



WHITEHALL PLANNING COMMISSION ANNUAL REPORT 2025

PURPOSE

The Whitehall Planning commission is responsible for reviewing and approving commercial site plans, industrial site plans, and special use permits; recommending changes to zoning ordinances and the development of public facilities; adopting an annual capital improvement plan and a comprehensive master plan. Guidance is provided by the Michigan Zoning Enabling Act, the Michigan Planning enabling Act, local ordinance, and bylaws.

The Commission is comprised of nine seats; this year we were only able to have eight filled. Members serve staggered three-year terms representing the economic, governmental, educations and social segments of the community. State Law allows for two non-resident members. The mayor, one member of the city council, and one administrative official are required members along with six members at large. A chair and secretary are selected for one-year terms.

MEMBERSHIP

Laura Abramson, Public Works Director Brian Armstrong, Rich Blankstrom, Dan Bowyer, Amy Church, Jack Dillivan, Council member Jeff Holmstrom, Mayor Steve Salter. Jack was elected chair and Laura as secretary.

ACTIVITY

The Planning Commission met seven times in 2025. They approved Zone Change Request on Benston from open space to Industrial, Byfam site plan (on Delaney). They looked into regulating boats, campers and recreational vehicles, and camping, but there was no formal adoption of anything. The adopted a Capital Improvement Plan. They looked into side-yard setbacks, but there was no formal adoption of a change. They approved a lot split for 1300 Delaney Dr.

With the retirement of City Manager Scott Huebler, Chris Mahoney was selected to be the Zoning Administrator.

Permits and construction numbers, the city continued to see growth in new single-family homes built with a four-year total of 61 homes.

	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021
Permits Issued	372	493	318	411	377
Construction Value	\$8,500,000	\$32,200,000	\$4,500,000	\$10,400,000	\$13,900,000