

PROPERTY TAX APPEAL BOARD'S DECISION

APPELLANT: Network Investments, LLC
DOCKET NO.: 06-31173.001-I-1
PARCEL NO.: 13-25-214-010-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Network Investments, LLC, the appellant, by attorney Arnold G. Siegel, Chicago, and the Cook County Board of Review.

The subject property consists of a 29,828 square foot parcel improved with three connected one and part two story masonry constructed industrial buildings containing 33,200 square feet of building area. The subject is located in West Township, Cook County.

The appellant, through counsel, appeared before the Property Tax Appeal Board claiming the subject's fair market value is not represented accurately in its assessment. In support of the market value argument, the appellant submitted a summary appraisal report authored by Clifford D. Aarons of Property Valuation Services, LLC, Chicago. The report indicates Aarons is a State of Illinois certified general appraiser. The appraiser indicated the subject has an estimated market value of \$500,000 as of January 1, 2006.

After a description of the subject property and its environs, the appraiser indicated that the subject was valued as fee simple; the appraiser inspected the subject on December 18, 2006; and gathered and confirmed all information. In addition, the appraisers indicated the subject's highest and best use as vacant would be for development and its highest and best use as improved is its current use.

The appraisal report was limited to the sales comparison approach to value. The appraisers employed the sales of four industrial facilities in market areas similar to the subject's market area and built from 1901 to 1962. The comparables are one-story or one and part two story masonry constructed industrial buildings containing from 17,050 to 47,000 square feet of building area and from 23,087 to 43,560 square feet of land with land to building ratios ranging from 0.57:1 to 1.78:1. The comparables were sold

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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:	\$	91,273
IMPR.:	\$	88,727
TOTAL:	\$	180,000

Subject only to the State multiplier as applicable.

from January 2003 to February 2005 for prices ranging from \$225,000 to \$623,025, or from \$11.62 to \$15.20 per square foot of building area, including land. The appraisers adjusted each of the comparables for size, time of sale, location age, condition, land to building ratio, and other pertinent factors. Based on the similarities and difference of the comparables when compared to the subject, the appraisers estimated a value for the subject of \$15.00 per square foot of building area including land, or \$500,000, rounded, through the sales comparison approach to value.

The appellant's appraisers' final estimate of value was \$500,000 for the subject as of January 1, 2006.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" wherein the subject's final assessment of \$227,086 was disclosed. The subject's final assessment reflects a fair market value of \$630,794, when the Cook County Real Property Assessment Classification Ordinance level of assessments of 36% for Class 5B properties is applied. In support, the board of review offered a memorandum indicating the sales of five properties in the subject's area suggest an unadjusted range of from \$47.33 to \$181.56 per square foot of building area. The writer also cautions that the memorandum "is not intended to be an appraisal or estimate of value and should not be construed as such." Cook County Assessor's Office sales sheets for the six comparables were offered in support. The comparable properties are one or two story industrial buildings built from 1927 to 1949. The comparables range in size from 15,000 to 18,900 square feet of building area and in land size from 15,002 to 87,120 square feet. These sales occurred from June 2001 to June 2005 for prices ranging from \$710,000 to \$2,905,000. Based on the foregoing, 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 it has jurisdiction over the parties and the subject matter of this appeal. The issue before the Property Tax Appeal Board is the subject's fair market value. Next, when overvaluation is claimed the appellant has the burden of proving the value of the property by a preponderance of the evidence. National City Bank of Michigan/Illinois v. Illinois Property Tax Appeal Board, 331 Ill.App.3d 1038 (3rd Dist. 2002); Winnebago County Board of Review v. Property Tax Appeal Board, 313 Ill.App.3d 179, 728 N.E.2d 1256 (2nd Dist. 2000). Proof of market value may consist of an appraisal, a recent arm's length sale of the subject property, recent sales of comparable properties, or recent construction costs of the subject property. Section 1910.65 *The Official Rules of the Property Tax Appeal Board* (86 Ill. Adm. Code §1910.65(c)). Having reviewed the record and considered the evidence, the Board concludes that the appellant has satisfied this burden.

The Property Tax Appeal Board accords primary and substantial weight to the appellant's appraisal. The Board finds that the appellant's appraisers selected four suitable comparable

commercial properties; compared and contrasted the properties to the subject; made well defined adjustments to the comparables; and concluded a well reasoned final estimate of value for the subject from this information. Further, the Property Tax Appeal Board finds that the board of review failed to refute the appellant's contention this appraisal was representative of the subject's fair market value as of January 1, 2006.

In contrast, the Board accords the board of review's submission no weight. The Board finds that the board of review presented what appears to be an in-house memorandum summarizing raw data from the sales of six properties. The Board finds that the memorandum lacked analysis concerning the suggested comparables' similarity or dissimilarity to the subject. Further, there are no adjustments to the sales for time of sale, conditions of sale, condition of the buildings, location, size, or any other factor used in a conventional comparative analysis. In addition, the Board finds that the memorandum's writer plainly states that the documentation submitted by the board of review "is not intended to be an appraisal or estimate of value and should not be construed as such."

Based on the foregoing analysis, the Property Tax Appeal Board finds the subject property had a market value of \$500,000, as of January 1, 2006. Since the fair market value of the subject has been established, the Board finds that the Cook County Real Property Assessment Classification Ordinance level of assessments of 36% for Class 5B properties shall apply and a reduction is accordingly 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.



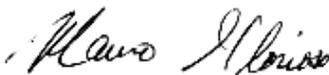
Chairman



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: June 19, 2009



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.