



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

APPELLANT: Christina Russo
DOCKET NO.: 23-04544.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 14-26-152-006

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Christina Russo, the appellant, by attorney Andrew J. Rukavina, of The Tax Appeal Company in Mundelein; and the McHenry 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 **McHenry** County Board of Review is warranted. The correct assessed valuation of the property is:

LAND: \$35,339
IMPR.: \$120,952
TOTAL: \$156,291

Subject only to the State multiplier as applicable.

Statement of Jurisdiction

The appellant timely filed the appeal from a decision of the McHenry 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 1-story dwelling of frame and brick exterior construction with 2,400 square feet of living area. The dwelling was constructed in 2021. Features of the home include a walkout basement, central air conditioning, a fireplace, and a 3-car garage.¹ The property has a 0.31 of an acre site and is located in Crystal Lake, Nunda Township, McHenry County.

The appellant contends assessment inequity regarding the improvement as the basis of the appeal. In support of this argument the appellant submitted information on three equity comparables located within the same assessment neighborhood code as the subject. The comparables are improved with 1-story homes of brick and vinyl or brick, vinyl, and stone

¹ Additional features regarding the subject not reported by the appellant are found in its property record card presented by the board of review and were not refuted by the appellant.

exterior construction with 2,400 square feet of living area. The dwellings were built in 2022. Each home has a basement, central air conditioning, and a 3-car garage. Two homes each have a fireplace. The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$52,577 to \$76,366 or from \$21.91 to \$31.82 per square foot of living area. Based on this evidence the appellant requested a reduction in the subject's improvement assessment to \$67,872.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" disclosing the total assessment for the subject of \$156,291. The subject property has an improvement assessment of \$120,952 or \$50.40 per square foot of living area.

In support of its contention of the correct assessment the board of review submitted information on four equity comparables located within the same assessment neighborhood code as the subject. The comparables are improved with 1-story homes of frame and brick exterior construction with 2,400 square feet of living area. The dwellings were built in 2020 or 2021. Each home has a walkout basement, central air conditioning, a fireplace, and a 3-car garage. The comparables have improvement assessments of \$120,953 or \$50.40 per square foot of living area.

The board of review submitted a brief from the township assessor's office contending that the subject's subdivision includes both new construction and older homes. It was further contended that the appellant's comparables are all new construction that were only partially assessed for the 2023 tax year unlike the subject, which was built in 2021 and fully assessed for the 2023 tax year. 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.AdM.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.AdM.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 record contains a total of seven equity comparables for the Board's consideration. The Board gives less weight to the appellant's comparables, which were not fully assessed in 2023 given their 2022 year built, unlike the subject which was built in 2021 and fully assessed for the 2023 tax year.

The Board finds the best evidence of assessment equity to be the board of review's comparables which are identical or similar to the subject in dwelling size, age, location, and features. These comparables have improvement assessments of \$120,953 or \$50.40 per square foot of living area. The subject's improvement assessment of \$120,952 or \$50.40 per square foot of living area falls slightly below the best comparables in terms of total improvement assessment and has the same per square foot improvement assessment as the best comparables. Based on this record and

after considering appropriate 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: _____

January 21, 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

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COUNTY

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