$137.46 to \$167.55 per square foot of living area, including land. Based on this evidence the board of review requested the subject's assessment be sustained.

### **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 met this burden of proof and a reduction in the subject's assessment is 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 and the board of review's comparables #1, #2, #3, and #5, due to substantial differences from the subject in dwelling size and/or basement finish and/or which sold less proximate in time to the assessment date than other comparables in this record.

The Board finds the best evidence of market value to be the appellant's comparables #1 and #3 and the board of review's comparable #4, which are more similar to the subject in dwelling size, age, location, site size, and features. These most similar comparables sold for prices ranging from \$382,000 to \$395,000 or from \$111.70 to \$137.80 per square foot of living area, including

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<sup>1</sup> Additional details regarding the comparables not reported by the appellant are found in their property record cards presented by the board of review and were not refuted by the appellant in written rebuttal.

land. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$432,187 or \$138.52 per square foot of living area, including land, which is above 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 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.



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Chairman



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Member



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Member



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Member

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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: June 27, 2023



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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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