



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

APPELLANT: Laura Gidzinski
DOCKET NO.: 24-00987.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 09-35-407-001

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Laura Gidzinski, the appellant, by attorney Arden Edelcup, of Tax Appeals Lake County in Lake Zurich; and the Lake County Board of Review.

Based on the facts and exhibits presented in this matter, the Property Tax Appeal Board hereby finds **A Reduction** 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: \$42,506
IMPR.: \$166,620
TOTAL: \$209,126

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 2024 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 vinyl siding exterior construction with 3,410 square feet of living area. The dwelling was constructed in 2009. Features of the home include a basement, central air conditioning, a fireplace, and a 1,000 square foot garage. The property has an approximately 43,510 square foot site and is located in Wauconda, Wauconda 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 0.13 of a mile to 3.05 miles from the subject. The parcels range in size from 16,340 to 155,070 square feet of land area and are improved with 2-story homes of vinyl siding exterior construction ranging in size from 2,897 to 3,584 square feet of living area. The dwellings were built from 2001 to 2015 with comparable #3 having a reported effective age of 2012. Each home has a basement with finished

area, two of which are walkouts, central air conditioning, a fireplace, and a garage ranging in size from 600 to 2,769 square feet of building area. Comparable #2 has an inground swimming pool and a carport. The comparables sold from October 2022 to June 2023 for prices ranging from \$540,000 to \$700,000 or from \$184.40 to \$195.31 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 \$223,710. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$671,197 or \$196.83 per square foot of living area, land included, when using the statutory level of assessment of 33.33%.¹

In support of its contention of the correct assessment the board of review submitted information on three comparable sales located from 0.97 of a mile to 1.18 miles from the subject. The parcels range in size from 45,000 to 83,640 square feet of land area and are improved with 2-story homes of brick or wood siding exterior construction ranging in size from 2,642 to 3,546 square feet of living area. The dwellings range in age from 30 to 54 years old with comparable #3 having a reported effective age of 21 years old. Each home has a basement, two of which have finished area, central air conditioning, one or two fireplaces, and a garage ranging in size from 648 to 1,078 square feet of building area. The comparables sold in February 2023 and November 2024 for prices ranging from \$531,000 to \$620,000 or from \$174.84 to \$208.05 per square foot of living area, including land.

The board of review submitted a letter from the township assessor's office contending that there are only nine improved parcels in the subject's subdivision. Only one of these parcels has sold since 2021, the appellant's comparable #1, but the assertions was that sale was a relocation sale (i.e., an unqualified sale). 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.Admin.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.Admin.Code §1910.65(c). The Board finds the appellant met this burden of proof and a reduction in the subject's assessment is warranted.

The record contains a total of six comparable sales for the Board's consideration. The Board gives less weight to the appellant's comparables #2 and #3 and the board of review's comparable #1, due to substantial differences in site size and/or dwelling size when compared to the subject. The Board finds the best evidence of market value to be the appellant's comparable #1 and the board of review's comparables #2 and #3, which sold proximate in time to the assessment date

¹ 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. Admin. 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 2024.

and are more similar to the subject in dwelling size, site size, and some features, although these comparables have finished basement area unlike the subject and two of these three comparables have a much smaller garage than the subject, suggesting adjustments to these comparables would be needed to make them more equivalent to the subject. These most similar comparables sold for prices ranging from \$615,000 to \$621,800 or from \$174.84 to \$208.05 per square foot of living area, including land. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$671,197 or \$196.83 per square foot of living area, including land, which is above the range established by the best comparable sales in terms of total market value and within the range 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 commensurate with appellant's request is 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 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

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

APPELLANT

Laura Gidzinski, by attorney:
Arden Edelcup
Tax Appeals Lake County
830 West IL Route 22
Suite 286
Lake Zurich, IL 60047

COUNTY

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