



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

APPELLANT: Lawrence Lazar
DOCKET NO.: 24-01105.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 16-21-201-003

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Lawrence Lazar, the appellant, by attorney Andrew J. Rukavina, of The Tax Appeal Company in Mundelein; 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: \$76,565
IMPR.: \$372,222
TOTAL: \$448,787

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 1.75-story dwelling of brick exterior construction with 5,845 square feet of living area. The dwelling was constructed in 2008 and is 16 years old. Features of the home include a full basement with finished area, central air conditioning, two fireplaces, and a 1,083 square foot garage. The property has a 39,700 square foot site and is located in Highland Park, 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 five comparable sales located within the subject's assessment neighborhood and within .24 of a mile of the subject. The comparables consist of 2-story dwellings of wood siding exterior construction ranging in size from 4,011 to 5,474 square feet of living area. The homes were built from 1979 to 2005. Each dwelling has central air conditioning, one to three fireplaces, a full basement with finished area, and a garage ranging in

size from 528 to 1,117 square feet of building area. The comparables sold from September 2021 to June 2023 for prices ranging from \$800,000 to \$1,105,000 or from \$191.99 to \$203.58 per square foot of living area, including land. Based on this evidence, the appellant requested a reduced assessment of \$390,904, for an estimated market value of \$1,172,829 or \$200.66 per square foot of living area, including land, when applying the statutory level of assessment of 33.33%.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" disclosing the total assessment for the subject of \$448,787. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$1,346,496 or \$230.37 per square foot of living area, land included, when applying 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 within .76 of a mile of the subject, two of which are in the subject's assessment neighborhood. Comparable #3 is the same property as the appellant's comparable #1. The comparables consist of 2-story dwellings of brick or wood siding exterior construction ranging in size from 4,602 to 5,474 square feet of living area. The dwellings range from 21 to 47 years old. Each dwelling has central air conditioning, one or three fireplaces, a basement with one having finished area, and a garage ranging in size from 660 to 1,144 square feet of building area. The comparables sold from May 2022 to January 2024 for prices ranging from \$1,105,000 to \$1,695,000 or from \$201.86 to \$368.32 per square foot of living area, including land. Based on this evidence, the board of review requested confirmation of the subject's assessment.

In rebuttal, the appellant argued that the board of review's comparables differ from the subject in dwelling size, bathroom count, and/or attic finish.

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 did not meet this burden of proof and a reduction in the subject's assessment is not warranted.

The parties submitted a total of six comparable sales to support their respective positions before the Property Tax Appeal Board, with one comparable being common to the parties. The Board gives less weight to the appellant's comparables #2, #3, and #4, as well as the board of review's comparable #2, which differ from the subject in dwelling size and/or sold less proximate to the January 1, 2024 assessment date at issue in this appeal than other sales in the record.

¹ Procedural rule Sec. 1910.50(c)(1) 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). Prior to the drafting of this decision, the Department of Revenue has yet to publish figures for tax year 2024.

The Board finds the best evidence of market value to be the parties' remaining comparables, which sold more proximate to the assessment date at issue and are similar to the subject in location, dwelling size, and features. These most similar comparables sold in May and November 2022 for prices of \$1,105,000 and \$1,326,000 or for \$201.86 and \$243.17 per square foot of living area, including land. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$1,346,496 or \$230.37 per square foot of living area, including land, which is above the two best comparable sales in this record overall and bracketed by the best comparables on a per-square-foot basis. The Board finds the subject's higher overall market value is logical given the subject's newer and larger dwelling in relation to the best comparables. Based on this evidence and after considering adjustments to the best comparables for differences when compared to 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

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: February 17, 2026



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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