



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

APPELLANT: Paul Pals
DOCKET NO.: 11-00639.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 23-15-12-301-023-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Paul Pals, the appellant, by attorney Russell T. Paarlberg of Lanting, Paarlberg & Associates, Ltd., in Schererville, and the Will 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 Will County Board of Review is warranted. The correct assessed valuation of the property is:

LAND: \$28,668
IMPR: \$100,851
TOTAL: \$129,519

Subject only to the State multiplier as applicable.

Statement of Jurisdiction

The appellant timely filed the appeal from a decision of the Will County Board of Review pursuant to section 16-160 of the Property Tax Code (35 ILCS 200/16-160) challenging the assessment for the 2011 tax year. The Property Tax Appeal Board finds that it has jurisdiction over the parties and the subject matter of the appeal.

Findings of Fact

The subject property consists of a one-story single-family dwelling of brick construction with 3,957 square feet of living area. The dwelling was constructed in 2000. Features of the home include a full walkout-style unfinished basement, central air conditioning, two fireplaces and an attached three-car

garage. The property has a 1.386-acre site and is located in Crete, Crete Township, Will County.

The appellant marked comparable sales, assessment equity and recent appraisal as the bases of the appeal in Section 2d of the appeal petition. The only evidence submitted in support of these three claims was an appraisal of the subject property. Thus, the appellant contends only overvaluation as the basis of this appeal based upon an appraisal estimating the subject property had a market value of \$390,000 as of January 1, 2011. As to the subject dwelling, the appraiser noted some functional obsolescence "due to the home having features for wheelchair accessibility and lower countertops in the kitchen and baths; wider hallways; a platform elevator; indoor/outdoor type carpeting in the bedrooms; open areas under the sinks; etc." The appraiser also wrote in the addendum that due to the lack of more recent sales in Crete, older sales were used and given time adjustments due to superior market conditions at the time of sale. Based on this evidence, the appellant requested an assessment reflective of the appraised value.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" disclosing the total assessment for the subject of \$160,447. The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$483,129 or \$122.09 per square foot of living area, land included, when using the 2011 three year average median level of assessment for Will County of 33.21% as determined by the Illinois Department of Revenue.

In response to the appeal, the board of review submitted a two-page memorandum from Mary Tamez, Deputy Assessor for Crete Township, along with supporting documentation. The deputy assessor contended that appraisal comparables #4 and #5 are not located in Crete Township and for appraisal sale #2, the deputy assessor cited to a January 2008 sale of this property for \$472,500 whereas the appraiser cited a February 2006 sale for \$595,000.

Additionally, the appellant's appraiser presented listings as comparables #5, #6 and #7 whereas the assessor presented the September 2007 sale price of comparable #5 for \$559,900 instead of its 2011 asking price of \$499,900; the assessor also acknowledged that comparable #6 sold in 2011 and comparable #7 sold in 2012, but did not outline their sale prices in the memorandum. One sale was said to be "invalid" due to having sold at auction and other sales or listings were not within the time period of 2008, 2009 or 2010 sales which the assessor's

office considered in developing the subject's 2011 assessment. Based on the deputy assessor's analysis of the appraisal data with sales prices ranging from \$141.23 to \$162.19 per square foot of living area, including land, the deputy assessor concluded that subject is below the range and "no adjustment is needed at this time."

Based on the foregoing evidence, the board of review requested confirmation of the subject's assessment.

Conclusion of Law

The appellant contends the market value of the subject property is not accurately reflected in its assessed valuation. When market value is the basis of the appeal the value of the property must be proved by a preponderance of the evidence. 86 Ill.Admin.Code §1910.63(e). Proof of market value may consist of an appraisal of the subject property, a recent sale, comparable sales or construction costs. 86 Ill.Admin.Code §1910.65(c). The Board finds the appellant met this burden of proof and a reduction in the subject's assessment is warranted.

The Board finds the best evidence of market value to be the appraisal submitted by the appellant that analyzed seven comparable sales and listings of one-story dwellings that were built between 1991 and 2006. The homes range in size from approximately 2,649 to 3,506 square feet of living area. The sales occurred between February 2006 and July 2010 for prices ranging from \$385,000 to \$600,000 or from \$139.59 to \$220.26 per square foot of living area, including land. The board of review presented the January 2008 sale price of appraisal comparable #2 of \$472,500 or \$141.47 per square foot of living area, including land. The appellant's appraiser made adjustments to the data for date of sale/time, site, quality of construction, age, condition, dwelling size, basement finish, functional utility and/or other amenities. The comparables presented adjusted sale prices ranging from \$299,900 to \$499,900.

The subject's assessment reflects a market value of \$483,129 or \$122.09 per square foot of living area, including land, which is above the appraised value of \$390,000. Based on the limited evidence in this record, the Board finds the subject property had a market value of \$390,000 as of the assessment date at issue. Since market value has been established the 2011 three year average median level of assessments for Will County of 33.21% as determined by the Illinois Department of Revenue shall apply. (86 Ill.Admin.Code §1910.50(c)(1)).

Docket No: 11-00639.001-R-1

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

Tracy A. Huff

Member

Mario Morris

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: June 20, 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.