



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

APPELLANT: James Scott
DOCKET NO.: 21-27119.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 29-03-430-045-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are James Scott, the appellant, by Anthony DeFrenza, attorney-at-law of the Law Office of DeFrenza & Mosconi PC in Northbrook, and the Cook 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 **Cook** County Board of Review is warranted. The correct assessed valuation of the property is:

LAND: \$3,178
IMPR.: \$16,081
TOTAL: \$19,259

Subject only to the State multiplier as applicable.

Statement of Jurisdiction

The appellant timely filed the appeal from a decision of the Cook 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 two-story multi-family building of masonry exterior construction with 3,794 square feet of building area. The building is approximately 51 years old. Features of the building include a slab foundation and four bathrooms. The property has an 8,476 square foot site located in Dolton, Thornton Township, Cook County. The subject is classified as a class 2-11 property under the Cook County Real Property Assessment Classification Ordinance.

The appellant contends assessment inequity regarding the improvement as the basis of the appeal. In support of this argument the appellant submitted information on four equity comparables composed of class 2-11 properties improved with two-story buildings of masonry or masonry and frame exterior construction that have either 3,680 or 3,794 square feet of building area. The buildings range in age from 50 to 56 years old. Each comparable has a slab

foundation and 4 or 4½ bathrooms. The comparables have the same assessment neighborhood code as the subject and are located from .01 to .03 of a mile from the subject property. These properties have improvement assessments ranging from \$9,400 to \$15,011 or from \$2.55 to \$4.08 per square foot of building area. Based on this evidence the appellant requested the subject's improvement assessment be reduced to \$12,577.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" disclosing the total assessment for the subject of \$19,259. The subject property has an improvement assessment of \$16,081 or \$4.24 per square foot of building area. In support of its contention of the correct assessment the board of review submitted information on four equity comparables composed of class 2-11 properties improved with two-story buildings of masonry exterior construction that range in size from 3,680 to 3,794 square feet of building area and in age from 48 to 55 years old. Three properties have slab foundations and one comparable has a full basement with an apartment. The comparables have 3, 4 or 4½ bathrooms, one comparable has a fireplace and one comparable has a 2-car garage. The comparables have the same assessment neighborhood code as the subject and are located in the same block or ¼ of a mile from the subject. Their improvement assessments range from \$16,125 to \$16,702 or from \$4.25 to \$4.54 per square foot of building area.

Conclusion of Law

The appellant 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 information on eight comparables with the same classification code and neighborhood code as the subject property to support their respective positions. The comparables are similar to the subject in location, style, construction, size, and age. The Board, however, gives less weight to board of review comparable #2 as the building has a fireplace, unlike the subject property; less weight to board of review comparable #3 due to the property having a 2-car garage unlike the subject property; and less weight to board of review comparable #4 due to differences from the subject in foundation. The five remaining comparables have slab foundations and 4 or 4½ bathrooms with improvement assessments ranging from \$9,400 to \$16,702 or from \$2.55 to \$4.54 per square foot of building area. The subject's improvement assessment of \$16,081 or \$4.24 per square foot of living area falls within the range established by the best comparables in this record.

The constitutional provision for uniformity of taxation and valuation does not require mathematical equality. A practical uniformity, rather than an absolute one, is the test. *Apex Motor Fuel Co. v. Barrett*, 20 Ill. 2d 395 (1960). Although the comparables presented by the parties disclosed that properties located in the same area are not all assessed at identical levels,

all that the constitution requires is a practical uniformity which exists based on the evidence in this record.

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 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: _____

June 17, 2025



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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