



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

APPELLANT: Barbara Pochylski-Ruda
DOCKET NO.: 24-20636.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 13-18-103-046-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Barbara Pochylski-Ruda, the appellant(s), by attorney Dora Cornelio, of Schmidt Salzman & Moran, Ltd. in Chicago; and the Cook 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 **Cook** County Board of Review is warranted. The correct assessed valuation of the property is:

LAND: \$6,435
IMPR.: \$25,425
TOTAL: \$31,860

Subject only to the State multiplier as applicable.

Statement of Jurisdiction

The appellant timely filed the appeal from a decision of the Cook 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 single-family dwelling of frame construction with 1,220 square feet of living area. The dwelling is approximately 57 years old. Features of the home include a full unfinished basement, a fireplace and a 2-car garage. The property has a 4,950 square foot site located in Hardwood Heights, Norwood Park Township, Cook County. The subject is classified as a class 2-03 property under the Cook County Real Property Assessment Classification Ordinance.

The appellant contends assessment inequity with respect to the subject's improvement as the basis of the appeal. In support of this argument the appellant submitted information on five equity comparable properties. The appellant reported that the exact proximity of the comparable properties to the subject was "unknown". The comparable properties are class 2-03 dwellings of frame construction that range in size from 1,243 to 1,320 square feet of living area. The homes

range from 71 to 72 years of age. The appellant reported that one comparable property had a slab foundation, three had a full finished basement and one had a basement apartment. None of the comparable properties had a fireplace. The comparable properties have improvement assessments ranging from \$10.67 to \$11.36 per square foot of living area. Based on this evidence the appellant requested that the subject's improvement assessment be reduced to \$19,916.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" disclosing the total assessment for the subject of \$31,860. The subject property has an improvement assessment of \$25,425 or \$20.84 per square foot of living area. In support of its contention of the correct assessment the board of review submitted information on four comparable properties with varying degrees of similarities to the subject. The board of review did not disclose the exact proximity of three of the suggested comparable properties but did indicate that one was located within a ¼-mile radius from the subject. The comparable properties are one-story class 2-03 dwellings of masonry construction that range in size from 1,060 to 1,352 square feet of living area. The homes range in age from 61 to 68 years old and have full basements. The comparable properties have improvement assessments ranging from \$21.86 to \$21.90 per square foot of living area. Based on this evidence the board of review requested confirmation of the subject's assessment.

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 nine comparable properties for the Board's consideration. The Board finds the best evidence of assessment equity to be comparable #2, #3 and #4 submitted by the board of review. These comparable properties were most similar to the subject in size, age, design and location, and had improvement assessments that from \$21.88 to \$21.90 per square foot of living area. The subject's improvement assessment of \$20.84 per square foot of living area falls below the range established by the best comparable properties in this record. After considering all the comparable properties submitted by the parties with emphasis on those properties that are more proximate in location, more similar in size, and with similar features relative to the subject and after further considering adjustments to the best comparable properties for differences from the subject, the Board finds the subject's improvement assessment is supported. The Board finds that the appellant failed to demonstrate with clear and convincing evidence that the subject's improvement was in equitably assessed and, therefore, a reduction in the subject's assessment commensurate with the appellant's request 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: _____

October 21, 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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