



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

APPELLANT: Robert Rachford  
DOCKET NO.: 22-40612.001-R-1  
PARCEL NO.: 02-22-401-030-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Robert Rachford, the appellant, by attorney Andreas Mamalakis, of the Law Offices of Andreas Mamalakis in Kenosha; 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:** \$5,625  
**IMPR.:** \$20,333  
**TOTAL:** \$25,958

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 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 frame and masonry exterior construction with 1,586 square feet of living area. The dwelling is approximately 57 years old. Features of the home include a crawl space foundation, 1 full and 1 half bathrooms, central air conditioning and a 2-car garage. The property has a 9,375 square foot site and is located in Palatine, Palatine Township, Cook County. The subject is classified as a class 2-03 property under the Cook County Real Property Assessment Classification Ordinance.

The appellant contends assessment inequity with respect to the improvement as the basis of the appeal. In support of this argument, the appellant submitted information on five comparables located within the same assessment neighborhood as the subject. The comparables consist of class 2-03, 1-story or 1.5-story dwellings of frame and masonry exterior construction ranging in size from 1,275 to 1,716 square feet of living area. The dwellings are 51 to 68 years old. Four

comparables each have a partial or a full basement, and one comparable has a crawl space foundation. Each comparable has 1 to 3 full bathrooms, 1 or 2 fireplaces, and from a 1-car to a 2-car garage. Four comparables each have 1 half bathroom, and four comparables each have central air conditioning. The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$14,000 to \$22,304 or from \$10.08 to \$14.79 per square foot of living area. Based on this evidence, the appellant requested that the subject's improvement assessment be reduced to \$20,333 or \$12.82 per square foot of living area.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal." The appellant submitted a copy of the Cook County Board of Review final decision disclosing the total assessment for the subject property of \$30,000. The subject property has an improvement assessment of \$24,375 or \$15.37 per square foot of living area. In support of its contention of the correct assessment, the board of review submitted information on three comparables located within the same assessment neighborhood as the subject. The comparables consist of class 2-03, 1-story dwellings of frame and masonry exterior construction ranging in size from 1,276 to 1,352 square feet of living area. The comparables are 59 to 63 years old. Each comparable has a partial or a full basement with two having finished area, 1 full and 1 half bathrooms and from a 1-car or a 2.5-car garage. Two comparables each have central air conditioning, and two comparables have either 1 or 2 fireplaces. The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$18,018 to \$18,589 or from \$13.53 to \$14.12 per square foot of living area. Based on this evidence, the board of review requested the assessment be confirmed.

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

The parties submitted eight comparable properties for the Board's consideration. Seven comparables have a basement foundation in contrast the subject's crawl space foundation. Nevertheless, the Board gives less weight to the appellant's comparables #2, #4 and #5 as well as the board of review comparable #2 which are less similar to the subject in design and/or dwelling size than the other comparables in the record.

The Board finds the best evidence of assessment equity to be the parties' remaining comparables. These comparables are relatively similar to the subject in location, design, age and dwelling size; however, these comparables have varying degrees of similarity in other features, including a basement foundation, which is not a feature of the subject. These four comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$14,000 to \$18,589 or from \$10.08 to \$13.94 per square foot of living area. The subject's improvement assessment of \$24,375 or \$15.37 per square foot of living area falls above the range established by the most similar comparables in the record. After considering adjustments to the most similar 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 commensurate with the appellant's request 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: \_\_\_\_\_

January 20, 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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