



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

APPELLANT: Brent Freeland
DOCKET NO.: 24-04812.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 04-04-449-001-000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Brent Freeland, the appellant; and the Monroe 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 **Monroe** County Board of Review is warranted. The correct assessed valuation of the property is:

LAND: \$35,790
IMPR.: \$233,020
TOTAL: \$268,810

Subject only to the State multiplier as applicable.

Statement of Jurisdiction

The appellant timely filed the appeal from a decision of the Monroe 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-story dwelling of masonry exterior construction with 3,242 square feet of living area.¹ The dwelling was constructed in 2016 and is 8 years old. Features of the home include a full basement, central air conditioning, a fireplace, a 900 square foot garage, and an inground swimming pool. The property has a 37,026 square foot site and is located in Columbia, Monroe 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 equity comparables located in the subject's subdivision. The comparables are reported to consist of 1-story, 1.5-story, or 2.5-story dwellings of frame and brick exterior construction ranging in size from 2,400 to 3,173 square feet of living area. The homes range in age from 4 to 19 years old.

¹ The Board finds the subject's property record card submitted by the board of review, which contains a property sketch with measurements, to be the best evidence of the subject's dwelling size and features.

Each dwelling has central air conditioning, a fireplace, a basement with two having finished area, and a garage ranging in size from 800 to 1,100 square feet of building area. Comparable #2 has an inground swimming pool. The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$123,970 to \$151,880 or from \$47.87 to \$51.65 per square foot of living area. Based on this evidence, the appellant requested a reduced improvement assessment of \$160,000 or \$49.35 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 \$268,810. The subject property has an improvement assessment of \$233,020 or \$71.88 per square foot of living area.

In support of its contention of the correct assessment the board of review submitted information on three equity comparables located in the subject's subdivision. The comparables consist of 1-story dwellings of masonry exterior construction ranging in size from 3,050 to 3,353 square feet of living area. The homes were built from 2006 to 2013. Each dwelling has central air conditioning, a fireplace, a basement with two having finished area, a garage ranging in size from 800 to 1,337 square feet of building area, and an inground swimming pool. The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$214,420 to \$273,710 or from \$69.62 to \$81.63 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 his comparable #1, despite being described in the comparable grid as a 1.5-story dwelling, is a 1-story home with a walk-out style basement. The appellant also argued that board of review comparable #3 has a finished walk-out style basement with living quarters, and is therefore dissimilar to the subject's unfinished basement.

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 six equity comparables to support their respective positions before the Property Tax Appeal Board. The Board has given reduced weight to the comparables presented by the appellant, which differ from the subject in design, dwelling size, and/or lack an inground swimming pool, a feature of the subject.

The Board finds the best evidence of assessment equity to be the comparables submitted by the board of review, which are similar to the subject in age, location, dwelling size, and most features. These comparables have improvement assessments that range from \$214,420 to \$273,710 or from \$69.62 to \$81.63 per square foot of living area. The subject's improvement assessment of \$233,020 or \$71.88 per square foot of living area falls within the range established

by 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 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: _____

November 25, 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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