



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

APPELLANT: John Bowen
DOCKET NO.: 23-00592.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 02-36-201-021

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are John Bowen, 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: \$18,502
IMPR.: \$89,858
TOTAL: \$108,360

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.

Preliminary Matter

This appeal was filed on January 23, 2024 by counsel using the Board's Electronic Filing Portal (EFP) (86 Ill.Admin.Code Sec. 1910.33, effective January 27, 2023). Pursuant to Standing Order #2 issued by the Board on February 14, 2023, the appellant's comparables #4 through #12 set forth on additional pages, other than the electronic form Sec. V grid analysis, have been "give[n] . . . zero weight" in this decision and will not be discussed further herein [comparables #1, #2 and #3 in the additional grid are duplicates of the Sec. V data].

Findings of Fact

The subject property consists of a two-story dwelling of frame exterior construction with 2,056 square feet of living area. The home was built in 1996 and is approximately 27 years old. Features include a basement with finished area, central air conditioning, a fireplace and a 440

square foot garage. The property has a 13,939 square foot site and is located in Lindenhurst, Lake Villa Township, Lake County.

The appellant contends assessment inequity concerning the improvement as the basis of the appeal. In support of this argument, the appellant submitted information on three equity comparables. The properties are each located in the same neighborhood code as the subject and within .73 of a mile from the subject. The comparables consist of two-story homes of frame exterior construction that are either 26 or 27 years old. The comparables each contain 1,996 square feet of living area. Features include an unfinished basement, central air conditioning and a 440 square foot garage. Two comparables each have a fireplace. The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$94,842 to \$96,102 or from \$39.48 to \$39.87 per square foot of living area. Based on this evidence, the appellant requested a reduced improvement assessment of \$81,346 or \$39.57 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 \$108,360. The subject property has an improvement assessment of \$89,858 or \$43.71 per square foot of living area.

In support of its contention of the correct assessment, the board of review submitted a property record card and information on three equity comparables which are located in the same neighborhood code as the subject and within .68 of a mile from the subject. The comparables consist of two-story dwellings of frame exterior construction that range in age from 24 to 27 years old. The comparables contain either 2,044 or 2,056 square feet of living area. Features include a basement with finished area, central air conditioning, a fireplace and a garage of either 380 or 492 square feet of building area. The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$88,122 to \$91,796 or from \$42.86 to \$44.91 per square foot of living area. Based on the foregoing 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 *met/did not meet* this burden of proof and a reduction in the subject's assessment *is/is not* warranted.

The parties submitted a total of six equity comparables to support their respective positions before the Property Tax Appeal Board. The Board has given reduced weight to the appellant's comparables which are each reported to have unfinished basements, an inferior characteristic when compared to the subject.

The Board finds the best evidence of assessment equity to be the board of review comparables which present varying degrees of similarity to the subject in age, dwelling size and features,

including having finished basement area. The Board recognizes that adjustments to the comparables are necessary for these varying characteristics when compared to the subject in order to make them more equivalent to the subject. These comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$88,122 to \$91,796 or from \$42.86 to \$44.91 per square foot of living area. The subject's improvement assessment of \$89,858 or \$43.71 per square foot of living area falls within the range established by the best comparables in this record both in terms of overall assessment and on a per-square-foot of living area basis. Based on this record and after considering appropriate adjustments to the best comparables for differences when compared to the subject, the Board finds the appellant did not demonstrate with clear and convincing evidence that the subject's improvement was inequitably assessed and a reduction in the subject's 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: _____

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

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

APPELLANT

John Bowen, by attorney:
Ronald Kingsley
Lake County Real Estate Tax Appeal, LLC
40 Landover Parkway
Suite 3
Hawthorn Woods, IL 60047

COUNTY

Lake County Board of Review
Lake County Courthouse
18 North County Street, 7th Floor
Waukegan, IL 60085