



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

APPELLANT: Tom Scoufis
DOCKET NO.: 10-27343.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 12-12-127-004-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Tom Scoufis, the appellant; 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: \$ 13,280
IMPR.: \$ 7,422
TOTAL: \$ 20,702

Subject only to the State multiplier as applicable.

ANALYSIS

The subject has 9,486 square feet of land, which is improved with a 56 year old, one-story, masonry, single-family dwelling. The subject's improvement size is 1,128 square feet of living area, which equates to an improvement assessment of \$13.78 per square foot of living area. Its total assessment is \$28,824, which yields a fair market value of \$322,416, or \$285.83 per square foot of living area (including land), after applying the 2010 Illinois Department of Revenue three year median level of assessment for Class 2 properties of 8.94%. The appellant argued that there was unequal treatment in the assessment process of the subject's improvement, and also that the fair market value of the subject property was not accurately reflected in its assessed value as the bases of this appeal.

In support of the equity argument, the appellant submitted descriptive and assessment information for three properties suggested as comparable to the subject. The comparables are described as one-story, masonry, single-family dwellings. Additionally, the comparables range: in age from 54 to 59

years; in size from 1,139 to 2,062 square feet of living area; and in improvement assessments from \$4.72 to \$9.61 per square foot of living area. The comparables also have various amenities.

In support of the market value argument, the appellant submitted descriptive and sales information for four sales comparables. The comparables are described as one-story, masonry or frame and masonry, single-family dwellings. Additionally, the comparables are from 53 to 84 years old, and have from 1,120 to 1,478 square feet of living area. The comparables also have several amenities. The comparables sold between April 2010 and May 2011 for \$185,000 to \$245,000, or \$125.17 to \$204.00 per square foot of living area, including land. Based on this evidence, the appellant requested a reduction in the subject's improvement assessment.

The Cook County Board of Review submitted its "Board of Review-Notes on Appeal," wherein the subject's total assessment of \$28,824 was disclosed. In support of the subject's assessment, the board of review submitted descriptive and assessment information for four properties suggested as comparable to the subject. The comparables are described as one-story, masonry, single-family dwellings. Additionally, the comparables range: in age from 41 to 68 years; in size from 1,104 to 1,334 square feet of living area; and in improvement assessments from \$16.77 to \$21.58 per square foot of living area. The comparables also have several amenities. The board of review's grid sheet also states that the subject sold in February 2007 for \$380,000, or \$336.88 per square foot of living area, including land; and that Comparable #3 sold in April 2008 for \$295,000, or \$267.21 per square foot of living area, including land. Based on this evidence, the board of review requested confirmation of the subject's assessment.

In rebuttal, the appellant submitted new evidence that could not be considered by the Board. He also argued that the evidence submitted by the board of review was not timely.

After reviewing the record, considering the evidence, and hearing the testimony, the Property Tax Appeal Board (the "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. Cook Cnty. Bd. of Review v. Prop. Tax Appeal Bd., 339

Ill. App. 3d 529, 545 (1st Dist. 2002); National City Bank of Michigan/Illinois v. Prop. Tax Appeal Bd., 331 Ill. App. 3d 1038, 1042 (3d Dist. 2002) (citing Winnebago Cnty. Bd. of Review v. Prop. Tax Appeal Bd., 313 Ill. App. 3d 179 (2d Dist. 2000)); 86 Ill. Admin. Code § 1910.63(e). 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. Calumet Transfer, LLC v. Prop. Tax Appeal Bd., 401 Ill. App. 3d 652, 655 (1st Dist. 2010); 86 Ill. Admin. Code § 1910.65(c). Having considered the evidence presented, the Board finds that the evidence indicates a reduction is warranted.

The Board finds that Comparables #1, #2, and #4 submitted by the appellant were most similar to the subject in location, size, style, exterior construction, features, and/or age. Due to their similarities to the subject, these comparables received the most weight in the Board's analysis. These comparables had a price per square foot that ranged from \$196.43 to \$204.00, including land. The subject's price per square foot of \$285.83 is above the range established by the most similar comparables. Therefore, after considering adjustments and differences in both parties' comparables when compared to the subject, the Board finds that the subject is overvalued, and a reduction in the subject's assessment is warranted based on the sales comparables submitted by the parties. Since the subject's market value has been determined, the Board finds that the subject is now fairly and equitably assessed.

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. Crit

Chairman

K. L. Fan

Member

Richard A. Huff

Member

Mario M. Lino

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: January 24, 2014

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.