



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

APPELLANT: Jeff Smidt
DOCKET NO.: 21-00808.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 14-25-201-001

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Jeff Smidt, the appellant, by attorney Eric Feldman, of Eric Feldman & Assoc. P.C. in Chicago; 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: \$60,616
IMPR.: \$174,123
TOTAL: \$234,739

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 2021 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 wood siding exterior construction with 3,476 square feet of living area. The dwelling was constructed in 1987. Features of the home include an unfinished basement, central air conditioning, a fireplace, an inground swimming pool, and a garage containing 704 square feet of building area. The property has a 182,690 square foot site and is located in Long Grove, Ela Township, Lake County.

The appellant contends overvaluation as the basis of the appeal. In support of this argument the appellant submitted information on four comparable sales located within .7 of a mile of the subject and within the subject's assessment neighborhood. The comparables consist of 1.5-story or 2-story dwellings of wood siding or brick exterior construction ranging in size from 2,756 to 3,428 square feet of living area. The homes were built from 1972 to 1996. Each dwelling has central air conditioning, a fireplace, an unfinished basement, and a garage ranging in size from

618 to 784 square feet of building area. The parcels range in size from 61,820 to 123,570 square feet of land area. The comparables sold from May 2020 to March 2021 for prices ranging from \$520,000 to \$615,000 or from \$163.78 to \$199.18 per square foot of living area, including land. Based on this evidence, the appellant requested a reduced assessment of \$183,333, for an estimated market value of \$550,054 or \$158.24 per square foot of living area, including land, 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 \$234,739. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$705,982 or \$203.10 per square foot of living area, land included, when using the 2021 three-year average median level of assessment for Lake County of 33.25% as determined by the Illinois Department of Revenue.

In support of its contention of the correct assessment the board of review submitted information on five comparable sales located within 1.56 miles of the subject, three of which are in the subject's assessment neighborhood. The comparables consist of 2-story or part 1-story and part 2-story dwellings¹ of wood siding, brick or wood siding and brick exterior construction ranging in size from 3,666 to 4,464 square feet of living area. The dwellings were built from 1989 to 2002. Each dwelling has central air conditioning, one or two fireplaces, a basement with one having finished area, and a garage ranging in size from 690 to 950 square feet of building area. Comparables #2 and #5 each have an inground swimming pool. The parcels range in size from 134,370 to 208,650 square feet of land area. The comparables sold from August 2020 to September 2021 for prices ranging from \$710,000 to \$870,000 or from \$174.62 to \$234.06 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 a total of nine comparable sales to support their respective positions before the Property Tax Appeal Board. The Board gives less weight to the appellant's comparables due to differences in age or site size when compared to the subject. The Board also gives reduced weight to board of review comparables #2, #4, and #5 due to differences from the subject in age or location.

¹ Although the board of review's grid describes comparables #1 and #2 as one-story dwellings, the grid reports a 1,266 square foot ground floor for comparable #1 and a 1,435 square foot ground floor for comparable #2, while reporting 3,717 square feet of above ground living area for comparable #1 and 3,789 square feet of above ground living area for comparable #2, indicating that these properties are part two-story dwellings.

The Board finds the best evidence of market value to be board of review comparable sales #1 and #3, which have varying degrees of similarity to the subject, noting that each lacks an inground swimming pool suggesting upward adjustments would be necessary to make them more equivalent to the subject. These most similar comparables sold for prices of \$710,000 and \$870,000 or for \$174.62 and \$234.06 per square foot of living area, including land. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$705,982 or \$203.10 per square foot of living area, including land, which is bracketed by the best comparable sales in this record on a per-square-foot basis and below the best comparables overall. Based on this evidence and after considering adjustments to the best comparables for differences when compared to 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: _____

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

AGENCY

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

APPELLANT

Jeff Smidt, by attorney:
Eric Feldman
Eric Feldman & Assoc. P.C.
53 W. Jackson Blvd.
Suite 1622
Chicago, IL 60604

COUNTY

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