

Comments received since April 11, 2014 postcard mailing for May 5, 2014 Public Hearing.

Name	email	Phone	rental property	date	Comment
Betty Houser		952-835-1606	4009 Heritage Hills	14-Apr	Manages property for Jessica Soe - asked what annual fee was for a condo, \$82 going to \$90.
Joel Jennissen		612-423-1574	8336 Penn	14-Apr	Wants to talk to the Mayor about landlords being held responsible for tenants
Ira Skiator			Towers Management	16-Apr	Several topics: 4 is too many for apartments, likes rating systems where well maintained properties pay less and are inspected less frequently, wants better interaction with Police on calls to his properties, property managers that don't attend educational meetings like the Housing Collaborative should pay higher license fees, etc. He plans to write a letter to council with his comments which he will mail to me. Letter received 4/25/14.
Steve Hubner	stevehubner@fsbwa.com		2901 W 87 1/2 St	17-Apr	Email printed for council agenda - concerns about fee increases
David Meyer	dmeyer120@yahoo.com	612-849-0687	9807 10th Ave S	17-Apr	Email printed for council agenda - concerns about fee increases and "local government overreach"
John W. Spring	springdaddy@fastmail.fm	252-370-5061	8017 3rd Ave S	27-Apr	Email printed for council agenda - concerns about fee increases

Moore, Lynn

To: David Meyer
Subject: RE: Rental Housing Code Changes

Hi, David.

Thank you for sharing your concerns regarding the proposed ordinance amendments and being a responsible rental property owner. Your email will be shared with the City Council.

Please let me know if have any questions.

Lynn Moore, MPH, RS
Environmental Health Manager
City of Bloomington
(952) 563-8970
lmoores@bloomingtonmn.gov *New e-mail address as of January 1, 2014



From: David Meyer [<mailto:dmeyer120@yahoo.com>]
Sent: Thursday, April 17, 2014 5:20 PM
To: Moore, Lynn
Subject: Rental Housing Code Changes

To whom it may concern:

I read with amusement the proposed change to the "Rental Housing Code" license fee. I am still trying to figure out what the \$82 I pay now is used for? To increase this to \$115, a 40% increase, is nothing short of criminal. I have had an "inspection" completed on my house every year. The inspector comes out and walks through the home in approximately 15 minutes. Granted my home is in very good condition and I repair anything that needs attention immediately but I am essentially being taxed for the privilege of a 15 minute visit. I would not only propose you don't raise the fee I would propose you stop coming to my house every year. As an owner in excellent standing perhaps you could lower my fee to \$15, one dollar per minute of the visit. Or visit once every three years and charge me only when you come. If you find a problem and need to return then charge me again. This is part of the reason I am contemplating selling my property. Local government overreach.

David Meyer
612-849-0687 cell
dmeyer120@yahoo.com

Moore, Lynn

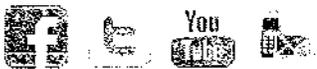
To: Steve Hubner
Subject: RE: Rental Housing Code

Hi, Steve.

Thank you for sharing your concerns regarding the proposed ordinance amendments. 2901 W 87 ½ St is a single-family home, so your license fee as proposed would go from \$82 to \$115 if the ordinance is adopted as written. Your email will be shared with the City Council.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Lynn Moore, MPH, RS
Environmental Health Manager
City of Bloomington
(952) 563-8970
lmoores@bloomingtonmn.gov *New e-mail address as of January 1, 2014



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From: Steve Hubner [<mailto:stevehubner@fsbwa.com>]
Sent: Thursday, April 17, 2014 5:16 PM
To: Moore, Lynn
Subject: Rental Housing Code

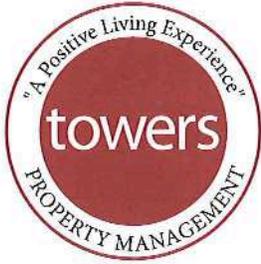
Hi Lynn,

I appreciate the notice from the City on the changes for the Rental Housing Code and the chance to comment on the proposal.

Raising the single rental unit fee from \$80 to \$140 and each unit thereafter from \$9.75 to \$10.00 feels like you're punishing the single unit owner. Are you looking for more institutional type landlords within the city? I don't net \$140 a month after paying the water bill, mortgage and property manager. For Homeowner's that are already underwater on these rentals this is a disturbing trend. I'm sure the city would prefer to see less foreclosed homes so keeping fees reasonable until the housing market comes back would seem, to me, to be in everyone's interest.

My 2 cents. Thanks for the opportunity.

Steve Hubner/Owner
2901 W 87 ½ St
Bloomington



RECEIVED

APR 25 2014

City of Bloomington
Inspection Division

Towers Management Company
7575 Golden Valley Road, Suite 300
Golden Valley, Minnesota 55427

Phone: 763.546.6400
Fax: 763.546.1928
www.towersmanagement.com

April 24, 2014

City of Bloomington
1800 W. Old Shakopee Rd.
Bloomington, MN 55431

Attention: Ms. Lynn Moore
Environmental Health Manager

Dear Ms. Moore:

My name is Ira Sklader, and I have been the Property Manager, and now CEO, of Towers Management for 42 years. Over the years, our company has managed properties in Missouri, Michigan and Minnesota. Today we have ten properties in Minneapolis/St. Paul, six of which are in Bloomington. Also, I lived in Bloomington for 33 years, and was very proud to call Bloomington my home.

While growing old in the property management business, I have seen a lot through the years (some good, some bad), and I have seen some major improvements in the last 15 years with regard to the City's handling of issues and the general nature of property management. This letter is in reference to our phone conversation regarding the new rental housing codes in Bloomington. I like the idea that you are updating your codes, but I have some issues and some comments to make:

I feel there should be more of a difference between a house or duplex, and an apartment complex. I think there is more room for criminal activity in rental houses or duplexes.

A major issue I have is with Section 14.584 regarding behavior and nuisance conditions. The City of Bloomington has had a "Johnny Come Lately" approach when it comes to informing landlords of police calls and the nature of these calls. Brooklyn Center, Brooklyn Park, and New Hope have been more proactive in this area.

When Officer Caauwe was in charge, we finally started receiving weekly notices of police calls to our properties, and it made a significant difference. We evicted a number of residents who, prior to that, we had no idea of what was going on because the Police were not cooperating with our on-site management.

I understand that the Police Department now has Heidi Miller covering for the previous officer, but I think she is stretched pretty thin.

Ms. Lynn Moore

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April 24, 2014

I urge you to have the Police appoint a permanent liaison to the rental properties in Bloomington. This person should be able to contact landlords regarding situations, and inform them of Police calls on their property that require action.

I would also like you to set up a minimum requirement for landlords in apartment complexes to attend HRA sponsored meetings. This could be tied into a discount on their license fee structure or increased fees for not attending. The meetings are very important, with a lot of good information, and everyone is given a chance to ask questions about different issues, and I think the City should emphasize these meetings. I'm not referring to people who have duplexes or a small four-plex that are working during the day, but larger landlords who are not represented at these meetings who should be.

I would like to commend your inspection department under Mark Stangeness. They have been very fair in their inspections and in dealing with tenant complaints. While I realize landlords overlook some issues, your inspection department will listen and see through some of the exaggerations that tenants state in their complaints.

Your inspection department is always willing to give us fair notice and time to correct situations. Through my years, I have greatly appreciated that.

Sincerely yours,

TOWERS MANAGEMENT COMPANY

Ira Sklader, CPM®
CEO

IS/lbp

Moore, Lynn

To: John W. Spring
Subject: RE: Comment on changes to rental license fees

Thank you for your comments, Mr. Spring.

They will be shared with the City Council in the agenda materials for the meeting.

Lynn Moore, MPH, RS
Environmental Health Manager
City of Bloomington
(952) 563-8970
lmoore@BloomingtonMN.gov *New e-mail address as of January 1, 2014

-----Original Message-----
From: John W. Spring [<mailto:springdaddy@fastmail.fm>]
Sent: Sunday, April 27, 2014 3:54 PM
To: Moore, Lynn
Subject: Comment on changes to rental license fees

Ms. Moore-
I will be unable to attend the public hearing on May 5th to comment on the changes to the Rental Housing Code and licenses, so I will do so here.

I notice that the license fee for a single family dwelling is increasing from \$85 to \$115 per year. Although no reason was given for such a ridiculously large (35%) increase in fees, I can only assume it is an attempt by the city to close your budget shortfall. Nothing else in our economy is inflating, and certainly not my pay or rental collections. I ask that the City of Bloomington do what we do to balance our budget: cut expenses instead of arbitrarily raising fees at will.

Thank you.

--
John W. Spring
springdaddy@fastmail.fm
(252) 370-5061