



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

APPELLANT: Xianghui Song
DOCKET NO.: 21-00816.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 14-14-201-016

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Xianghui Song, 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: \$30,465
IMPR.: \$146,341
TOTAL: \$176,806

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 two-story dwelling of brick and wood siding exterior construction with 3,580 square feet of living area. The dwelling was constructed in 1978. Features of the home include an unfinished basement, central air conditioning, a fireplace, an inground swimming pool, and a garage containing 792 square feet of building area. The property has a 40,110 square foot site and is located in Hawthorn Woods, Ela Township, Lake County.

The appellant contends overvaluation as the basis of the appeal. In support of this argument the appellant submitted information on five comparable sales located within 1.56 miles of the subject and within the subject's assessment neighborhood. The comparables consist of two-story or part

one-story and part two-story dwellings¹ of wood siding or brick and wood siding exterior construction ranging in size from 2,820 to 3,750 square feet of living area. The homes were built from 1978 to 1989. Each dwelling has central air conditioning, one or two fireplaces, an unfinished basement, and a garage ranging in size from 700 to 850 square feet of building area. The parcels range in size from 39,680 to 93,460 square feet of land area. The comparables sold from March 2020 to May 2021 for prices ranging from \$384,000 to \$520,000 or from \$114.04 to \$151.98 per square foot of living area, including land. Based on this evidence, the appellant requested a reduced assessment of \$153,587, for an estimated market value of \$460,807 or \$128.72 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 \$176,806. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$531,747 or \$148.53 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 .97 of a mile of the subject and within the subject's assessment neighborhood. The comparables consist of two-story dwellings of wood siding or brick exterior construction ranging in size from 3,241 to 3,832 square feet of living area. The dwellings were built from 1980 to 1989, with comparable #1 having an effective age of 1991. Each dwelling has central air conditioning, one or two fireplaces, an unfinished basement, and a garage ranging in size from 682 to 950 square feet of building area. The parcels range in size from 40,460 to 135,350 square feet of land area. The comparables sold from February 2020 to December 2021 for prices ranging from \$555,000 to \$669,900 or from \$174.82 to \$195.00 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 ten comparable sales to support their respective positions before the Property Tax Appeal Board. The Board gives less weight to the appellant's comparables #2 through #5 due to differences from the subject in dwelling size, location, and/or site size. The Board also gives reduced weight to board of review comparables #1 and #3, which differ from the subject in effective age and/or site size.

¹ Although the appellant's grid describes comparable #2 as a one-story dwelling, the grid reports a 1,325 square foot ground floor and 3,543 square feet of above ground living area, indicating that this property is a part two-story dwelling.

The Board finds the best evidence of market value to be appellant's comparable sale #1 along with board of review comparable sales #2, #4, and #5, which are similar to the subject in age, location, dwelling size, and some features, noting that none of these comparables feature 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 ranging from \$400,000 to \$660,000 or from \$124.46 to \$190.48 per square foot of living area, including land. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$531,747 or \$148.53 per square foot of living area, including land, which is within the range established by the best comparable sales in this record. 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

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