



CITY OF WHITEHALL

Our City, Our News

JANUARY 2017

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- **Colby Street Project**
- For daytime sewer or water emergencies call 894-4157. After hours call 911.
- Utility bills are mailed quarterly.
- Building and zoning permits are available at the Department of Public Works and online at www.cityofwhitehall.org

City of Whitehall

City Council Members

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

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“A Little Street Where Old Friends Meet” Colby Street—Reconstruction & Widening

What Is Being Done?

The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) will be completing a mix of resurfacing and reconstruction with widening on US-31 Business Route (Colby Street) from the White River bridge to east of Hall Street.

In addition to the roadwork, water mains will be relocated and upgraded, and sidewalk ramps will be upgraded to be compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act. The City of Whitehall will also be completing a street-scaping project along US-31 BR in coordination with the MDOT project.

When Will This Be Done?

Work will begin on April 3rd and is scheduled to be completed by June 19th.

How Will Traffic Be Affected?

Lane closures will be in effect throughout the project. During reconstruction, traffic will be detoured on Hanson and Covell streets. Residential and business access will be maintained within the detour limits. Pedestrian traffic will be detoured where sidewalk closures are necessary.

Public Meeting

A public meeting for this project will be held in the near future at the city of Whitehall offices, 405 East Colby Street.



✂ Clip and Save

Call for Help



Central Dispatch

For emergency 911

Non-emergency..231-722-3524

Whitehall Police..231-894-2317

City Hall.....231-894-4048

DPW231-894-4157

(Department of Public Works)



DID YOU KNOW?

Road salt stops working when the road surface is below 15°F. There are many variables that affect the efficiency of the deicing materials, one being the road surface temperature.

“Someone to Tell It To”

Call for Help

The City of Whitehall has police officers on duty 24/7/365 and they are all eager to help you whenever you need. Muskegon Central Dispatch is also there 24/7/365 to get your call to the officers. While you should call 911 in an emergency, for non-emergency calls you can call 231-722-3524. There are a few simple prompts but then you will be talking to the same people that answer 911 calls and the same people that send all public safety services to their calls. Calling the non-emergency number ensures the correct services and agencies are sent to you.

Whitehall PD also has their own business number that is answered during business hours. Call us at 231-894-2317 Monday – Friday, 8 am to 5 pm but if we don't answer, don't wait, call 231-722-3524 for assistance.

Speaking of 911, have you signed up for Smart911? You can provide emergency information on a secure database that can only be accessed by Central Dispatch during an emergency. Medical conditions, hidden key locations, emergency contacts and even your pet information can be included. Go to www.smart911.com and register today.

“Rules of the Road”

Snow Removal

As a reminder that when removing snow from private property it is unlawful to deposit, or cause to be deposited, snow, ice, or slush on any roadway or highway. Traffic Codes may be viewed in their entirety at City Hall.

The Fire Authority asks that property owners keep fire hydrants clear of snow to assist them in accessing the hydrants during an emergency.

Please make sure that your mailbox and post are in sound order. **IF** the City's plow truck physically hits the box or post the City will make repairs or replace it. However, **IF** the snow load damages the box or post it will be the responsibility of the property owner to repair or replace it.



Sidewalk Snow Removal:

City sidewalk snow removal will be back this year. The priority will be routes leading to and from the schools and also downtown. Other sidewalks will be cleared subject to available funding and manpower. It is still, by local ordinance the adjacent property owner's responsibility to clear their sidewalk in a timely manner.



“For Sentimental Reasons”

Howmet Playhouse

2016 was a fantastic year for the Playhouse. We celebrated 100 years in the community and began our Capital Campaign for the Future with the goal of raising \$3.6 million. The campaign has received more than \$2 million in pledges to date for much-needed upgrades to address safety and accessibility; the committee will continue to contact potential donors through mid-July 2017. Please call Beth Beaman, Managing Director, if you would like more information on the campaign effort.

Here’s a look at what’s coming up in early 2017:

January 14: Rocketoons Launch Party, 2pm
Free popcorn, pop, pizza, prizes, massages and cartoons!

March 4: Music for Meals, 7:30pm

March 25: ACWL GuitarFest featuring Billy McLaughlin, 7:30pm

In addition, **Carmichael Heating and Air Conditioning** will be hosting **FREE Family Movie Nights** in March, April, May, September, October, and November of this year.

Thank you to all of our patrons, sponsors, and donors for keeping our 100-year-old Playhouse going strong! See you at the Playhouse! Check out our website for more information. www.howmetplayhouse.org

“Take a Fool’s Advice”

2017 Small Business Exemption for Commercial Personal Property

About the exemption

Last year, businesses with less than \$40,000 Taxable Value of personal property owned, leased or used by them (or any related entity) within a tax collecting municipality could qualify for an exemption if they timely file the Michigan State Tax Commission affidavit. This exemption continues in 2017. Exemption affidavits must be fully completed and in the assessor’s hands by the deadline.

How to file

If your commercial personal property is less than

\$40,000 Taxable Value, please fill out **Treasury Form 5076 “Affidavit of Owner of Eligible Personal Property Claiming Exemption from Collection of Taxes.”**

Recently, this form was provided to you by the Equalization Dept. Otherwise, Treasury Form 5076 can be found at the following link:

https://www.michigan.gov/documents/treasury/5076f_493854_7.pdf

Manufacturers must complete Treasury Form 5201, which can be found at the following link:

http://michigan.gov/documents/treasury/5201_477044_7.pdf

Where and When to file

To be considered for exemption, the required affidavit must be received by **Feb. 10, 2017.**

Please send to:

Muskegon County Equalization
Attn. Assessing
173 E. Apple Ave., Suite #201
Muskegon, MI 49442

Owners are responsible to timely report even if not in receipt of the letter. Filings received after Feb. 10, 2017 cannot be processed. If you have any questions, you may contact Muskegon County Assessing at 231.724.6386.

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 Chorny
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

Did You Know...

We're trying to keep you on your toes by featuring an artist's song titles as our article titles?

October's newsletter featured...



Alan Jackson

Can you guess who we're featuring in this newsletter?

“Unforgettable” Service Awards



Congratulations to Don Bond (5 years), Roger Squiers (5 years), Neal Martell (10 years), and Scott Huebler (15 years) who all had service anniversaries in 2016.

(L to R: Don Bond, Roger Squiers, Edd Whalen, Scott Huebler; not pictured: Neal Martell)

“Looking Back” Shop with a Cop

What a joyful night it was on December 15th at Meijer in North Muskegon as two of our own officers, Chris Mahoney and Kevin Nummerdor, shopped with Alex as part of the Shop with a Cop event. Meijer donates \$100 gift cards to deserving kids selected by their schools. Our local officers volunteer their time to help kids find gifts for themselves and their families. Thanks to Meijer and our local officers for making this such a special night for the kids!



L to R: Officer Kevin Nummerdor, Alex, Officer Chris Mahoney



“More” Changes at City Hall

Fee increases: After a decade of no increases and much deliberation, the City Council passed a resolution that increased many fees affecting services from park reservations to permit fees. To see a full list of fees, visit our website: www.cityofwhitehall.org.

For a quick reference of all available forms and fees visit our links and documents page: <http://cityofwhitehall.org/city-hall/links-documents/>

Also added to our website is a calendar of board and council meetings which can be found on the home page under quick links.