FINAL ADMINISTRATIVE DECISION
ILLINOIS PROPERTY TAX APPEAL BOARD

APPELLANT: Anthony Trotta
DOCKET NO.: 10-35238.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 16-06-304-002-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Anthony Trotta, the appellant; 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:	$ 5,440
IMPR.:	$ 45,842
TOTAL:	$ 51,282

Subject only to the State multiplier as applicable.

Statement of Jurisdiction

The appellant timely filed the appeal from a decision of the Cook County Board of Review pursuant to section 16-160 of the Property Tax Code (35 ILCS 200/16-160) challenging the assessment for the 2010 tax year. The Property Tax Appeal Board (the "Board") finds that it has jurisdiction over the parties and the subject matter of the appeal.

Findings of Fact

The subject consists of a two-story dwelling of stucco construction with 1,829 square feet of living area. The dwelling is 90 years old. Features of the home include two and one-half baths, a full unfinished basement, central air conditioning, a fireplace, and a two-car garage. The property has a 6,400 square foot site, and is located in Oak Park Township, Cook County. The subject is classified as a class 2-05 property under the Cook County Real Property Assessment Classification Ordinance.

The appellant contends assessment inequity as the basis of the appeal. In addition, the appellant requested that his assessment be reduced by 7%. In support of the equity argument, the appellant submitted information on four equity comparables. The appellant's grid sheet lists sale prices for the subject and two of the comparables. The subject and comparable #4 sold in 2005. Comparable #1 sold in 2007.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" disclosing the total assessment for the subject of $51,282. The subject property has an improvement assessment of $45,842, or $25.06 per square foot of living area. In support of its contention of the correct assessment, the board of review submitted information on four equity comparables.

In written rebuttal, the appellant stated that the subject property has a hot water/ steam heating system. The appellant also stated that board of review comparable #1 is frame construction and that board of review comparable #3 has a three car garage. In addition, the appellant listed various reasons why his suggested comparables are more similar to the subject than the board of review's suggested comparables.

Conclusion of Law

The appellant argued that the subject's assessment should be reduced by 7%. The Board gives little merit to this argument. The Board finds this type of argument is not a persuasive indicator that demonstrates the subject property is inequitably assessed by clear and convincing evidence. The Board finds rising or falling assessments on a percentage basis do not indicate whether a property is equitably assessed. The Board finds assessors and boards of review are required by the Property Tax Code to revise and correct real property assessments, reflect market value, maintain uniformity of assessments, and be fair and just. This may result in properties having increased or decreased assessments of varying percentages.

The taxpayer contends assessment inequity as the basis of the appeal. When unequal treatment in the assessment process is the basis of the appeal, the inequity of the assessments must be proved by clear and convincing evidence. 86 Ill.Admin.Code §1910.63(e). Proof of unequal treatment in the assessment process should consist of documentation of the assessments for the assessment year in question of not less than three

comparable properties showing the similarity, proximity and lack of distinguishing characteristics of the assessment comparables to the subject property. 86 Ill.Admin.Code §1910.65(b). The Board finds the appellant did not meet this burden of proof and a reduction in the subject's assessment is not warranted.

The Board finds the best evidence of assessment equity to be appellant's comparables #1, #3, and #4 and board of review comparable #1. These comparables had improvement assessments that ranged from $21.30 to $28.15 per square foot of living area. The subject's assessment of $25.06 per square foot of living area falls within the range established by the best comparables in this record. Based on this record, the Board finds the appellant did not demonstrate with clear and convincing evidence that the subject's improvement was inequitably assessed, and a reduction in the subject's assessment is not justified.

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: October 24, 2014

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.