



WHITEHALL

Our City, Our News

JULY 2016

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- For daytime sewer or water emergencies call 894-4157. After hours call 911.
- Utility bills are mailed quarterly.
- Building and zoning permits are available on our website at www.cityofwhitehall.org.
- Tax Bills due July 31st.

“What’s Happening?!”

The first of July always rings in a new budget year for the City. The Council has authorized expenses of \$7.6 Million against anticipated revenues of \$6.2 Million. Nine of the fourteen funds will draw down on cash reserves to balance the budget. The hardest hit fund will be our downtown with a potential loss of nearly \$800,000

and jeopardizing planned renovations to the downtown next summer. This is entirely due to the elimination of personal property taxes and the uncertainty of promised reimbursement from the State.

Misco Street between Mears and Lake will be reconstructed later this summer thanks to

anticipated state and federal grants of \$317,000. Sewer rates will be increased by \$0.13 per thousand gallons beginning January 1 while water rates will remain as is. Major utility projects include a new sewer lift station to service the Tannery development and painting the water tower on Peach Street.

City of Whitehall

City Council Members

- Mayor Edward Whalen
 Mayor Pro Tem Steve Salter
 Tanya Cabala
 Ellie Dennis
 Debi Hillebrand
 Jeff Holmstrom
 Patrick Landis

Visit us at www.cityofwhitehall.org

 And Like us on Facebook

Gazebo Pathway Fundraiser



We are raising money to build a sidewalk to further beautify the newest gem in Goodrich Park. Many have shown interest in donating to make the sidewalk a

reality. A donation of \$100.00 will be represented with a brick with the contributors designated names engraved placed in the sidewalk. If you are interested in donating to this project, please include the name(s) that you would like inscribed on the brick along with a \$100.00 check made payable to the City of

Whitehall. Checks may be mailed or dropped off at City Hall at 405 E. Colby Street, Whitehall, MI 49461.



Did You Know...
 That we're trying to keep you on your toes by featuring an artist's song titles as our article titles?
 April's newsletter featured...
 Freddy Canon.
 Can you guess who's song titles we're using this time?

“Turn! Turn! Turn!”



Water Shutoff Policy

We had a record number of water shutoffs as a result of delinquent accounts this past quarter. If you are having trouble making your payment, please call us to arrange a payment agreement.

As of July 1, 2015, the City adopted a new Water Shut Off Policy.

We will no longer be collecting deposits on delinquent accounts in order to have the water turned back on. The policy is as follows:

If water service is shut off, the resident must pay their outstanding bill in full and is responsible for the following fees and fines:

Turn on fee \$50.00 (regular hours) **AND an additional \$50.00** (if after 3:30 p.m.)

IF water service shut-off

should occur again, in addition to the Turn On Fee, the following will also apply:

Non-refundable fines

\$50.00 (2nd offense),
 \$100.00 (3rd offense),
 \$200.00 (4th offense)

\$200.00 will also be assessed for all subsequent offenses after four.

Again, if you're having trouble paying, please call us to make arrangements at **894-4048.**



REMINDER!

If you have water or sewer issues, call the Dept. of Public Works before calling a plumber. The issue could be resolved by the DPW.

Phone: 894-4157

“Time Between”



Summer property taxes are due by July 31. Payment must be received on or before July 31 otherwise penalties will be applied—postmarks are not accepted.

Applications for summer 2016 tax deferments are being currently accepted for the eligible taxpayers who are 62 years of age or older, paraplegic, quadriplegic, service person, veteran, widow or widower or blind.

To qualify, taxpayers must certify that their gross household income for the preceding calendar year did not exceed \$40,000. Forms are available at City Hall, 405 E. Colby Street in Whitehall.

“Lady Friend”



HOWMET PLAYHOUSE

Howmet Playhouse Summer Schedule

July 7-9	Rounding Third
July 14	Shady Business
July 15	Marriage is Murder
July 16	Dearly Departed
July 21-23	Bakersfield Mist
July 28-30	The Stinky Cheese Man and Other Fairly Stupid Tales, A White Lake Youth Theatre Production
August 4-6	Quilters
August 11-13	Sherlock Holmes: The Final Adventure
August 18-20	On Golden Pond

July 14-16: The talented students of CMU's Summer Theatre touring company will return to the Playhouse stage with three performances that will knock your socks off!

Show times are 7:30 pm, except for the July 29 performance @ 3:00 pm.

Tickets are available at www.howmetplayhouse.org, the Playhouse Box Office Monday-Friday: 1:00 pm—5:00 pm or by calling 231-894-2540.

“You Showed Me”

Building & Zoning Permits



Do you have a deck to build?

A fence to put up?

Need a new roof?

Need to replace your water heater or furnace?

Or going to start a new business?

Remember these are just a few of the projects that need zoning approval or building permits so be

sure to obtain the necessary permits **BEFORE** you begin any project.

Call **Scott Huebler**, Zoning Administrator for zoning permits (894-4048) and **Pam Atchison**, DPW Office Coordinator for your building, electrical, plumbing, and mechanical permits (894-4157). Building and zoning permits can be found on our website at www.cityofwhitehall.org.





Office Hours

City Hall

405 E. Colby Street
894-4048
Monday - Friday
8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

DPW

2055 Warner Street
894-4157
Monday - Friday
7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Inspections

Building—Chris Hall
Electrical—Tim Chorney
Plumbing/Mechanical—Jim
Callender
894-4157

2055 Warner Street

Meeting Dates

City Council

2nd and 4th Tuesdays at
6:00 p.m.

Planning Commission

1st Tuesday at 6:00 p.m.

BRA/LDFA/TIFA

2nd Thursday of
January, April, July and
October at Noon

“My Back Pages”

Election Information

All registered voters for the City of Whitehall vote at City Hall, 405 E. Colby Street. Polls open at 7 a.m. and close at 8 p.m. To find out if and where you are registered to vote, check out www.michigan.gov/vote.

Primary Election: August 2, 2016

Voter Registration - The last day to register to vote for the August 2 Primary Election was July 5, 2016.

General Election: November 8, 2016

Voter Registration - The last day to register to vote for the November 8 General Election is October 4, 2016

If you have not already registered to vote, you may do so at any Secretary of State's office, or at Whitehall City Hall at 405 E. Colby Street.

Absentee ballots are available for persons: who are college students or anyone planning on being out of town on Election Day; physically unable to attend the polls without assistance; 60 years or over; appointed as election inspectors in a precinct other than where they vote; confined to jail awaiting arraignment or trial; with religious tenets that prohibit one from attending the polls. Ballots can be mailed to the voters registered address, college address, or another location if specified on the application up until 2 p.m. the Saturday before the election. The City Clerk will be in the office on Saturday, August 2 (for Primary election) and November 1 (for General election) to issue and receive absentee ballots. Absentee ballots must be returned to the City Clerk by 8:00 p.m. on Election Day.



Jim Duram & Jack VanGeison Retire!

Congratulations to Officer **Jim Duram** and **Jack VanGeison** on their retirement!

Jim started with the Whitehall Police Department in July 1980 and his last day was March 26, 2016.

Jack started with the Department of Public Works in June, 1987 and his last day was June 17, 2016.

On behalf of Whitehall staff and City Council, we thank Jim and Jack for a combined 65 years of dedicated service and we wish them the best in their retirement!



Welcome to the New Hires!

The City is so pleased to add the following new hires to our family:

Doug Schmidt started April 25th in the Police Department as a part-time officer.

Leslie Bond Strychar started June 30th in the Police Department as a part-time officer.

Greg Landis started July 11th with the Department of Public Works as a maintenance worker.

Congratulations are also in order for our new full time employees!

Kevin Nummerdor, who started as a part-time officer in 2014, has now been hired as a full-time officer.

Eric Whitlow, who started in 2011 as a part-time officer, is also now a full-time officer.