



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

APPELLANT: Tom Duffy  
DOCKET NO.: 06-26669.001-R-1  
PARCEL NO.: 13-05-413-004-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Tom Duffy, the appellant, by attorney Stephanie Park, of Park & Longstreet, P.C. of Rolling Meadows; and the Cook County Board of Review.

Based on the facts and exhibits presented, 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:** \$ 7,200  
**IMPR.:** \$ 31,849  
**TOTAL:** \$ 39,049

Subject only to the State multiplier as applicable.

**ANALYSIS**

The subject property is improved with a one and one-half story dwelling of masonry construction. The dwelling is 76 years old. Features of the home include a full, finished basement and central air conditioning. The appellant claims the subject dwelling contains 1,560 square feet. The board of review has the subject's size listed at 2,114 square feet.

The appellant's appeal is based on unequal treatment in the assessment process. The appellant submitted information on 12 comparable properties described as one or one and one-half story frame, masonry or frame and masonry dwellings that are between 69 and 88 years old. The comparable dwellings range in size from 1,618 to 2,940 square feet of living area. Nine of the comparables have a full basement, one of which is finished, two have central air conditioning and 10 have a garage. The comparables have improvement assessments ranging from \$10.25 to \$18.51 per square foot of living area. The subject's improvement assessment is \$20.42 per square foot of living area using a size of 1,560 square feet and \$15.07 per square foot using a size of 2,114 square feet.

In support of the subject's size, the appellant submitted a plat of survey of the subject site. A sketch of the subject dwelling as placed on the site was included in the survey. The plat did not include a summary of the subject's dwelling size based on its dimensions. It did indicate, however, the subject is a one and one-half story style dwelling. The appellant's picture of the subject property also confirms the subject's design as a one and one-half story dwelling. The appellant also submitted an analysis of the subject property and seven comparables as prepared by the Office of the Cook County Assessor. This analysis indicated the subject was a one-story dwelling with 1,560 square feet. Based on this evidence, the appellant requested a reduction in the subject's improvement assessment.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" wherein the subject's final assessment was disclosed. The board of review presented descriptions and assessment information on four comparable properties consisting of one and one-half story masonry dwellings that are between 77 and 81 years old. The dwellings range in size from 1,915 to 2,295 square feet of living area. Each of the comparables has a full basement, one of which is finished, three have central air conditioning and three have a two-car garage. These properties have improvement assessments ranging from \$15.71 to \$17.55 per square foot of living area. Based on this evidence, the board of review requested confirmation of the subject's assessment.

After reviewing the record 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 Board further finds a reduction in the subject's assessment is not warranted.

The appellant contends unequal treatment in the subject's improvement assessment as the basis of the appeal. 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). After an analysis of the assessment data, the Board finds the appellant has not met this burden.

Initially, the Board finds the subject contains 2,114 square feet. The evidence from the Office of the Cook County Assessor indicates the subject dwelling contains 1,560 square feet if classified as a one-story dwelling. However, the evidence contained in the appeal submitted by both parties indicates the subject is a one and one-half story dwelling. As a result, the area from the second floor needs to be included in the subject's size. Therefore, the Board finds that a size of 2,114 square feet is most appropriate for the subject property.

The Board finds the appellant's comparables differed from the subject in design, exterior construction and or size from the subject property. Thus, these comparables received reduced weight in the Board's analysis. The Board finds the comparables

submitted by the board of review were most similar to the subject in design, exterior construction, age and size. Due to their similarities to the subject, these comparables received the most weight in the Board's analysis. These comparables had improvement assessments ranging from \$15.71 to \$17.55 per square foot. The subject's improvement assessment of \$15.07 per square foot of living area is below the range established by the most similar comparables. After considering adjustments and the differences in both parties' comparables when compared to the subject, the Board finds the subject's improvement assessment is equitable and a reduction in the subject's assessment is not 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.

*Ronald R. Cuit*

Chairman

*K. L. Fern*

Member

*Frank A. Huff*

Member

*Mario Morris*

Member

*Shawn R. Lerbis*

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: April 23, 2010

*Allen Castrovillari*

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.