



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

APPELLANT: Paul Soderholm
DOCKET NO.: 07-27619.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 17-05-115-058-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Paul Soderholm, the appellant(s), by attorney Howard W. Melton, of Howard W. Melton and Associates in Chicago; 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: \$13,678
IMPR.: \$62,840
TOTAL: \$76,518

Subject only to the State multiplier as applicable.

ANALYSIS

The subject property consists of a 4,621 square foot parcel of land improved with two buildings. Improvement #1 is a 116-year old, three-story, masonry, multi-family dwelling containing 4,464 square feet of living area, four apartment units, six baths, and a full basement finished with an apartment. Improvement #2 is a 116-year old, two-story, frame multi-family dwelling containing 1,112 square feet of living area, and one bath. The appellant argued, via counsel, unequal treatment in the assessment process of the improvement as the basis of the appeal.

In support of the equity argument, the appellant submitted descriptions and assessment information on a total of four properties suggested as comparable. The properties are located within one-quarter mile of the subject. The properties are improved with two or three-story masonry, multi-family dwellings. The properties are 116 years of age and contain from 3,906 to 4,536 square feet of living area with three to six full baths. The improvement assessments range from \$9.70 to \$11.56 per square foot of living area. The properties also contain: full basements

finished with an apartment for two properties, and a two-car garage for one property. 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 improvement #1 assessment of \$44,368 or \$9.93 per square foot of living area and improvement #2 of \$18,472 or \$16.61 per square foot of living area were disclosed. In support of the subject's assessment, the board of review presented descriptions and assessment information on suggested comparables for each improvement. For improvement #1, the comparable properties are improved with three-story, masonry, multi-family dwellings. The properties range in age from 108 to 119 years and in size from 3,735 to 4,698 square feet of living area and have three full baths. The properties also include full unfinished basements, and a two car garage area for one property. The properties have improvement assessments ranging from \$9.97 to \$11.03 per square foot of living area. Based on this evidence, the board of review requested confirmation of the subject's assessment.

For improvement #2, the board of review submitted property descriptions and assessment information on suggested comparables for three properties. The properties consist of two-story, frame or masonry, multi-family dwellings with two baths, and, for one property, a full unfinished basement. The properties range in age from 103 to 123 years; in size from 1,344 to 1,758 square feet of living area; and in improvement assessments from \$16.56 to \$20.01 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.

As to improvement #1, the parties submitted a total of seven properties suggested as comparable to the subject. The PTAB finds the board of review's comparables #1 and #3 and the appellant's comparable #3 to be the most similar to the subject in size, design, exterior construction, and age. These properties are masonry, three-story, multi-family dwellings located within the subject's neighborhood. The properties range in age from 108 to 119 years; in size from 4,339 to 4,698 square feet of living area; and in improvement assessments from \$9.97 to \$11.25 per square foot of living area. In comparison, the subject's

improvement assessment of \$9.93 per square foot of living area is below the range of these comparables. After considering adjustments and the differences in both parties' comparables when compared to the subject, the Board finds the subject's per square foot improvement assessment is supported and a reduction in improvement #1's assessment is not warranted.

As to improvement #2, the board submitted a total of three properties suggested as comparable to the subject. The PTAB finds the board of review's comparables is the most similar to the subject in design, and age. The properties range in improvement assessments from \$16.56 to \$20.01 per square foot of living area. In comparison, the subject's improvement assessment of \$16.61 per square foot of living area is within the range of these comparables. After considering adjustments and the differences in both parties' comparables when compared to the subject, the Board finds the subject's per square foot improvement assessment is supported and a reduction in Improvement #2'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

J. R.

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: August 28, 2012

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.