



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

APPELLANT: Barry Hayden  
DOCKET NO.: 12-04114.001-C-2  
PARCEL NO.: 04-27-004-402-005

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Barry Hayden, the appellant; the St. Clair County Board of Review; and Southwestern Illinois College, the intervenor, by attorney Garrett P. Hoerner of Becker, Paulson, Hoerner & Thompson, P.C., in Belleville.

Based on the facts and exhibits presented, the Property Tax Appeal Board hereby finds no change in the assessment of the property as established by the **St. Clair** County Board of Review is warranted. The correct assessed valuation of the property is:

**LAND:** \$ 18,944  
**IMPR.:** \$ 255,962  
**TOTAL:** \$ 274,906

Subject only to the State multiplier as applicable.

**Statement of Jurisdiction**

The appellant timely filed the appeal from a decision of the St. Clair County Board of Review pursuant to section 16-160 of the Property Tax Code (35 ILCS 200/16-160) challenging the assessment for the 2012 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 is improved with six, one story mini warehouse buildings of frame and metal construction that total

30,240 square feet of building area. The buildings were constructed in 2011. The property has a 2.5 acre site. The subject property is located in Mascoutah Township, St. Clair County, Illinois.

The appellant argued the subject property was overvalued and inequitably assessed.

In support of the overvaluation claim, the appellant formulated an income approach to value using the subject's purported actual income and expenses for business year 2012, including expenses for depreciation, interest, taxes and licenses. The appellant indicated the subject property has a gross annual income of \$40,204 and expenses totaling \$76,359, resulting in a negative net operating income of \$36,155. The appellant next applied a 10% capitalization rate to the negative net operating income to estimate a market value for the subject property of \$361,550.

In support of the inequity claim, the appellant submitted three mini warehouse properties located 10 or 20 miles from the subject. The comparables contained from 5 to 7 buildings and were built from 1995 to 2005. Total building sizes ranged from 28,550 to 36,020 square feet of building area. The comparables had improvement assessments ranging from \$101,477 to \$166,707 or from \$3.10 to \$5.32 per square foot of building area. Based on this evidence, the appellant requested a reduction in the subject's improvement assessment.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" disclosing the subject's final assessment of \$274,906. The subject property has an improvement assessment of \$255,962 or \$8.46 per square foot of building area.

To demonstrate the subject property was equitably assessed, the board of review submitted information on four mini warehouse properties located 5 to 15 miles from the subject. One comparable was also used by the appellant. The comparables contained from 6 to 12 buildings and were built from 1995 to 2007. Total building sizes ranged from 24,900 to 45,610 square feet of building area. The comparables had improvement assessments ranging from \$117,654 to \$303,693 or from \$4.73 to \$8.96 per square foot of building area. Based on this evidence, the board of review requested confirmation of the subject's assessment.

The intervenor, Southwestern Illinois College, adopted the evidence of the board of review pursuant to Section 1910.99(a)

of the rules of the Property Tax Appeal Board. (86 Ill.Admin.Code §1910.99(a)).

Under rebuttal, the appellant submitted photographs of the comparables used by the board of review. The appellant argued comparable #3 is of superior brick construction when compared to the subject.

### 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 submit any of the requisite evidence and did not meet the burden of moving forward. Therefore, this aspect of the appeal is hereby dismissed. In Commonwealth Edison Company v. Property Tax Appeal Board, 378 Ill.App.3d 901 (2<sup>nd</sup> Dist. 2008), the court held the appellant never carried its burden of production on such claim and never shifted the burden to the board of review to support its position on the value of the subject property, citing section 1910.63 of the rules of the Property Tax Appeal Board. (86 Ill.Admin.Code §1910.63(a)).

The Board finds the appellant's argument that the subject's assessment is excessive when applying an income approach using only one year of the subject's purported actual income and expenses unconvincing and not supported by any credible market evidence in the record. An income analysis using the subject's actual income and expenses is unpersuasive evidence of market value. In Springfield Marine Bank v. Property Tax Appeal Board, 44 Ill.2d 428 (1970), the court stated:

[I]t is the value of the "tract or lot of real property" which is assessed, rather than the value of the interest presently held. . . [R]ental income may of course be a relevant factor. However, it cannot be the controlling factor, particularly where it is admittedly misleading as to the fair cash value of the property involved. . . [E]arning capacity is properly regarded as the most significant element in arriving at "fair cash value".

Many factors may prevent a property owner from realizing an income from property that accurately reflects its true earning capacity; but it is the capacity for earning income, rather than the income actually derived, which reflects "fair cash value" for taxation purposes. Springfield Marine Bank v. Property Tax Appeal Board, 44 Ill.2d at 431. The appellant attempted to demonstrate that the subject's actual income and expenses are reflective of the market. However, in order to estimate the subject's market value using an income approach, as the appellant attempted, the taxpayer must establish through the use of market derived comparable data, market rent, vacancy and collection losses and expenses used to arrive at a net operating income reflective of the market and the property's capacity for earning income. Further, the appellant must establish through the use of market data a market derived capitalization rate to convert the net income into an estimate of market value. The appellant failed to provide any comparable market rental rates, expenses, vacancy rates or a calculation of a market derived capitalization rate. Additionally, the Board finds the appellant made deductions for depreciation, interest, taxes and licenses, which are not allowable expenses for ad valorem taxation purposes. Finally, in terms of market value, the Board's finds it problematic the appellant did not provide the construction cost of the subject property given its new age. The taxpayer alternatively argued 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.

The parties submitted six suggested assessment comparables for the Board's consideration. The Board gave less weight to comparable #1 submitted by the board of review due its larger building area when compared to the subject. The Board finds the remaining five comparables submitted by both parties are more similar to the subject in location and total building area, but are older in age and are inferior to the subject. These comparables had improvement assessments that ranged from \$101,477 to \$287,765 or from \$3.09 to \$8.96 per square foot of

building area. The subject had an improvement assessment of \$255,962 or \$8.46 per square foot of building area, which within the range established by the most similar comparables contained in this record. After considering any necessary adjustments to the comparables for differences to the subject, the Board finds no reduction in the subject's improvement assessment is justified.

The constitutional provision for uniformity of taxation and valuation does not require mathematical equality. The requirement is satisfied if the intent is evident to adjust the burden with a reasonable degree of uniformity and if such is the effect of the statute enacted by the General Assembly establishing the method of assessing real property in its general operation. A practical uniformity, rather than an absolute one, is the test. Apex Motor Fuel Co. v. Barrett, 20 Ill.2d 395 (1960). Although the comparables presented by the parties are not assessed at identical levels, all that the constitution requires is a practical uniformity which appears to exist on the basis of the evidence. For the foregoing reasons, the Board finds that the appellant has not proven by clear and convincing evidence that the subject property is inequitably assessed. Therefore, the Property Tax Appeal Board finds that the subject's assessment as established by the board of review is correct and no reduction is 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.

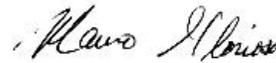
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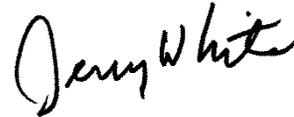
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DISSENTING: \_\_\_\_\_

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: September 18, 2015



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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 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 the subsequent year 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.

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.