



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

APPELLANT: William Schlitz  
DOCKET NO.: 23-01036.001-R-1  
PARCEL NO.: 05-25-407-002

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are William Schlitz, 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:** \$15,133  
**IMPR.:** \$101,769  
**TOTAL:** \$116,902

Subject only to the State multiplier as applicable.

**Preliminary Matter**

This appeal was filed on January 26, 2024 by counsel using the Board's Electronic Filing Portal (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 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 through #9 in the additional grid are duplicates of the Sec. V data].

**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 dwelling of frame exterior construction with 2,996 square feet of living area. The dwelling was built in 2001. Features of the home include an unfinished basement, central air conditioning, one fireplace, and a garage with 588 square feet of

building area. The property has an approximately 8,468 square foot site and is located in Round Lake, Grant 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 nine equity comparables located in the subject's assessment neighborhood and from 0.11 of a mile to 1.22 miles from the subject. The comparables are improved with 2-story dwellings of frame exterior construction ranging in size from 3,012 to 3,072 square feet of living area. The homes were built from 2002 to 2004. Each dwelling has an unfinished basement, central air conditioning, one fireplace, and a garage that ranges in size from 420 to 620 square feet of building area. The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$85,008 to \$87,999 or from \$27.97 to \$28.65 per square foot of living area. Based on this evidence, the appellant requested a reduced improvement assessment of \$84,397 or \$28.17 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 \$116,902. The subject property has an improvement assessment of \$101,769 or \$33.97 per square foot of living area.

In support of this argument, the board of review submitted information on nine equity comparables located in the subject's assessment neighborhood and from 0.02 of a mile to 1.14 miles from the subject. The comparables are improved with 2-story dwellings of frame exterior construction ranging in size from 2,919 to 2,996 square feet of living area. The homes were built from 2000 to 2005. The dwellings each have a basement, three of which have finished area. Each comparable has central air conditioning and a garage that ranges in size from 441 to 651 square feet of building area. Seven comparables each have one fireplace. The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$97,080 to \$107,130 or from \$33.17 to \$36.00 per square foot of living area. Based on this evidence, the board of review requested confirmation of the subject's assessment.

### **Conclusion of Law**

The appellant 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 did not meet this burden of proof and a reduction in the subject's assessment is not warranted.

The parties submitted a total of 18 suggested equity comparables to support their respective positions before the Property Tax Appeal Board. The Board gives less weight to the appellant's comparables as well as board of review comparables #1 through #4, #6, and #9 which are less similar to the subject in dwelling size and/or have basement finish, which the subject lacks. Additionally, the appellant's comparables #1 through #4 as well as board of review comparable #2 are located over one mile from the subject, less proximate in location to the subject than other comparables in this record.

The Board finds the best evidence of assessment equity to be the board of review comparables #5, #7, and #8 which are identical to the subject in dwelling size, unfinished basement, and features with varying degrees of similarity in location and age. The three most similar comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$101,030 to \$104,400 or from \$33.72 to \$34.85 per square foot of living area. The subject's improvement assessment of \$101,769 or \$33.97 per square foot of living area falls within the range established by the three best comparables in this record. Based on this record and after considering adjustments to the best comparables for differences from 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: \_\_\_\_\_

October 15, 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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