



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

APPELLANT: Steven Fehlhaber
DOCKET NO.: 23-00348.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 10-33-303-044

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Steven Fehlhaber, 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: \$25,249
IMPR.: \$152,592
TOTAL: \$177,841

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 2023 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 2-story single-family dwelling of brick exterior construction with 3,321 square feet of living area. The dwelling was constructed in 2009 and is approximately 14 years old. Features of the home include an unfinished basement, central air conditioning, two fireplaces, and a garage containing 424 square feet of building area. The subject property has a site of approximately 12,600 square feet of land area and is located in Hawthorn Woods, Fremont Township, Lake County.

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 equity comparables located within the same assessment neighborhood code as the subject property. The comparables consist of 2-story single-family homes of brick or brick and wood siding exterior construction ranging in size from 3,263 to 3,390 square feet of living area. The homes were built

from 2005 to 2008. The comparables each have an unfinished basement, one with a walkout feature. The comparables also each feature central air conditioning, a fireplace, and a garage ranging in size from 483 to 833 square feet of building area. The improvement assessments of the comparables range from \$149,899 to \$161,510 or from \$45.94 to \$47.64 per square foot of living area. Based on this evidence, the appellant requested the subject's improvement assessment be reduced to \$152,592 or \$45.95 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 \$190,112. The subject property has an improvement assessment of \$164,863 or \$49.64 per square foot of living area.

In support of its contention of the correct assessment, the board of review submitted a copy of the property record card for the subject property along with a grid analysis with information on three equity comparables that were also submitted by the appellant. Board of review comparables #1, #2, and #3 are the same properties as appellant's comparables #1, #3, and #5, respectively.

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 a total of five equity comparables in support of their positions before the Property Tax Appeal Board as the board of review comparables were also submitted by the appellant. The Board finds all five comparables to be relatively similar to the subject in location, design, age, dwelling size, and many features. The comparables in the record have improvement assessments ranging from \$149,899 to \$161,510 or from \$45.94 to \$47.64 per square foot of living area. The subject's improvement assessment of \$164,863 or \$49.64 per square foot of living area is above the range established by the equity comparables in this record both in terms of overall improvement assessment and on a per square foot of living area basis. Therefore, based on this record, the Board finds that the appellant established by clear and convincing evidence that the subject dwelling is inequitably assessed and, therefore, a reduction in the subject's improvement assessment commensurate with the appellant's request is warranted.

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: _____

August 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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