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

APPELLANT: Stephen Keen
DOCKET NO.: 25-01352.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 16-26-107-001

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Stephen Keen, the appellant, by attorney Robert Rosenfeld, of Robert H. Rosenfeld & Associates, LLC in Northbrook; 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:** | $84,461 |
| **IMPR.:** | $114,658 |
| **TOTAL:** | $199,119 |

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 2-story dwelling of brick and wood siding exterior construction with 2,559 square feet of living area. The dwelling is 61 years old. Features of the home include a full basement, central air conditioning, two fireplaces, and a 440 square foot garage. The property has a 10,081 square foot site and is located in Highland Park, Moraine Township, Lake County.

The appellant contends assessment inequity with regard to the improvement as the basis of the appeal. In support of this argument the appellant submitted information on four equity comparables located in the subject's assessment neighborhood and within .48 of a mile of the subject. The comparables consist of 2-story dwellings of brick or brick and wood siding exterior construction ranging in size from 2,763 to 2,992 square feet of living area. The homes range from 61 to 76 years old. Each dwelling has a full basement, central air conditioning, one or two

fireplaces, and a garage ranging from 399 to 528 square feet of building area. The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from $104,851 to $123,055 or from $37.95 to $41.13 per square foot of living area. Based on this evidence, the appellant requested a reduced improvement assessment of $100,696 or $39.35 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 $199,199. The subject property has an improvement assessment of $114,658 or $44.81 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 .49 of a mile of the subject. The comparables consist of 1.5-story or 2-story dwellings of brick exterior construction ranging from 2,252 to 2,745 square feet of living area. The homes are 61 to 71 years old. Each dwelling has a basement, central air conditioning, and a garage ranging from 440 to 523 square feet of building area. Three comparables each have one or two fireplaces. The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from $98,031 to $167,654 or from $43.53 to $64.06 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 eight equity comparables to support their respective positions before the Property Tax Appeal Board. The Board gives less weight to the appellant's comparables #1, #3, and #4, as well as the board of review's comparable #3, which differ from the subject in age and/or dwelling size. The Board also gives less weight to the board of review's comparable #1, which appears to be an outlier based on its much higher assessment in relation to the other comparables in the record. The Board finds the parties' remaining comparables are similar to the subject in age, location, dwelling size, and features. The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from $98,031 to $110,400 or from $38.60 to $44.87 per square foot of living area. The subject's improvement assessment of $114,658 or $44.81 per square foot of living area is slightly above the range established by the comparables in this record overall and within the range on a per-square-foot basis. Based on this record and after considering adjustments to the 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:

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: November 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 9-215 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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