



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

APPELLANT: Julie Ekman
DOCKET NO.: 21-33465.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 14-31-121-008-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Julie Ekman, the appellant(s), by attorney Stephanie Park, of Park & Longstreet, P.C. in Inverness; and the Cook 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 **Cook** County Board of Review is warranted. The correct assessed valuation of the property is:

LAND: \$16,800
IMPR.: \$48,200
TOTAL: \$65,000

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 one and one-half-story, single-family dwelling of masonry construction with 1,505 square feet of living area. Features of the dwelling include two baths, a full finished basement, and a two-car garage. The dwelling was constructed in 1890 and is located in West Chicago Township, Cook County. The property is a class 2-03 per the Cook County Real Property Classification Ordinance.

The appellant contends overvaluation as the basis of the appeal. In support of this argument the appellant submitted an appraisal estimating the subject property had a market value of \$650,000 as of January 1, 2021. The appraisal developed the sales comparison approach to value.

In further support of the overvaluation argument, the appellant also submitted four sale comparables which sold from March 2019 to November 2021 for \$420,000 to \$775,000 or \$297.66 to \$489.50 per square foot of building area, including land.

The appellant also contends assessment inequity as the basis of the appeal. In support of this argument the appellant submitted information on four equity comparables.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" disclosing the total assessment for the subject of \$82,132. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$821,320 or \$545.73 per square foot of living area, land included, when using the 2021 level of assessment for class 2-03 properties of 10% as determined by the Cook County Real Property Classification Ordinance. The subject property has an improvement assessment of \$65,332 or \$43.41 per square foot of living area

In support of its contention of the correct assessment, the board of review submitted three equity comparables and sale data for comparable #2.

In rebuttal, the appellant distinguished the board of review's equity comparables based on amenities and size. In addition, the appellant contends that the board of review failed to address the appeal's equity argument and reaffirmed their request for a reduction in the subject's assessed value.

The parties waived their right to a hearing and agreed to write the appeal on the evidence.

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 has not met this burden of proof and a reduction in the subject's assessment is warranted.

In determining the fair market value of the subject property, the Board finds the best evidence to be the appellant's appraisal. The appellant's appraisers utilized the sales comparison approaches to value in determining the subject's market value. The Board finds this appraisal persuasive because the appraisers have experience in appraising, personally inspected the subject property, reviewed the property's history, and used similar properties in the sales comparison approach while providing adjustments that were necessary. The Board gives little weight to the board of review's evidence as it was raw sales data that did not make any adjustments for age, exterior construction, improvement size, improvement type, location, or market conditions.

The Board finds the best evidence of market value to be the appraisal submitted by the appellant. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$821,320 which is above the best evidence of market value in the record. The Board finds the subject property had a market value of \$650,000 as of the assessment date at issue. Since market value has been established, the 10% level of

assessment as determined by the Cook County Real Property Classification Ordinance shall apply. Since the subject's assessed value was reduced per the appellant's overvaluation argument, the Board finds that the subject is now equitably assessed with further analysis regarding appellant's equity argument.

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:

May 19, 2026



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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