



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

APPELLANT: James Ross
DOCKET NO.: 23-01097.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 07-06-305-009

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are James Ross, 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: \$21,481
IMPR.: \$123,878
TOTAL: \$145,359

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 26, 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 #10 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 through #9 in the additional grid are duplicates of the Sec. V data]. (See also, 86 Ill.Admin.Code §1910.80)

Findings of Fact

The subject property consists of a 2-story dwelling of wood siding exterior construction with 3,059 square feet of living area. The dwelling was constructed in 1999 and is approximately 24 years old. Features of the home include a basement with finished area, central air conditioning, one fireplace, a

garage containing 546 square feet of building area and an inground swimming pool.¹ The property has a site with approximately 11,761 square feet of land area and is located in Lake Villa, Warren 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 suggested equity comparables located within the same assessment neighborhood code as the subject property. The comparables are improved with 2-story dwellings of wood frame exterior construction ranging in size from 3,039 to 3,203 square feet of living area. The dwellings range in age from 25 to 28 years old. Each comparable has a basement, central air conditioning, one fireplace, and a garage ranging in size from 504 to 630 square feet of building area. The appellant did not report the basements finished area for the comparables. The comparables have improvement assessments that range from \$103,133 to \$109,032 or from \$33.34 to \$34.16 per square foot of living area. Based on this evidence, the appellant requested the subject's improvement assessment be reduced to \$103,378 or \$33.79 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 \$145,359. The subject property has an improvement assessment of \$123,878 or \$40.50 per square foot of living area.

In support of its contention of the correct assessment the board of review submitted information on three suggested equity comparables located within the same assessment neighborhood as the subject property. The comparables are improved with 2-story dwellings of wood siding exterior construction that contain either 3,034 or 3,039 square feet of living area. The dwellings range in age from 22 to 26 years old. Each comparable has a basement with finished area, central air conditioning, one to three fireplaces, and a garage containing 619 square feet of building area. The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$115,472 to \$116,335 or from \$38.06 to \$38.28 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 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 did not meet this burden of proof and a reduction in the subject's assessment is not warranted.

The parties submitted twelve suggested comparables for the Board's consideration. The Board has given less weight to the appellant's comparables due to their lack of finished basements when compared to the subject and other comparables in the record.

¹ The Board finds the best evidence of subject is found in the subject's property record card provided by the board of review.

The Board finds the best evidence of assessment equity to be the board of review comparables. The Board finds that these comparables are most similar to the subject in location, design, finished basement, dwelling size, age and some features. These most similar comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$115,472 to \$116,335 or from \$38.06 to \$38.28 per square foot of living area. The subject's improvement assessment of \$123,878 or \$40.50 per square foot of living area, is greater than the best comparables in the record, which appears to be logical given the subjects inground swimming pool. 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 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: _____

December 23, 2025



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

James Ross, 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