



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

APPELLANT: Michael Hawley
DOCKET NO.: 19-42045.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 10-32-206-040-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Michael Hawley, the appellant, by attorney Ellen G. Berkshire, of Verros Berkshire in Oakbrook Terrace; 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: \$9,234
IMPR.: \$49,438
TOTAL: \$58,672

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 2019 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 two-story dwelling of masonry exterior construction with 2,551 square feet of living area. The dwelling is approximately 80 years old. Features of the dwelling include an unfinished basement, central air conditioning,¹ two fireplaces, and a 2.5-car garage. The property has a 6,840 square foot site located in Chicago, Jefferson Township, Cook County. The subject is classified as a class 2-06 property under the Cook County Real Property Assessment Classification Ordinance.

¹ The Residential Appeal petition disclosed in Section III that the home has central air conditioning but in Section V reported the dwelling lacks central air conditioning. The board of review reported the subject has central air conditioning which was not refuted by the appellant. Thus, the Board finds that the subject dwelling has central air conditioning.

The appellant contends assessment inequity with respect to the improvement as the basis of the appeal. In support of this argument, the appellant submitted information on four comparables located within the same neighborhood code as the subject. The comparables are improved with class 2-06 dwellings of masonry or frame and masonry exterior construction ranging in size from 2,234 to 2,879 square feet of living area. The dwellings range in age from 63 to 78 years old. Each comparable has a basement with two having finished area and a 1-car garage. Three comparables each have a fireplace. The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$31,803 to \$39,984 or from \$13.89 to \$14.26 per square foot of living area. Based on this evidence, the appellant requested that the subject's improvement assessment be reduced to \$35,969 or \$14.10 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 \$58,672. The subject property has an improvement assessment of \$49,438 or \$19.38 per square foot of living area. In support of its contention of the correct assessment, the board of review submitted information on four comparables located within the same neighborhood code as the subject. The comparables are improved with class 2-06, two-story dwellings of masonry exterior construction ranging in size from 2,368 to 2,725 square feet of living area. The dwellings range in age from 72 to 96 years old. Each comparable has a basement with three having finished area, one or two fireplaces, and a 1-car or a 2-car garage. Three comparables each have central air conditioning. The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$46,389 to \$66,153 or from \$19.59 to \$26.40 per square foot of living area. Based on this evidence, the board of review requested that the subject's assessment be confirmed.

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 comparables for the Board's consideration. The Board gives less weight to the appellant's comparables and board of review comparables #1 and #2 which are less similar to the subject in dwelling size, age and/or lack central air conditioning, unlike the subject.

The Board finds the best evidence of assessment equity to be the board of review comparables #3 and #4. These comparables are relatively similar to the subject in dwelling size, age, and most features. These two comparables have improvement assessments of \$46,389 and \$53,519 or \$19.59 and \$19.64 per square foot of living area, respectively. The subject's improvement assessment of \$49,438 or \$19.38 per square foot of living area is bracketed by the two best comparables in this record on an overall improvement assessment basis and below on a per square foot basis. After considering adjustments to the best comparables for differences when

compared to the subject, such as their finished basement area, 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: _____

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: September 19, 2023



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

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