



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

APPELLANT: Karol Tabor  
DOCKET NO.: 07-06112.001-R-1  
PARCEL NO.: 03-00-051-030

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Karol Tabor, the appellant; and the Putnam County Board of Review.

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 Putnam County Board of Review is warranted. The correct assessed valuation of the property is:

**LAND: \$7,500  
IMPR: \$0  
TOTAL: \$7,500**

Subject only to the State multiplier as applicable.

**ANALYSIS**

The subject property consists of .68 of an acre or a 29,620 square foot irregular shaped residential lot located in Putnam County, Senachwine Township, Illinois.

The appellant submitted evidence before the Property Tax Appeal Board claiming the subject's land assessment in not reflective of its fair market value. In support of this claim, the appellant submitted four comparable land sales located in the subject's development. The lots range in size from 11,800 to 15,000 square feet of land area. They sold in September or October of 2007 for prices ranging from \$4,200 to \$17,000 or from \$.29 to \$1.13 per square foot of land area. Based on this evidence, the appellant requested a reduction in the subject's land assessment.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" wherein the subject's final land assessment of \$11,228 was disclosed. The subject's land assessment reflects an estimated market value of \$33,617 or \$1.14 per square foot of land area using Putnam County's 2007 three-year median level of assessments of 33.40%.

In its response letter to the appeal, the board of review "decided it will not stipulate on this docket". The board of review argued appellant's comparable 1 was purchased by four people, each conveyed  $\frac{1}{4}$  ownership interest. The Illinois Department of Revenue did not include this sale in the 2007 sales ratio study. The board of review argued appellant's comparable 2 is not located in Putman County, although it is located in the subject's Lake Thunderbird development. The board of review indicated the subject lot is compared to corner lots due to its size and frontage. The board of review submitted a map depicting four comparable properties to demonstrate uniformity of land assessments. The properties had land assessments of \$11,228, identical to the subject. The board of review did not submit any market evidence, such as similar comparable sales, to support the subject's estimated market value as reflected by its assessment. 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 warranted.

The appellant argued the subject property is overvalued. When market value is the basis of the appeal, the value must be proved by a preponderance of the evidence. Winnebago County Board of Review v. Property Tax Appeal Board, 313 Ill. App. 3d 179, 183, 728 N.E.2d 1256 (2<sup>nd</sup> Dist. 2000). After an analysis of the evidence, the Board finds the appellant has overcome this burden.

The Board gave no weight to the equity analysis and assessment comparables submitted by the board of review. The Property Tax Appeal Board finds the assessment equity evidence fails to address the overvaluation argument raised by the appellant.

The appellant submitted four comparable land sales located in the subject's development. The board of review did not submit any market evidence to support its assessment of the subject property. The Board finds the arm's-length nature of appellant's comparable 1 to be questionable based upon its purchase and conveyance of  $\frac{1}{4}$  ownership interest to four individuals. The Board also gave less weight to appellant's comparable 2 due to its considerably smaller size when compared to the subject. The Board finds the remaining two comparable sales are more similar in location and size, although they are somewhat smaller than the subject. They sold in September and October of 2007 for \$12,000 and \$17,000 or \$.80 and \$1.13 per square foot of land area. The subject's land assessment of \$11,228 reflects an estimated market value of \$33,563 or \$1.14 per square foot of land area, which is slightly higher than the most similar land sales. Accepted real estate theory provides that, all other factors being equal, as the size of real property increases, the per unit value decreases. Likewise, as the size of real property decreases, the per unit value increases. Since the subject is larger than the two most similar comparables, a lower per square foot value is

Docket No: 07-06112.001-R-1

justified. Therefore, a reduction in the subject's assessment 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.

*Ronald R. Cuit*

Chairman

*Frank J. Huff*

Member

Member

*Mario M. Louie*

*Shawn R. Lerski*

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: May 21, 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.