



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

APPELLANT: Kari Johnston
DOCKET NO.: 24-01003.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 16-04-209-025

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Kari Johnston, 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 **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: \$105,349
IMPR.: \$113,888
TOTAL: \$219,237

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 1.5-story dwelling of brick exterior construction with 1,661 square feet of living area. The dwelling was built in 1930 and is approximately 60 years old that has an effective age of 1962. Features of the home include a basement with finished area, central air conditioning, one fireplace and a garage with 380 square feet of building area. The property has a site with approximately 10,480 square feet of land area and is located in Lake Forest, Moraine 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 three suggested equity comparables. The comparables are located in the same assessment neighborhood code as the subject and within .23 of a mile from the subject property. The comparables are improved with 1.75-story or 2-story dwellings of brick or wood exterior construction ranging in size from 1,872 to 1,907 square feet of living area. The comparables were built from 1947 to 1959 and have effective ages that range from 1959 to 1971. Each comparable has a basement with finished area, central air conditioning, one

fireplace and a garage ranging in size from 294 to 528 square feet of building area. The comparables have improvement assessments that range from \$110,096 to \$126,241 or from \$58.81 to \$66.20 per square foot of living area. Based on this evidence, the appellant requested the subject's improvement assessment be reduced to \$107,965 or \$65.00 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 \$219,237. The subject property has an improvement assessment of \$113,888 or \$68.57 per square foot of living area.

In support of its contention of the correct assessment the board of review submitted information on four suggested equity comparables. The comparables are located in the same assessment neighborhood code as the subject and within .19 of a mile from the subject property. The comparables are improved with 1.5-story or 2-story dwellings of brick, stone or wood exterior construction ranging in size from 1,346 to 1,783 square feet of living area. The dwellings range in age from 75 to 99 years old. Each comparable has a basement, one with finished area, one or two fireplaces and a garage ranging in size from 216 to 720 square feet of building area. Two comparables each have central air conditioning. The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$97,053 to \$123,490 or from \$68.39 to \$72.10 per square foot of living area. Based on this evidence, the board of review requested confirmation of the subject's assessment.

In written rebuttal, counsel for the appellant argued the differences of the comparables presented by the board of review to the comparables submitted by the appellant. Furthermore, counsel for the appellant submitted a grid analysis of the board of review comparables noting that three lack basement finished and were built from 1925 to 1949 and have effective age that range from 1953 to 1980.

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 seven suggested comparables for the Board's consideration. The Board has given less weight to the appellant's comparables as well as board of review comparable #3 due to their differences from the subject in dwelling size.

The Board finds the best evidence of assessment equity to be board of review comparables #1, #2 and #3. The Board finds that these comparables are most similar to the subject in location, dwelling size and some features. These most similar comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$106,000 to \$123,490 or from \$68.39 to \$69.26 per square foot of living area. The subject's improvement assessment of \$113,888 or \$68.57 per square foot of living area falls within the range of the 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 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

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COUNTY

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