FINAL ADMINISTRATIVE DECISION
ILLINOIS PROPERTY TAX APPEAL BOARD

APPELLANT: Hallie Johnson
DOCKET NO.: 25-01487.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 16-03-307-001

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Hallie Johnson, 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:	$151,292
IMPR.:	$298,699
TOTAL:	$449,991

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 1.5-story dwelling of brick and frame exterior construction with 3,939 square feet of living area.[1] The dwelling was constructed in 1970 and is approximately 55 years old. The dwelling has an effective year built of 1976. Features of the property include a basement with finished area, central air conditioning, four full bathrooms, two fireplaces and a garage with 1,131 square feet of building area. The property has an approximately 40,128 square foot site and is located in Lake Forest, Moraine Township, Lake County.

[1] The subject's property record card disclosed the subject dwelling has a brick and frame exterior with 1,781 square feet of basement finish and two fireplaces, which were not reported by nor refuted by the appellant. The dwelling was remodeled in 2010 and has an effective year built of 1976.

The appellant contends overvaluation as the basis of the appeal. In support of this argument the appellant submitted information on six comparable properties that have the same assessment neighborhood code as the subject, five of which are located within .46 of a mile from the subject property and one is located along the same street as the subject. The comparables have sites that range in size from 38,825 to 47,472 square feet of land area and are improved with two-story dwellings of wood frame exterior construction ranging in size from 3,267 to 4,233 square feet of living area. The dwellings are from 49 to 58 years old. The comparables each have a basement, central air conditioning, either 3½, 4½ or 5½ bathrooms, a fireplace and a garage ranging in size from 576 to 850 square feet of building area. The comparables sold from June 2023 to March 2025 for prices ranging from $765,000 to $1,325,000 or from $234.16 to $343.80 per square foot of living area, including land. Based on this evidence, the appellant requested the subject's total assessment be reduced to $427,995, which would reflect a market value of $1,284,113 or $326.00 per square foot of living area, including land, when using 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 $449,991. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of $1,350,108 or $342.75 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 properties that have the same assessment neighborhood code as the subject and are located within .22 of a mile from the subject property. The board of review's comparable #2 is the same property as the appellant's comparable #6. The comparables have sites with 39,999 and 41,652 square feet of land area. The comparables are improved with a 2-story dwellings of brick exterior construction containing 3,854 or 4,127 square feet of living area. The dwellings are 49 or 57 years old. Each comparable has a basement with finished area, central air conditioning, either 3½ or 5½ bathrooms, one or two fireplaces and a garage with 576 or 637 square feet of building area. The comparables sold in November 2024 and March 2025 for prices of $1,325,000 and $1,615,000 or for $343.80 and $391.33 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 seven comparable sales for the Board's consideration, as one sale was common to both parties. The Board has given less weight to the appellant's comparables #1, #3 and #5, which have sale dates that occurred in 2023, less proximate to the lien date at issue than other sales in the record. Additionally, the appellant's comparable #1 has a substantially smaller dwelling size, when compared to the subject.

The Board finds the best evidence of market value to be the appellant's comparables #2, #4 and #6, along with board of review comparables #1 and #2, which includes the parties' common comparable. The Board finds these four comparables sold more proximate to the lien date at issue and overall are more similar to the subject in location, dwelling size, design and age. However, the Board finds the comparables have varying degrees of similarity when compared to the subject in bathroom count, basement finish, fireplace count and garage size, suggesting adjustments would be required to make them more equivalent to the subject. Nevertheless, the comparables sold from November 2024 to March 2025 for prices ranging from $1,130,000 to $1,615,000 or from $266.95 to $391.33 per square foot of living area, including land. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of $1,350,108 or $342.75 per square foot of living area, including land, which falls within the range established best comparable sales in the record. Based on this record and after considering adjustments to the best comparables for differences from 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:

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

State of Illinois
Property Tax Appeal Board
William G. Stratton Building, Room 402
401 South Spring Street
Springfield, IL 62706-4001

APPELLANT

Hallie Johnson, by attorney:
Ronald Kingsley
Lake County Real Estate Tax Appeal, LLC
40 Landover Parkway
Suite 3
Hawthorn Woods, IL 60047

COUNTY

Lake County Board of Review
Lake County Courthouse
18 North County Street, 7th Floor
Waukegan, IL 60085