## Village of Carol Stream

# **Special Meeting of the Village Board Rental Housing Licensing Program**

Gregory J. Bielawski Municipal Center 500 N. Gary Avenue, Carol Stream, IL 60188 August 18, 2014 6:00 p.m. – 7:23 p.m.

### **Meeting Notes**

#### ATTENDANCE:

Mayor Frank Saverino, Sr.
Trustee Matt McCarthy
Trustee Don Weiss
Trustee Mary Frusolone
Trustee Rick Gieser
Trustee John LaRocca
Clerk Beth Melody

Joseph E. Breinig, Village Manager
Robert Mellor, Asst. Village Manager
Chris Oakley, Asst. to the Village Manager
Ed Sailer, Acting Chief of Police
James Knudsen, Dir. Engineering Services
Robert Glees, Dir. of Community Dev.
Jon Batek, Finance Director
Tom Eby, Police Officer
Tom Miller, Police Commander
Jason Guisinger, Village Attorney
Michelle Moore, Village Prosecutor
Rick Brogan, Hanover Park Crime Free
Housing Coordinator

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Mayor Saverino and the roll call read by Village Clerk Melody. The result of the roll call vote was as follows:

Present:

Mayor Saverino, Trustees LaRocca, Gieser, Frusolone, Weiss and McCarthy

Absent:

Trustee Schwarze

## **Rental Housing Licensing Program**

Rick Brogan, Hanover Park Crime Free Housing Coordinator made a presentation regarding crime free housing. Crime Free Addendum allows problem tenant to be evicted. Excludes domestic violence from crime free lease addendum, dealt with as a crime. Do not evict spouse due to domestic violence issue. Landlord is responsible for crime free, not the tenants. The landlord, not the Village makes sure the housing is crime free. We will work with landlords, do not bring to court. Warning letter from the Chief of Police for the first violation. Any subsequent offense would be a \$750.00 fine to the landlord, not the tenant. You need to educate the landlords. Section 8 housing is much better now. Over 18 years of age, you must sign the crime free addendum. Rental Properties need to take the class also. Let landlords know you have social workers.

Acting Police Chief Ed Sailer presented a power point presentation on Crime Free Housing which consisted of the following:

#### • What it is

It partners property owners, residents, and law enforcement personnel in an effort to eliminate crime in multi-housing properties.

Provides additional resources for owners and landlords

Extend our community policing philosophy to work in conjunction with all owners and neighborhoods.

#### Benefits

Lower maintenance and repair costs.

Increased property values

Improved personal safety for tenants, landlords and managers

Reduced exposure to civil liability

A stable, more satisfied tenant base

Increased demand for rental units with a reputation for active management.

#### • Village Statistics

There are approximately 4500 rental units within the Village.

Of these, approximately 700 are single family homes/townhomes.

#### • Program Phases

Phase I-Mandatory eight hour training seminar.

Phase II-Inspection and CPTED survey.

Phase III-Crime Free Commitment

#### • Phase 1 – Training

Crime Prevention Theory

CPTED (Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design) Theory

Benefits of resident Screening

Lease Agreements and Eviction Issues

Crime Free Lease Addendum

#### • Phase 2 – CPTED Survey

**CPTED Survey** 

Minimum window, door and lock standards

Minimum exterior lighting standards

Key control procedures

Landscape and maintenance standards

#### • Phase 3 – Crime Free Commitment

**Landlords Written Commitment** 

**Tenant Screening** 

Crime Free Lease Addendum

Maintenance of Property

Working with the Police

#### • Training Seminars

Seminars will be held at the Village Hall

Instructors will include the Crime Free Housing Coordinator and Crime Prevention Officer. They also may include the Fire Department and our local prosecutor.

Dates and times will be alternated from weekdays, weekends, and split days (4 hours each)

Classes held approximately four times a month

#### • Seminar Topics

Crime Free Lease Addendum

**Application Process** 

Background and Credit Checks

**CPTED** and Crime Prevention

Active Property Management Crime Problems

Non-Compliance

#### Seminar Guidelines

Initial seminars held for large properties Subsequent seminars held for all others

Mandatory attendance to receive rental license

Recertification not required.

#### • Exceptions

All elderly, retirement and nursing facilities

Belmont Village, Colony Park and Windsor Park

#### • Recommendations

Adopt an ordinance with a fee schedule

Adopt a Nuisance Abatement Ordinance specifically for Crime Free Housing

Hire a coordinator and send to training if necessary

Purchase computer tracking software

Advertise and announce the program to renters and to the public

Focus on collecting information for licensing

Educate owners/managers

#### • Short Term Recommendations

Only Require Phase I

Educate owners/managers about the possible ramifications of non-compliance and violations

#### • Long Term Recommendations

Perform inspections on a rotating basis

Hire an additional person to assist the coordinator with inspections and the identification of code violations

#### • Fee Options

Flat fee for apartments

Flat fee for all others

Sliding scale fee per apartment building

#### Fines

Non-compliance of obtaining a license is \$750

Criminal activity/nuisances on property for owner is \$750

Materials for eviction will be provided to owners upon request

Fines for property violations will be last resort

#### • Notices for Eviction

5 day notice (non-payment of rent)

10 day notice (violation of Crime Free Addendum)

30 day notice (when there is a month to month lease)

When notice is served a Forcible Entry and Detainer Action is filed

Landlord must serve tenant Order of Possession paperwork (County may assist)

#### • Notices for Eviction

Order of Possession is entered in court. Generally the Judge will provide the tenant 7-14 days to leave.

Order of Possession must be placed with the Sheriff for eviction. If tenant has not left within the time period, the Sheriff will evict.

We can purchase and supply copies of paperwork, provide a CD or they can be obtained from the Clerk's Office.

Attorney is not needed, but recommended, unless familiar with the process.

#### Evictions

Crime Free Lease Addendum provides Illinois Statute 735 ILCS 9/120 that eviction can commence for criminal acts on the property.

#### • Carol Stream Options

Phase 1 Includes:

No physical inspection of property is required

Encourage voluntary compliance from all owners on minimum security and building standards Phase 2 Includes:

Inspections upon request

Phase 3 Includes:

If owners have their tenants attend a training session, the property will qualify as an "Official" Crime Free Housing Property and can use it in advertising along with signs on their property.

#### • Once We Are In

We are All in.

This program is honest and direct. It is solution oriented. It is designed to be easy, yet very effective in reducing the incident of crime in rental property.

This will enhance the quality of life for all residents within the Village.

Ed Sailer stated no property inspections initially by Community Development Department – only crime free aspect. There are 3 phases initially, concentrating on Phase 1 training while Phase 2 and 3 are voluntary. There will be a flat fee of \$100.00 per building of 4 or more. Fee would be set to recoup costs to administer the program. Staff can show impact of fees for various complexes in the Village of Carol Stream. An example would be Lakehaven at \$100 per unit would equal \$49,200 or \$100 per building which would equal \$3,000.

Village Manager Breinig suggested waiving the license fee of \$25.00. The Village already has a working relationship with multi-family landlords. It is the Village's intent not to be heavy handed, but to work with the landlords.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Trustee McCarthy and seconded by Trustee Frusolone to adjourn the Special Board meeting. The meeting was adjourned unanimously at 7:23 p.m.

FOR THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Frank Saverino, Sr., Mayor

Beth Melody, Village Clerk

Minutes approved by the President and Board of Trustees on this day of September 2014.

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