



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

APPELLANT: Gary Wool
DOCKET NO.: 24-01485.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 16-34-106-030

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Gary Wool, the appellant; 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: \$84,806
IMPR.: \$157,554
TOTAL: \$242,360

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 two-story dwelling of brick exterior construction with 2,566 square feet of living area. The dwelling was constructed in 1965 and is 59 years old. Features of the home include two full and one half bathrooms, a full basement with finished area, central air conditioning, a fireplace, and a 586 square foot garage.¹ The property has a 19,963 square foot site and is located in Deerfield, 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 four equity comparables located within the subject's assessment neighborhood and within .34 of a mile of the subject. The comparables consist of two-story dwellings of wood siding, aluminum siding, or brick exterior construction ranging in size from 2,521 to 3,073 square feet of living area. The

¹ The Board finds the subject's property record card, submitted by the board of review, to be the best evidence in the record of the subject's features.

homes were built from 1964 to 1968. Each dwelling has two full and one half or three full and one half bathrooms, central air conditioning, a fireplace, a basement with three having finished area, and a garage ranging in size from 440 to 506 square feet of building area. The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$146,969 to \$168,878 or from \$52.97 to \$58.30 per square foot of living area. Based on this evidence, the appellant requested a reduced improvement assessment of \$140,737 or \$54.85 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 \$242,360. The subject property has an improvement assessment of \$157,554 or \$61.40 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 subject's assessment neighborhood and within .4 of a mile of the subject. The comparables consist of two-story dwellings of brick exterior construction ranging in size from 2,214 to 2,494 square feet of living area. The homes range from 59 to 62 years old. Each dwelling has two full and one half or three full and one half bathrooms, central air conditioning, a fireplace, a basement with one having finished area, and a garage ranging in size from 440 to 572 square feet of building area. The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$131,487 to \$146,805 or from \$58.18 to \$60.24 per square foot of living area. 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 comparable #4 is dissimilar to the subject due to its additional bathroom. The appellant also noted that the appellant's comparables #3 and #4 should be excluded for this same reason.

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 a total of eight equity comparables to support their respective positions before the Property Tax Appeal Board. The Board has given reduced weight to the appellant's comparables #3 and #4, as well as the board of review's comparable #4, which differ from the subject in dwelling size and/or bathroom count.

The Board finds the best evidence of assessment equity to be the parties' remaining comparables, which are similar to the subject in age, location, dwelling size, and some features. These comparables have improvement assessments that range from \$131,487 to \$150,502 or from \$53.16 to \$59.39 per square foot of living area. The subject's improvement assessment of \$157,554 or \$61.40 per square foot of living area is above the range established by the best

comparables in this record. The Board finds the subject's higher assessment logical given the subject's larger dwelling and larger basement than five of the six best comparables, and larger garage than each of the best comparables. 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 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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