



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

APPELLANT: Jeff Clay  
DOCKET NO.: 24-01563.001-R-1  
PARCEL NO.: 11-03-303-014

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Jeff Clay, the appellant, by attorney Ronald Kingsley, of Lake County Real Estate Tax Appeal, LLC, in Hawthorn Woods, 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:** \$65,447  
**IMPR.:** \$143,807  
**TOTAL:** \$209,254

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 one-story ranch-style dwelling of brick with frame exterior construction with 2,586 square feet of living area. The dwelling was constructed in 1988 and is approximately 36 years old. Features of the home include a basement, central air conditioning, a fireplace, and a 633 square foot garage. The property has an approximately 37,274 square foot site and is located in Waukegan, Libertyville 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 .89 of a mile to 1.58-miles from the subject. None of the comparables have the same assigned assessment neighborhood code as the subject. The parcels range in size from 39,204 to 46,139 square feet of land area which are each improved with one-story dwellings of brick or frame exterior construction. The dwellings range in age from 46 to 66 years old and range in size from 2,135 to

2,484 square feet of living area. Each comparable has an unfinished basement, central air conditioning, a fireplace, and a garage ranging in size from 576 to 1,377 square feet of building area. The comparables sold from January to September 2023 for prices ranging from \$455,000 to \$601,000 or from \$183.17 to \$252.73 per square foot of living area, including land. Based on this evidence, the appellant requested a reduced total assessment of \$193,069 which would reflect a market value of approximately \$579,207 or \$223.98 per square foot of living area, including land.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" disclosing the total assessment for the subject of \$209,254. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$627,825 or \$242.78 per square foot of living area, land included, when using the statutory level of assessment of 33.33%.<sup>1</sup>

In support of its contention of the correct assessment, the board of review submitted information on one comparable sale, noting in a duplicate grid analysis that this comparable is "the only ranch sale in subject's own neighborhood." The comparable is located .097 of a mile from the subject. The parcel contains 39,371 square feet of land area and is improved with a one-story dwelling of frame with brick exterior construction. The home is 37 years old and contains 3,569 square feet of living area. The home has a basement, central air conditioning, two fireplaces, and a 935 square foot garage. The comparable sold in July 2023 for \$970,000 or \$271.78 per square foot of living area, including land. 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 did not meet this burden of proof and a reduction in the subject's assessment is not warranted.

The parties submitted a total of four suggested comparable sales to support their respective positions before the Property Tax Appeal Board. The Board has given reduced weight to appellant's comparable #3 along with board of review comparable #1, due to differences in age and/or dwelling sizes that differ from subject by approximately 17% and 38%, respectively, when compared to the subject.

The Board finds the best evidence of market value is found in the appellant's comparables #1 and #2, which present varying degrees of similarity to the subject. The subject dwelling is newer than these two best comparables, indicating upward adjustments to the comparables would be appropriate to make them more equivalent to the subject. Likewise, there are differences in

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<sup>1</sup> 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 Sec. 1910.50(c)(1). Prior to the issuance of this decision, the Department of Revenue has yet to publish Table 3 with the figures for tax year 2024.

dwelling size, basement size, fireplace count, and/or garage size when compared to the subject which also necessitate adjustments. The best comparables sold in January and September 2023 for prices of \$455,000 and \$601,000 or for \$183.17 and \$252.73 per square foot of living area, including land, respectively. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$627,825 or \$242.78 per square foot of living area, including land, which is above the best comparable sales in this record in terms of overall value and bracketed by the best comparable sales on a per-square-foot of living area basis, which the Board finds to be logical as the subject is 36 years old in comparison to the comparable dwellings which sold and are 46 and 48 years old, respectively.

Based on this evidence and after considering appropriate adjustments to the best comparable sales in the record for differences from the subject to make the comparables more equivalent 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



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 20, 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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