



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

APPELLANT: Jason Swartzbaugh
DOCKET NO.: 22-01683.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 14-25-102-001

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Jason Swartzbaugh, the appellant, by attorney Ronald Kingsley, of Lake County Real Estate Tax Appeal, LLC in Hawthorn Woods; 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: \$62,411
IMPR.: \$139,384
TOTAL: \$201,795

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 1-story dwelling of brick and frame exterior construction with 3,649 square feet of living area. The dwelling was constructed in 1987. Features of the home include an unfinished basement, central air conditioning, two fireplaces, and a garage containing 928 square feet of building area. The property has an approximately 76,520 square foot site and is located in Long Grove, Ela Township, Lake County.¹

The appellant contends assessment inequity regarding the land assessment as the basis of the appeal. In support of this argument, the appellant submitted information on twelve equity comparables located in the same assessment neighborhood code as the subject and from .59 of a mile to 1.63 miles from the subject property. The improved parcels range in size from 73,841 to 87,760 square feet of land area and have land assessments ranging from \$24,790 to \$65,332 or from \$0.34 to \$0.77 per square foot of land area.

¹ Additional descriptive details regarding the subject property were gleaned from evidence submitted by the board of review, which was not refuted by the appellant in rebuttal filing.

Based on this evidence, the appellant requested a reduced land assessment of \$57,390 or \$0.75 per square foot of land area.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" disclosing the total assessment for the subject of \$201,795. The subject property has a land assessment of \$62,411 or \$0.82 per square foot of land 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 and from .19 of a mile to 1.06 miles from the subject property. The improved parcels range in size from 58,927 to 86,036 square feet of land area that have land assessments ranging from \$59,475 to \$75,694 or from \$0.80 to \$1.21 square feet of land area.

Based on this evidence, the board of review requested confirmation of the subject's assessment.

Conclusion of Law

The taxpayer 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 record contains a total of seventeen land equity comparables for the Board's consideration. The Board gave less weight to appellant's comparables #1, #2, #3, #7, #8, #9, #11 and #12 along with board of review comparables #1, #2, #4 and #5, due to their dissimilar lot sizes when compared to the subject and/or their distance of over one mile away from the subject property.

The Board finds the best evidence of land assessment equity to be appellant's comparables #4, #5, and #6 along with board of review comparable #3. These comparables have varying degrees of similarity to the subject in land area. The comparables have land assessments that range from \$24,790 to \$73,854 or from \$0.34 to \$0.92 per square foot of land area. The subject's land assessment of \$62,411 or \$0.82 per square foot of land area which falls within the range of the best comparables contained in this record. Based on this record, the Board finds the appellant did not demonstrate with clear and convincing evidence that the subject's land assessment was inequitably assessed and a reduction in the 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: 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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