



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

APPELLANT: Thomas Donnelly
DOCKET NO.: 22-42481.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 13-13-213-032-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Thomas Donnelly, the appellant(s), by attorney Nora Devine, of The Devine Law Group, LLC in Chicago; 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: \$8,640
IMPR.: \$48,860
TOTAL: \$57,500

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 3,600 square foot site improved with a two-story dwelling of masonry construction with 2,748 square feet of living area. The dwelling on the property is approximately 106 years old and has a full basement, two full bathrooms, and a two-car garage. The subject property is located in Chicago, Jefferson Township, Cook County and is classified as a 2-11 property under the Cook County Real Property Assessment Classification Ordinance.

The appellant contends overvaluation and assessment inequity as the bases of the appeal. In support of its overvaluation argument, the appellant submitted an appraisal estimating the subject property had a market value of \$575,000 as of January 1, 2021. The appraiser relied on the sales comparison approach in which he used sales of six comparable properties in Chicago that took place between September 2018 and December 2021 for amounts ranging from \$500,000 to \$635,000, or from \$172.89 to \$221.41 per square foot of living area, land included in the sales

prices. The appraiser adjusted the sales prices to account for differences between the subject and the comparables. Photographs of the subject dwelling's interior were included with the appraisal. The appraiser opined a market value of \$575,000 as of January 1, 2021, for the subject property. The appellant also submitted a copy of the board of review's decision letter reflecting a total assessment for the subject property as \$72,394. Based on the foregoing, the appellant requested a reduction in the subject property's total valuation assessment to \$52,670.

In further support of its overvaluation argument, the appellant submitted information on five suggested sales comparables with varying degrees of similarity to the subject. The comparables were between 0.26 to 0.59 miles from the subject, were of either frame or masonry exterior construction, between 99 and 112 years old, and ranged between 2,592 and 3,309 square feet of living area. The comparables sold from February 2019 to January 2021 for prices ranging from \$165.42 to \$208.33 per square foot of living area, including land. Based on this evidence, the appellant requested a reduction in the subject's total assessment to \$48,994.

Lastly, the appellant asserts assessment inequity as a basis of the appeal. In support of this argument, the appellant submitted information on five class 2-11 equity comparable properties with varying degrees of similarity to the subject. The appellant reported that the comparables were between 518 feet and 0.59 miles from the subject and had improvement assessments ranging from \$15.06 to \$17.80 per square feet of living area. Based on this evidence, the appellant requested a reduction in the subject's total assessment to \$62,336.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" disclosing the total assessment for the subject of \$72,394, with an improvement assessment of \$63,754, or \$23.20 per square foot of living area. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$723,940 or \$263.44 per square foot of living area, land included, when using the Cook County Real Estate Classification Ordinance level of assessment for class 2 property of 10%.

In support of the assessment, the board of review submitted information on sales of three suggested comparable properties. The suggested comparables were sold between May 2022 and July 2022 for amounts ranging from \$775,000 to \$825,000 or between \$275.14 and \$296.98 per square foot of living area, land included in the sales prices. The board of review also submitted information on four suggested equity comparables with assessments per square foot between \$22.92 and \$26.60.

In rebuttal, the appellant argued that the assessed value of the subject property was excessive and reiterated the request to reduce the assessed value of the subject.

This matter was previously set for hearing. Prior to the hearing date, the parties submitted a written request to waive hearing and have this matter written on the evidence previously submitted. The administrative law judge granted the parties' request.

Conclusion of Law

The Board takes judicial notice that the subject property was the subject matter of an appeal before the Property Tax Appeal Board the prior year under Docket Number 2021-49879.001-R-1. In that appeal the Property Tax Appeal Board issued a decision lowering the assessment of the

subject property to \$57,500 on the evidence submitted by the parties. The tax years 2021 and 2022 are within the same general assessment period for Jefferson Township and the appellant disclosed that the subject property is an owner-occupied residence.

The Property Tax Appeal Board finds that the assessment as established by the Board for the 2021 tax year should be carried forward to the tax year at issue subject only to equalization as provided by section 16-185 of the Property Tax Code.

Section 16-185 of the Property Tax Code (35 ILCS 200/16-185) states in part:

“If the Property Tax Appeal Board renders a decision lowering the assessment of a particular parcel on which a residence occupied by the owner is situated, such reduced assessment, subject to equalization, shall remain in effect for the remainder of the general assessment period as provided in Sections 9-215 through 9-225, unless that parcel is subsequently sold in an arm's length transaction establishing a fair cash value for the parcel that is different from the fair cash value on which the Board's assessment is based, or unless the decision of the Property Tax Appeal Board is reversed or modified upon review.” 35 ILCS 200/16-185.

Additionally, section 10-15 of the Illinois Administrative Procedure Act states: “Standard of proof. Unless otherwise provided by law or stated in the agency’s rules, the standard of proof in any contested case hearing conducted under this Act by an agency shall be the preponderance of the evidence.” 5 ILCS 100/10-15. The Board takes official notice that for docket number 21-49879.001-R-1 it rendered a decision lowering the subject’s assessment for tax year 2021 (86 Ill.Admin.Code §1910.90(i)), and that tax year 2021 and the instant tax year of 2022 are in the same general assessment period for Jefferson Township. The Board further finds that the subject is owner-occupied based on the appellant’s statement in Section II of the 2022 appeal form, which states that the subject is owner-occupied. The record contains no evidence indicating that the subject sold in an arm’s-length transaction subsequent to the Board’s decision for the 2021 tax year, or that the Board’s decision for the 2021 tax year was reversed or modified upon review.

For these reasons the Board finds that a reduction in the subject’s assessment is warranted to reflect the assessment as established in the Board’s 2021 tax year decision, plus the application of an equalization factor, if any.

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: _____

October 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 9-215 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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