

PROPERTY TAX APPEAL BOARD'S DECISION

APPELLANT: Robert & Lynn Socol
DOCKET NO.: 04-25548.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 05-18-205-042-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board (PTAB) are Robert & Lynn Socol, the appellants, by attorney Robert Vihon of Worssek & Vihon LLP of Chicago and the Cook County Board of Review (board).

The subject property consists of an 11-year-old, two-story single-family dwelling of frame construction containing 3,786 square feet of living area and located in New Trier Township, Cook County. The residence contains three and one-half bathrooms, a partial basement, fireplaces and a two-car garage.

The appellants' counsel appeared before the PTAB and submitted evidence claiming unequal treatment in the assessment process as the basis of the appeal. In support of this argument, the appellants offered ten suggested comparable properties located within two blocks of the subject. These properties consist of two-story single-family dwellings of masonry, frame or frame and masonry construction and range in age from seven to 58 years. The comparables have two or three bathrooms with some half-baths and nine have full or partial basements, five finished. Nine homes are air-conditioned and nine have fireplaces. Nine sites have one or two-car garages. The comparables contain between 2,042 and 3,615 square feet of living area and have improvement assessments ranging from \$45,967 to \$95,471 or from \$19.68 to \$26.41 per square foot of living area. Based on this evidence, the appellants requested a reduction in the subject's assessment.

The board submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" wherein the subject's final improvement assessment of \$122,012, or \$32.23 per square foot of living area, was disclosed. In support of the subject's assessment, the board offered a printout of the subject's characteristics and information on the subject's January 2003 purchase price of \$1,495,000. The board offered no

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Based on the facts and exhibits presented, the Property Tax Appeal Board hereby finds a reduction 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: \$ 22,771
IMPR. \$102,229
TOTAL: \$125,000

Subject only to the State multiplier as applicable.

PTAB/TMcG.

other evidence to support the subject's current assessment. Based on this evidence, the board requested confirmation of the subject property's assessment.

After hearing the testimony and considering the evidence, the PTAB finds that it has jurisdiction over the parties and the subject matter of this appeal. The Illinois Supreme Court has held that taxpayers who object to an assessment on the basis of lack of uniformity bear the burden of proving the disparity of assessment valuations by clear and convincing evidence. Kankakee County Board of Review v. Property Tax Appeal Board, 131 Ill.2d 1 (1989). The evidence must demonstrate a consistent pattern of assessment inequities within the assessment jurisdiction. After an analysis of the assessment data, the PTAB finds the appellants have overcome this burden.

The PTAB finds the appellants' comparables, especially comparables two and four, are the comparables more similar to the subject. Most of the comparables would require assessment adjustments to compensate for differences in age, living area and construction. The ten properties have improvement assessments ranging from \$19.68 to \$26.41 per square foot of living area. The subject's per square foot improvement assessment of \$32.23 is above this range of properties. After considering the recent purchase price and the differences in both parties' suggested comparables when compared to the subject property, the PTAB finds the subject's per square foot improvement assessment is not supported by the properties contained in the record.

The board offered no equity evidence to support the subject's current assessment.

As a result of this analysis, the Property Tax Appeal Board finds the appellants have adequately demonstrated that the subject dwelling was inequitably assessed by clear and convincing evidence and a 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.



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: February 29, 2008



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.