



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

APPELLANT: Frank Lafasto
DOCKET NO.: 23-01368.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 16-07-408-010

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Frank Lafasto, 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: \$195,845
IMPR.: \$245,445
TOTAL: \$441,290

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 dwelling of brick exterior construction with 5,493 square feet of living area. The dwelling was constructed in 1995 and is approximately 28 years old. Features of the home include a basement with finished area,¹ central air conditioning, a fireplace, an 1,100 square foot garage, an inground swimming pool, and a bath house. The property has a 68,389 square foot site and is located in Lake Forest, West Deerfield Township, Lake County.

The appellant contends overvaluation as the basis of the appeal. In support of this argument the appellant submitted information on three comparable sales located from 0.30 of a mile to 1.22 miles from the subject. The parcels range in size from 80,150 to 120,226 square feet of land area

¹ The parties differ regarding the subject's basement finish. The Board finds the best evidence of basement finish is found in the subject's property record card presented by the board of review, which was not refuted by the appellant.

and are improved with 2-story homes ranging in size from 5,596 to 6,139 square feet of living area. The dwellings range in age from 23 to 34 years old. Each home has a basement, central air conditioning, a fireplace, and a garage ranging in size from 816 to 1,008 square feet of building area. The comparables sold from March 2021 to July 2022 for prices ranging from \$1,145,000 to \$2,100,000 or from \$204.61 to \$350.94 per square foot of living area, including land. Based on this evidence, the appellant requested a reduction in the subject's assessment.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" disclosing the total assessment for the subject of \$441,290. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$1,324,002 or \$241.03 per square foot of living area, land included, when using the statutory level of assessment of 33.33%.²

In support of its contention of the correct assessment the board of review submitted information on two comparable sales located within 0.42 of a mile from the subject. The comparables have 57,935 and 62,291 square foot sites that are improved with 2-story homes of brick exterior construction with 4,866 and 6,772 square feet of living area. The dwellings are 35 or 36 years old. Each home has a basement with finished area, central air conditioning, two fireplaces, and an 806 or a 1,068 square foot garage. The comparables sold in April 2021 and April 2022 for prices of \$1,640,000 and \$1,975,000 or \$242.17 and \$405.88 per square foot of living area, including land, respectively. Based on this evidence the board of review requested confirmation of the subject's assessment.

Conclusion of Law

The appellant contends the market value of the subject property is not accurately reflected in its assessed valuation. When market value is the basis of the appeal the value of the property must be proved by a preponderance of the evidence. 86 Ill. Adm. Code §1910.63(e). Proof of market value may consist of an appraisal of the subject property, a recent sale, comparable sales or construction costs. 86 Ill. Adm. Code §1910.65(c). The Board finds the appellant did not meet this burden of proof and a reduction in the subject's assessment is not warranted.

The record contains a total of five comparable sales for the Board's consideration. The Board gives less weight to the appellant's comparables #1 and #3, which are located more than one mile from the subject, and to the board of review's comparable #2, which is a substantially larger home than the subject.

The Board finds the best evidence of market value to be the appellant's comparable #2 and the board of review's comparable #1, which are more similar to the subject in dwelling size, age, location, and some features, although these comparables each lack an inground swimming pool and a bath house that are features of the subject, one of these comparables has a significantly larger site than the subject but lacks finished basement area that is a feature of the subject, suggesting adjustments to these comparables would be needed to make them more equivalent to

² Section 1910.50(c)(1) of the Board's procedural rules provides that in all counties other than Cook, the three-year county wide assessment level as certified by the Department of Revenue will be considered. 86 Ill. Adm. Code § 1910.50(c)(1). As of the development of this Final Administrative Decision, the Department of Revenue has not published figures for tax year 2023.

the subject. These two most similar comparables sold for prices of \$1,350,000 and \$1,975,000 or \$219.91 and \$405.88 per square foot of living area, including land, respectively. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$1,324,002 or \$241.03 per square foot of living area, including land, which is below the best two comparable sales in terms of total market value and is bracketed by the best comparables on a per square foot basis. Based on this evidence and after considering appropriate adjustments to the best comparables for differences from the subject, the Board finds 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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