



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

APPELLANT: Srinivas Merneedi
DOCKET NO.: 22-00094.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 15-21-209-022

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Srinivas Merneedi, the appellant, by attorney Gregory Riggs, of Tax Appeals Lake County in Lake Zurich; and the Lake 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 **Lake** County Board of Review is warranted. The correct assessed valuation of the property is:

LAND: \$42,298
IMPR.: \$145,000
TOTAL: \$187,298

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 2022 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-story dwelling of frame exterior construction with 2,648 square feet of living area. The dwelling was constructed in 1996. Features of the home include a basement with finished area, central air conditioning, one fireplace and a 649 square foot garage. The property has an approximately 10,454 square foot site and is located in Buffalo Grove, Vernon Township, Lake County.

The appellant contends assessment inequity, with respect to the improvement assessment, as the basis of the appeal. In support of this argument, the appellant submitted information on five equity comparables located in the same assessment neighborhood code as the subject. The comparables are improved with one-story dwellings of frame exterior construction ranging in size from 2,610 to 2,867 square feet of living area. The homes were built from 1996 to 1998. Each comparable has a basement, three of which have finished area. Each dwelling has central

air conditioning and a garage with either 442 or 649 square feet of building area. Three homes each have one or two fireplaces. Comparable #4 has an inground swimming pool. The comparables have improvement assessments that range from \$111,251 to \$140,203 or from \$38.80 to \$53.37 per square foot of living area. Based on this evidence, the appellant requested the subject's improvement assessment be reduced to \$125,118 or \$47.25 per square foot of living area.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" disclosing the total assessment for the subject of \$206,115. The subject has an improvement assessment of \$163,817 or \$61.86 per square foot of living area. In support of its contention of the correct assessment, the board of review submitted information on five equity comparables located in the same assessment neighborhood code as the subject property. The comparables are improved with one-story dwellings of frame exterior construction each with 2,248 square feet of living area and built in 1996. Each comparable has a basement, with four having finished area. Each dwelling has central air conditioning and a garage with either 506 or 667 square feet of building area. Two homes each have one fireplace. The comparables have improvement assessments that range from \$132,509 to \$142,185 or from \$58.95 to \$63.25 per square foot of living area. Based on this evidence, the board of review requested the subject's assessment be confirmed.

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 met this burden of proof and a reduction in the subject's assessment is warranted.

The parties submitted ten equity comparables for the Board's consideration. The Board gives less weight to appellant comparables #2, #3 and #4 along with board of review comparable #5 which have unfinished basements and/or inground swimming pool in contrast with the subject.

The Board finds the best evidence of assessment equity to be appellant comparables #1 and #5 along with board of review comparables #1 through #4 which are more similar to the subject in location, age, design, basement finish and other features, although the comparables present varying degrees of similarity to the subject in dwelling size. These best comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$122,846 to \$142,185 or from \$46.76 to \$63.25 per square foot of living area. The subject's improvement assessment of \$163,817 or \$61.86 per square foot of living area falls above the range established by the best comparables in this record on an overall improvement assessment basis but within the range on a per square foot basis. After considering appropriate adjustments to the best comparables for differences from the subject, the Board finds the appellant demonstrated with clear and convincing evidence that the subject's improvement was inequitably assessed and 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.



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: February 20, 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

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