Whitehall City
Council Members
Mayor Emery "Mac" Hatch
Mayor Pro Tem Edward Whalen
James Bartholomew
Tanya Cabala
Jeff Holmstrom
Steve Sikkenga
Orville Smith

Administrative Officers
Brian Armstrong, DPW Director/
Zoning Administrator
Laurie Audo, Finance Officer/
Treasurer
Scott Huebler, City Manager
Roger Squiers, Chief of Police
Katie Trzaska, Playhouse Manager
Karen Williams, City Clerk/Editor

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 Shereda
894-4157
2055 Warner Street

Meeting Dates
City Council - 2nd and 4th
Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m.
Planning Commission - 1st
Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.
BRA/LDFA/TIFA - 2nd
Thursday of January,
April, July and October at
Noon

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www.cityofwhitehall.org

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Facebook

REMEMBER TO PAY YOUR TAXES

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 2013 tax deferments are being currently accepted. For the eligible taxpayers who are 62 years of age or older, or paraplegic, quadriplegic, serviceperson, 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.

CITY GENERAL ELECTION
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2013

The November 5th Election is coming soon and there will be four (4) seats available on the Whitehall City Council.

Nominating petitions are available in the Clerk’s office and will be accepted until 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 6, 2013. To be a qualified candidate one cannot be in default to the City, must be a duly registered elector of the City, and shall have been a resident of the City for at least 6 months prior to the election. Standard forms and instructions for filing petitions may be obtained at the office of the City Clerk, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

The last day to register to vote in the November Election is October 7, 2013. Register at your local clerk’s office or at the Secretary of State’s office. Unsure whether you are registered? Go to www.michigan.gov/vote or call City Clerk Karen Williams at 894-4048 to find out now if you are registered.

Tickets $18 adults • $14 students*
*Available at Whitehall City Hall, 231-904-4048
*The WLYT July 26 performance will be a 2 pm matinee • Tickets for all WLYT are $10 • Students: $6
*Tickets for YOU’RE A GOOD MAN, CHARLIE BROWN are $12 • Students: $8

www.howmetplayhouse.org - just minutes north of Michigan -

JULY, 2013

Whitehall’s historic
HOWMET PLAYHOUSE
304 S. Mears Ave., Whitehall, MI 49461

2013 Summer Fine
Arts Festival
July 11-13 Harvey
BY MARY CHASE, Directed by Debra Freeberg
Central Michigan University Summer Theatre

July 18 Anybody for Murder?
BY BRIAN CLEMENS and DENNIS SPOONER
Directed by Keesee Stanley-Sohn
Central Michigan University Summer Theatre

July 19 The Strange Case of
Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde
BY NOAH SMITH, based on the novella by
Robert Louis Stevenson
Directed by Tim Connors

July 20 Robert Fulghum’s All I Really
Need to Know I Learned in
Kindergarten
BY ERNEST ZILIA, music and lyrics by
DAVID CALDWELL,
Directed by Steve Berglund

JULY 25-27 WLYT The Fearsome
Pirate Frank BY PAT LIDERSON
Directed by Cindy Beth Davis-Dykema and
Kurt McCool

August 1-3 MCT’s Leaving Iowa
BY TIM CLUE AND SPIKE MANTON
Directed by Kirk Weidemann

Aug 8-10 You’re a Good Man,
Charlie Brown
Based on the Comic Strip “Peanuts” by
Charles M. Schulz
Book, Music and Lyrics by CLARK GESNER
Directed by Alice L. Combel

Aug 15-17 Love Letters
BY A. R. Gurnet
Directed by Jim Query

Aug 22-24 Steel Magnolias
BY ROBERT HARLING
Directed by Derek Roof Bansom

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NOTES FROM THE DPW

Water and Sewer Emergencies: If you have a water or sewer emergency please call the Department of Public Works office at 894-4157 Monday through Friday 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. For after hours and weekend emergencies, call 911 and Dispatch will contact the individual on call to assist you.

Brush Pick Up: There will be no Fall brush pickup. All brush can be disposed of at the White Lake Area Solid Waste Authority’s Transfer Station at 2100 W. Holton Whitehall Road on Wednesdays and Saturdays year round.

REMEMBER! Water and Sewer bills are mailed quarterly and are now in full-page format. They are generally mailed by January 10th /due by February 10th; mailed by April 10th /due by May 10th; mailed by July 10th /due by August 10th; and mailed by October 10th /due by November 10th.

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 Brian Armstrong, Zoning Administrator for zoning permits and Pam Atchison, DPW Office Coordinator for your building, electrical, plumbing, and mechanical Permits. Both can be reached at 894-4157 and are located at 2055 Warner Street.

CITY BUDGET

The Fiscal Year 2013/14 General Fund budget, with a $769 surplus, reflects revenues that have remained flat for eight years in a row. This makes modest adjustments for inflation difficult and new expenses all but impossible. Match funding for improvements to Covell and Goodrich Parks, both high priority Council goals, was not included.

Our downtown fund, with $766,000 in outstanding debt and great uncertainty over personal property taxes, will take a very conservative fiscal stance this year with a significant fund balance. There is funding available for beautification on Lake Street, façade grants, stamping crosswalks, flower baskets, improved holiday decorations, and snow removal.

Due to a treatment increase by the County Wastewater System, the City will raise our sewer rates by 6% beginning January 2014. This equates to an increase of less than $8 per bill for the average family. For the third year in a row, there will be no need to increase water rates.

The City currently has $1.5 Million in outstanding debt. Within the next three years, $959,000 of that will be retired.

Signs, Signs, Everywhere Signs…..

The City has an established sign ordinance developed by the Planning Commission and adopted by the City Council. This spring, we have received numerous complaints about illegal signs. As most have been directed toward residential areas, please be reminded the only signs allowed on private residential properties are house numbers, historical markers, standard flags, election signs, vehicle for sale signs, real estate signs, temporary construction signs, subdivision signs, home occupation signs, and development entry signs. There are detailed regulations that accompany these. Signs are regulated in ALL zoning districts so PLEASE check with the Zoning Administrator prior to installing any sign as fines range from $15 to $200. This means the BOW NOT, Look out for Motorcycles, United Way, estate sale, garage sale, and ‘Lil Vikes signs are all prohibited.

BE A GOOD NEIGHBOR

The following are areas of concern that have been expressed to City staff and Council Members by local residents:

- Abandoned or junk vehicles are prohibited within the City. An unlicensed vehicle is by definition "inoperable" and likewise prohibited.

- Trash containers can only be placed near the roadway for a period of 24 hours to provide for pick up.

- Grass and noxious weeds shall be no taller than six inches.

These ordinances along with general nuisance ordinances pertaining to blight and rubbish are available for review at City Hall.

Please Help! Report any vandalism to the Whitehall Police Department as soon as possible so that an accurate report can be filed and the vandalism can be cleaned up in a timely manner.