FINAL ADMINISTRATIVE DECISION
ILLINOIS PROPERTY TAX APPEAL BOARD

APPELLANT: Melanie Seilheimer
DOCKET NO.: 25-00547.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 04-33-421-005

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Melanie Seilheimer, 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:	$10,896
IMPR.:	$95,911
TOTAL:	$106,807

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 2025 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 wood frame exterior construction with 1,288 square feet of living area. The dwelling was constructed in 1996 and is approximately 29 years old. Features of the home include a basement, central air conditioning, and a 1,128 square foot garage. The property has an approximately 16,200 square foot site and is located in Beach Park, Benton Township, Lake County.

The appellant contends overvaluation as the basis of the appeal. In support of this argument the appellant submitted information on nine comparable sales located from 0.57 of a mile to 1.58 miles from the subject property. The comparables have sites that range in size from 8,285 to 33,106 square feet of land area and are improved with 1-story dwellings of wood frame exterior construction ranging in size from 1,104 to 1,518 square feet of living area. The dwellings range in age from 46 to 70 years old. Each comparable has a basement and a garage ranging in size

from 513 to 1,172 square feet of building area. Four comparables have central air conditioning. The properties sold from March 2023 to April 2025 for prices ranging from $175,500 to $270,000 or from $156.00 to $229.59 per square foot of living area, land included. Based on this evidence, the appellant requested the subject's total assessment be reduced to $79,419 which reflects a market value of $238,281 or $185.00 per square foot of living area, land included, 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 $106,807. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of $320,453 or $248.80 per square foot of living area, land included, when using the statutory level of assessment of 33.33%.

In support of its contention of the correct assessment the board of review submitted information on two comparable sales located either 0.68 of a mile or 1.18 miles from the subject property. The comparables have sites with 9,760 or 16,475 square feet of land area and are improved with 1-story dwellings of brick or wood siding exterior construction with 1,116 or 1,452 square feet of living area. The homes 51 or 71 years old. Each comparable has a basement, with one having finished area. Each comparable has central air conditioning and a garage with 484 or 780 square feet of building area. One comparable has a fireplace. The properties sold in June 2024 or March 2025 for prices of $278,000 and $363,000 or $249.10 and $250.00 per square foot of living area, land included. Based on this evidence, the board of review requested the subject's assessment be confirmed.

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 eleven comparable sales for the Board's consideration. The Board gives less weight to the appellant's comparables #2 through #7 and #9 along with the board of review's comparable #1 which are less similar to the subject in location, dwelling size and/or sold less proximate to the assessment date of January 1, 2025 than other properties in the record.

The Board finds the best evidence of market value to be the appellant's comparables #1 and #8 and the board of review's comparable #2 which are more similar to the subject in location, dwelling size and sold proximate to the January 1, 2025 assessment date. However, these comparables are each older in age, have smaller site sizes, smaller dwelling sizes and smaller garage sizes when compared to the subject, suggesting upward adjustment are needed to account for these differences. These comparables sold in June and July 2024 for prices ranging from $175,500 to $278,000 or from $156.00 to $249.10 per square foot of living area, including land. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of $320,453 or $248.80 per square foot of living area, including land, which falls above the range established by the best comparable sales in this record on an overall market value basis and within the range on a per square foot basis. Given

the subject's newer age, larger site, dwelling and garage sizes, a market value above the range appears supported. Therefore, after considering appropriate adjustments to the best comparables for differences from the subject, the Board finds the subject's assessment is justified and a reduction in the subject's assessment is not warranted.

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:

C E R T I F I C A T I O N

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 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 9-215 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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