

# FINAL ADMINISTRATIVE DECISION ILLINOIS PROPERTY TAX APPEAL BOARD

APPELLANT: Scott Humphrey
DOCKET NO.: 22-22361.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 05-08-313-018-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Scott Humphrey, the appellant, by attorney Jeremy Rosenfeld, of Robert H. Rosenfeld & Associates, LLC 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:** \$40,480 **IMPR.:** \$80,353 **TOTAL:** \$120,833

Subject only to the State multiplier as applicable.

#### **Statement of Jurisdiction**

The appellant timely filed the appeal from a Cook County Board of Review decision 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 3,264 square feet, two-story dwelling of masonry construction on a 18,400 square feet lot in Glencoe of New Trier Township, Cook County. The 100-year-old class 2-06 residence has 2.5 bathrooms, a full basement, attached three-car garage, and one fireplace.

Arguing the subject improvement assessment of \$24.62 per square foot is inequitably high, the appellant requested the Board reduce the assessment to \$22.40 per square foot of improvement area. To that end, the appellant selected four properties within a quarter mile of the subject to show that the subject assessment should be between \$20.38 to \$23.96. Each of the appellant's selections featured at least two stories, a full basement, and a two-car garage. All of the appellant comparables were around 80 years old and contained at least one fireplace.

In its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal," the county board of review asserted the subject improvement was correctly assessed at \$24.62, or \$80,353 in improvement assessment for a total property assessment of \$120,833. In support of its assessment, the board of review submitted information on four properties as equity comparables. Each comparable was within a quarter mile of the subject property, had at least 2.5 bathrooms, and featured air conditioning and at least one fireplace.

# **Conclusion of Law**

The taxpayer contends assessment inequity as the basis of the appeal. The Illinois Constitution requires that real estate taxes "be levied uniformly by valuation ascertained as the General Assembly shall provide by law." Ill. Const., art. IX, § 4 (1970); Walsh v. Property Tax Appeal Board, 181 Ill. 2d 228, 234 (1998). Yet this uniformity provision of the Illinois Constitution does not require absolute equality in taxation; instead, a reasonable degree of uniformity in the taxing authority's assessments suffices. Peacock v. Property Tax Appeal Board, 339 Ill. App. 3d 1060, 1070 (4th Dist. 2003).

When the ground for appeal is unequal treatment in the assessment, the inequity of the assessments must be proved by clear and convincing evidence. 86 Ill.Admin.Code §1910.63(e); Walsh, 181 Ill. 2d at 234 (1998). Proof of unequal treatment in the assessment process should consist of assessment documentation for the 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.

The Board finds appellant comparables #1 and #3 and board of review comparable #4 constitute the best evidence of assessment equity. The appellant's comparables both featured smaller garages and living square footage than the subject, but with identical bathroom count and basement quality. Similarly, board of review comparable #4 was smaller in garage size and living square footage relative to the subject property, but featured air conditioning and one extra bathroom. Given the subject's favorable size relative to these comparables, its improvement assessment should be toward the high end of these comparables' range of \$20.38 to \$27.44 per improvement square foot. Because the current subject improvement assessment of \$24.62 falls within the range established by the best comparables in the record, the appellant failed to demonstrate with clear and convincing evidence that the requested reduction in the subject's improvement 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

Chairman

Member

Member

Member

Member

Member

Member

Member

# **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: September 16, 2025

Will Date

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 <u>PETITION AND EVIDENCE</u> 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**

State of Illinois Property Tax Appeal Board William G. Stratton Building, Room 402 401 South Spring Street Springfield, IL 62706-4001

# **APPELLANT**

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# **COUNTY**

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