



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

APPELLANT: Lawrence B. Sohn
DOCKET NO.: 09-27972.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 04-03-101-121-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Lawrence B. Sohn, the appellant(s); and the Cook 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 Cook County Board of Review is warranted. The correct assessed valuation of the property is:

**LAND: \$ 4,791
IMPR.: \$29,029
TOTAL: \$33,820**

Subject only to the State multiplier as applicable.

ANALYSIS

The subject property consists of 3,686 square feet of land and is improved with an 18 year old, two-story, masonry dwelling with 2,168 square feet of living area. The subject includes two baths, a partial unfinished basement, air conditioning, a fireplace, and a two-car garage.

The appellant argued that the market value of the subject property is not accurately reflected in its assessed value. In support of this overvaluation argument, the appellant submitted a settlement statement stating that that subject sold on July 10, 2009 for \$380,000, or \$175.28 per square foot of living area. The appellant's pleadings further state that the sale was not between related parties, that the property was advertised on the open market for 209 days, that both parties were represented by real estate brokers, that the sale was not pursuant to a short sale or a foreclosure, and that the seller's mortgage was not assumed.

The appellant also submitted MLS printouts and descriptive and assessment date for three recent sales comparables located within two blocks of the subject. These comparables consist of one-story or two-story, masonry dwellings that are 18 years old and contain from 2,424 to 2,610 square feet of living area. These properties all have air conditioning, a fireplace, and a

two-car garage. These properties sold from July 2009 to September 2009 for between \$375,000 and \$432,500, or from \$152.68 to \$165.71 per square foot of living area. 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 total assessment of \$43,061 was disclosed. This assessment yields a market value of \$483,831 for the subject, using the 2009 Illinois Department of Revenue three-year median level of assessment for class 2 property of 8.90%. This market value equates to \$223.17 per square foot of living area for the subject.

In support of the subject's assessment, the board of review submitted descriptions and assessment information for three properties located on the subject's block. These properties are described as two-story, masonry dwellings, which are all 18 years old, and contain from 2,168 to 2,218 square feet of living area. The dwellings have from one and one-half to two baths, and either a slab or a partial unfinished basement. All of the dwellings contain air conditioning, and a two-car garage. These properties have improvement assessments ranging from \$15.60 to \$16.14 per square foot of living area. The board of review also stated that Comparable #1 sold in August 2008 for \$400,000, or \$184.50 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. 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 (3d Dist. 2002); Winnebago County Board of Review v. Property Tax Appeal Board, 313 Ill.App.3d 179 (2d 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. 86 Ill. Admin. Code 1910.65(c). Having considered the evidence presented, the Board concludes that the evidence indicates a reduction is warranted.

The Board finds the best evidence of the subject's market value is the sale of the subject in July 2009. The sale was within seven months of the 2009 assessment date, and the appellant's pleadings support the arm's-length nature of the transaction because the sale was not between related parties, the property was advertised on the open market for 209 days, both parties were represented by real estate brokers, the sale was not pursuant to a short sale or a foreclosure, and the seller's mortgage was not assumed.

Based on this record the Board finds that the subject property had a market value of \$380,000 for tax year 2009. Since market value has been determined, the 2009 Illinois Department of Revenue three-year median level of assessment for class 2 property of 8.90% shall apply. In applying this level of assessment to the subject, the total assessed value is \$33,820 while the subject's current total assessed value is above this amount. Therefore, the Board finds that 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.

Donald 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: June 22, 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.