

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 5 OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF PEORIA  
PERTAINING TO REGISTRATION OF PROPERTIES**

**WHEREAS**, the City Council is a home rule unit of government pursuant to Article VII, Section 6 of the Constitution of the State of Illinois 1970, and may exercise any power and perform any function pertaining to its government and affairs; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council finds that it is in the best interests of the residents of the city and the general public to prevent the perpetuation of chronic nuisance properties and to promote public peace, health and safety finds chronic nuisance properties, the following section should be enacted; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council finds chronic nuisance properties in the City of Peoria strain and tax multiple City Departments and are detrimental to the surrounding neighborhoods; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PEORIA, ILLINOIS, as follows:**

SECTION 1. Chapter 5 of the Code of the City of Peoria is hereby amended by deleting the following stricken words and by adding the following underlined words:

**Sec. 5-520. Definitions.**

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*Owner* shall mean any person who alone, jointly or severally with others, has the legal title ~~holder or holder~~ of the realty as shown by the records of the Peoria County Recorder of Deed Office except if legal title is held by an Illinois Land Trust, owner shall mean the beneficial owner or owners of the trust.

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**Sec. 5-521. Registration required.**

(a) Except as provided hereafter, every owner of a lot, or lots upon which is located an occupied or vacant dwelling(s), unless exempted under section 5-528 hereof, shall file an annual registration statement for each such lot on forms provided by the department of ~~inspections~~ Community Development for such purposes. Any such registration statements shall be prima facie proof of the statement therein contained in any administrative enforcement proceeding or court proceeding instituted by the city against the owner or owners of the dwelling.

- (1) The name, street address, telephone number and the driver's license number of a current driver's license of each owner of the dwelling or a copy of a State of Illinois identification card or other comparable identification. If the owner is a partnership, corporation or voluntary unincorporated association, the statement shall further include the name, street address, the telephone number, the driver's license number of a current driver's license, and position of all partner(s) or officer(s). If the

owner is a corporation, the statement shall further include the name, street address and telephone number of the registered agent therefor.

- (2) The name, street address and telephone number of a natural person 21 years or older, designated by the owner or owners as the authorized agent for receiving notices of code violations and receiving process in any court proceeding or administrative enforcement proceeding, on behalf of such owner or owners in connection with the enforcement of this Code. This person must maintain an office in Peoria County, Illinois, or must actually reside within Peoria, Tazewell or Woodford County, Illinois. An owner who is a natural person and who meets the requirement of this subsection as to location of residence or office may designate himself as agent.
- (3) The name, street address and telephone number of the owner's agent for the purpose of managing, controlling or collecting rents and other person not an owner who is controlling such dwelling, if any.
- (4) [*Reserved.*]
- (5) The street address and property index number(s) of the lot or lots upon which the dwelling is located, the number of dwelling units, and the date on which the dwelling was built.
- (6) The maximum number of occupants permitted by the owner in each dwelling unit. For the purposes of this section, a post office box does not suffice as an address.

(b) *Exception.* The owner of a lot or lots which would otherwise be required to be registered under part (a) of this section shall not be required to register if said owner files a statement on a form provided by the director of ~~inspections~~ Community Development setting forth that the property in question is occupied by an immediate family member, which means a parent, sibling, spouse, or child of said owner. Said statement shall be effective until there is a change in ownership or occupancy.

#### **Sec. 5-522. Time of registration.**

(a) The owner of a lot not exempt under section 5-528 or 5-521(b) hereof shall register the property with the department of ~~inspections~~ Community Development within 30 days of purchase or acquisitions of such property; if a parcel becomes subject to registration because it is no longer exempt under section 5-528 hereof, then the owner shall have 30 days from the date on which the property ceased to be exempt under section 5-528 to register the property.

Upon registration, and payment of the fee, if applicable, the director of the department of ~~inspections~~ Community Development or his designee shall issue a certificate of registration to the owner which shall certify that the owner has registered the lot in compliance with section 5-521 of this chapter. It shall be the duty of any subsequent owner of the lot to register it as required under section 5-521 within ten business days after the transfer of ownership.

Upon demonstration by an owner that the lot is not required to be registered under the provision of these sections, the code official or his/her designee shall issue a waiver of registration.

(b) *Registration shall be required annually.* For 2009, registration shall be required on or before September 30, 2009. Every registration, whether new or renewed, shall expire on February 28 and must be renewed on or before March 1 of each calendar year if the property is required to be registered under this article. Said annual registration shall not occur earlier than January 1 of the calendar year.

#### **Sec. 5-523. Amended registration.**

The owner of the lot required to register with the department of ~~inspections~~ Community Development under section 5-521 of this article shall notify the department of ~~inspections~~ Community Development, within ten business days, of any change in the registration information by filling out an amended registration statement on a form provided by the department of ~~inspections~~ Community Development for such purpose. There shall be no additional fee for filing an amended registration statement.

#### **Sec. 5-524. Registration records.**

The director of the department of ~~inspections~~ Community Development shall maintain the dwelling registration records. These records shall consist of the registration information under sections 5-521 and 5-523 of this article.

#### **Sec. 5-525. Enforcement.**

(a) The director of the department of ~~inspections~~ Community Development shall enforce the provisions of this article and, in addition to any other remedies provided by law, may apply to the corporation counsel for prosecution of owners who fail to comply.

(b) The building official may refuse to issue any permit(s) required under this Code for any construction, alteration, installation, razing or other work done in or on any dwelling as defined in section 5-520, of this article, or any certificate of occupancy required under this Code for such a dwelling, unless the owner(s) or other applicant for such permit(s) or certificate(s) presents either a current certificate of registration or a waiver of registration for the dwelling.

(c) The comptroller or his designee shall issue no real property transfer tax stamps for a transfer involving a dwelling as defined in section 5-520 of this chapter unless the grantee or purchaser presents either a current certificate of registration or a waiver of registration for the dwelling.

(d) No dwelling shall be rented or occupied by a non-owner or continue to be rented or occupied by a non-owner without a current registration as required by this Article or if the registration for that dwelling unit has been suspended or revoked.

#### **Sec. 5-526. Penalties.**

(a) Each day that any lot is not registered in accordance with the provisions of sections 5-521 and 5-523 this article shall constitute a separate and distinct violation.

(b) In addition to any of the penalties provided in this article, any person committing an offense under sections 5-521 or 5-523 of this article, shall, upon conviction thereof, be fined not less than \$150.00 nor more than \$500.00 for the first offense, and not less than \$250.00 nor more than \$500.00 for the second and each subsequent offense in any 180-day period.

(c) The intentional submission of false information on a registration statement or an amended registration statement filed pursuant to section 5-521 and 5-523 of this article shall be a violation punishable by a fine of not less than \$150.00 nor more than \$500.00. Each day that such violation remains uncorrected by the owner(s) shall constitute a separate and distinct violation.

(d) Violations of this Article XIII on registration of lots shall constitute an ordinance violation and shall not be pursued through the code hearing process set forth in section 5-273 through 5-284.

(e) In addition to the penalties set forth above, the registration for the property may be suspended or revoked upon of a finding by a hearing officer that:

(1) The dwelling is a chronic nuisance property as defined by Chapter 20 of the Code; or

(2) The lot and/or dwelling has been found in violation of any section of the Code by the hearing officer within the previous 12 month period.

(f) If the registration of a property has been suspended all of the following conditions must be met before reinstatement:

(1) Compliance with all requirements of the Police Department pursuant to Chapter 20 of the Code;

(2) All Code violations must be corrected and verified by the department of Community Development;

(3) The owner must pay all fines/fees/costs owed to the City of Peoria or its agents; and

(4) The owner must pay a reinstatement fee of \$100.

(g) No dwelling that has had its registration revoked for cause after a hearing shall be rented or occupied by a non-owner for a period of one year after the revocation and until conditions of prescribed in above subsection (f) have been met.

(h) In addition to fine penalties imposed for any violations, the corporation counsel of the City of Peoria may commence a court action to obtain injunctive relief against an owner who fails to comply.

**Sec. 5-527. Notice of code violation.**

By designating an authorized agent under the provisions of section 5-521 the owner is consenting to receive any and all notices of code violation concerning the registered lot and all process in any court proceeding or administrative enforcement proceeding brought to enforce code provisions concerning the registered lot by service of the notice or process on the authorized agent.

- (1) Any owner who has designated an authorized agent under the provisions of section 5-521 shall be deemed to consent to the continuation of the agent's designation for the purpose of this chapter until the owner notifies the department of ~~inspections~~ Community Development of a change of authorized agent pursuant to section 5-523.
- (2) Any owner who fails to register a lot under the provisions of section 5-521 and 5-523 of this chapter, shall further be deemed to consent to receive by posting at the dwelling, any and all notices of code violations concerning the dwelling.

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SECTION 2. This Ordinance shall be in effect 10 (ten) days after its passage and publication in pamphlet form.

**PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PEORIA, ILLINOIS** this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2014.

APPROVED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

EXAMINED AND APPROVED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Corporation Counsel