

Township moves on plan for affordable senior housing

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Lyons Suburban Life
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Lyons, IL -

Township of Lyons officials are moving forward with a tentative plan that addresses the need for affordable senior rental housing, as well as the need for more space in the township's offices.

A plan to vacate the township offices and develop the site into a senior housing development took a step forward Oct. 9 when the township board OK'd borrowing \$2 million to acquire or lease a 16,700-square-foot office building at 6406 Joliet Road, Countryside, next to the township office's current site.

The township building at 6404 Joliet Road will be dedicated to the Illinois Facilities Fund, which will develop the site into a 65-unit senior housing development to serve seniors, specifically from the 17 communities the township serves. The IFF, a nonprofit agency that develops affordable housing for Illinois seniors, will build and manage the property.

The purchase and renovation of the township center will be repaid over a 20-year period through shared costs between the township and other tenants. Township Supervisor Patrick Rogers said the project will have no effect on taxpayers.

Township Trustee Russell Hartigan, chairman of the Finance Committee, said the financing is designed not to impact tax revenue or prompt any increase to taxpayers.

"Through our consultant and banks working with us, we have made sure there will not be any burden to taxpayers through this form of municipal financing," Hartigan said. Rogers said there clearly exists a need for such housing in the area.

"Throughout Lyons Township, there are a number of high-end senior living establishments; Plymouth Place (in La Grange Park) is probably the best example for folks at one end of the socioeconomic scale," he said. "With regard to folks at the other end, there are few, if any, affordable senior housing facilities. That's the need we are trying to meet."

Rogers added the original concept was to acquire the office building next door and house a number of social welfare agencies at that site. The question came up whether a housing component could be

added.

Tentative plans call for a five-story, L-shaped facility of mostly one-bedroom units. The purchase arrangements are expected to be completed by the end of the year, and renovations completed by mid-2008.

Completion of the senior residence, if approved, is anticipated in late 2009 or early 2010. IYP and SEO vendors: [SEO by eLocalListing](#), [Advertiser profiles](#), [Business directory by Premier Guide](#), [Zope Corp.](#)

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