

PROPERTY TAX APPEAL BOARD'S DECISION

APPELLANT: Steven Scheyer
DOCKET NO.: 04-26455.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 05-06-301-015-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board (PTAB) are Steven Scheyer, the appellant, by attorney Mitchell L. Klein of Schiller, Klein & McElroy, P.C., Chicago, and the Cook County Board of Review (board).

The subject property consists of an 82-year-old, two-story, single-family dwelling of masonry construction containing 2,953 square feet of living area and located in New Trier Township, Cook County. Features of the residence include three and one-half bathrooms, a full-finished basement, air-conditioning, two fireplaces and a one and one-half car attached garage.

The appellant, through counsel, appeared before the PTAB arguing unequal treatment in the assessment process of the improvement as the basis of the appeal. In support of this claim, the appellant submitted assessment data and descriptive information on four properties suggested as comparable to the subject. The appellant also submitted a one-page brief, a copy of a Sidwell Parcel Map, photographs of the subject and the suggested comparables as well as a copy of the board of review's decision. Based on the appellant's documents, the four suggested comparables consist of two-story, single-family dwellings of masonry, frame, stucco or frame and masonry construction located within one block of the subject. Two of the comparables are located on the same street as the subject. The improvements range in size from 2,508 to 3,985 square feet of living area and range in age from 63 to 91 years. The comparables contain from three to four and one-half bathrooms, a finished or unfinished basement and from one to three fireplaces. One comparable has air-conditioning and three comparables contain a one-car or multi-car garage. The improvement assessments range from \$18.24 to \$21.92 per square foot of living area.

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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: \$ 63,116
IMPR.: \$ 136,884
TOTAL: \$ 200,000

Subject only to the State multiplier as applicable.

PTAB/rfd6141

At hearing, the appellant's attorney asserted that the appellant's comparables are similar to the subject and should be considered as such by the PTAB. Based on the evidence submitted, 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 total assessment of \$215,608. The subject's improvement assessment is \$152,492 or \$51.64 per square foot of living area. In support of the assessment the board submitted property characteristic printouts and descriptive data on two properties suggested as comparable to the subject. The suggested comparables are improved with two-story, 67 or 81-year-old, single-family dwellings of stucco or masonry construction with the same neighborhood code as the subject. The improvements contain 3,534 and 4,422 square feet of living area. The comparables contain four or five full bathrooms, a partial-finished or unfinished basement, air-conditioning and one or three fireplaces. The improvement assessments are \$49.34 and \$45.77 per square foot of living area, respectively.

At hearing, the board's representative stated the board of review would rest on the written evidence submissions. Based on the evidence presented, the board of review requested confirmation of the subject's assessment.

In rebuttal, the appellant's attorney argued that the board's comparable one is located 1.45 miles from the subject and that the board's comparable two is located 4.66 miles from the subject.

After hearing the testimony and considering the evidence, the Property Tax Appeal Board finds that it has jurisdiction over the parties and the subject matter of this appeal. The appellant's argument was unequal treatment in the assessment process. 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 Board finds the appellant has overcome this burden.

The Board finds the appellant's comparables to be the most similar overall properties to the subject in the record. These three properties are similar to the subject in age, design and location. They have improvement assessments ranging from \$18.24 to \$21.92 per square foot of living area. The subject's per square foot improvement assessment of \$51.64 falls above the range established by these properties. However, along with other differences, the Board finds two of the appellant's comparables are significantly larger in size of living area as compared to the subject and three of the comparables are inferior in exterior construction. After considering adjustments for size and

construction, and well as other differences in both parties' suggested comparables when compared to the subject, the Board finds the subject's per square foot improvement assessment is not supported by the most similar properties contained in the record. The board's comparables are accorded less weight because they differ from the subject in improvement size, construction and/or location.

As a result of this analysis, the Property Tax Appeal Board finds the appellant has 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: October 31, 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.