



Good day, Mayor and Councillors and staff. My name is [REDACTED] I live in Ward 5. I have lived in my apartment for over 17 years. My building at [REDACTED] has had three owners since I have lived here. The last three years we have had Hamilton Manor Apartments who are based out of Toronto. During these three years we have had five superintendents, including one who tells everyone he is an ex-con and has served time for assault and vehicular manslaughter (he is currently a contract worker for the company).

This building used to be clean and friendly until these last few years. Since the current owners took over, we have water issues with no consistent hot water or water pressure. Heat issues due to the boiler not working and heat turned off too early at the end of the winter. Building maintenance is an afterthought. The hall carpets are dirty and stained as well as rugs being potential tripping hazards. Multiple hallway fire exit lights haven't worked in months and interior stairwell lights are not always functional. The door at the west end of the building routinely has issues where it's either an emergency exit concern or a security one when they leave it propped open because the lock doesn't work. The dumpster tends to be overflowing within a few days of being emptied due to illegal dumping that isn't enforced despite security cameras. The same dumpster tenants use is also being filled with building materials by maintenance instead of being disposed of separately. The parking lot is a safety hazard. Bylaw has been contacted by tenants many times and as well as Fire Safety.

I would love to be able to move but with the price of apartments to rent currently it's not feasible. My building maintenance manager is not supposed to contact me as I'm supposed to contact the superintendent or the senior property manager. The maintenance manager has verbally harassed me and it was agreed by myself and the senior property manager that arrangement is to be followed. The managers live off-site and only the superintendent and the contract helpers live on-site.

If affordable housing was more widely available I could afford to move as could other long-term tenants. Especially ones in the lower to moderate income range including those on ODSP, OW, and CPP/OAS. This unfortunately isn't an option as there is no affordable, safe, and livable housing available in Hamilton.

I work full-time in child care and I barely make ends meet. If we had landlord licensing, people would know what type of unit and building they were moving into as well as having a maintenance record of the building. I would never go to an establishment (hair salon, restaurant, etc.) that did not have a green pass license when I know it's legally required. Why would anyone want to live in a place that was unclean, not well maintained, properly managed, or safe and affordable? Landlords would be held

accountable for cleanliness, health and safety and as a result have happy long-term tenants who they aren't constantly butting heads with.

Please make our homes safe and affordable so we can be proud Hamiltonians as homes are for everyone. Affordable, safe housing is a right not a privilege.

Thank you for your time.



Hamilton ACORN, East End Chapter