

**CODE**  
**of the**  
**BOROUGH OF WHITEHALL**

COUNTY OF ALLEGHENY  
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

**SERIAL NO.** \_\_\_\_\_

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**CERTIFICATION**

**BOROUGH OF WHITEHALL**

**Office of the Borough Secretary/Manager**

I, **EDMOND J. REDDY**, Borough Secretary/Manager of the Borough of Whitehall, hereby certify that the chapters contained in this volume are based upon the original ordinances of the Borough Council of the Borough of Whitehall and that said ordinances, as revised and codified, renumbered as to sections and rearranged into chapters, constitute the Code of the Borough of Whitehall, County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, as adopted by ordinance of the Borough Council on April 18, 1984.

Given under my hand and the Seal of the Borough of Whitehall, County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, this \_\_\_\_\_ day of April, 1994, at Whitehall, Pennsylvania.

**/s/EDMOND J. REDDY**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Borough Secretary/Manager

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**OFFICIALS  
OF THE  
BOROUGH OF WHITEHALL**

**Borough Building**

100 Borough Park Drive  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15236  
(412/884-0505)

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1994

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Mayor

JAMES F. NOWALK

Council

ROSEMARY B. BARONE  
DAVID J. BARTON  
HAROLD L. BERKOBEN, JR.  
KATHLEEN N. DePUY  
JAMES W. McGRATH  
ROBERT J. McKOWN  
ANDREW SAKMAR

Secretary/Manager  
EDMOND J. REDDY

Solicitor  
JAMES R. DUFFY, ESQ.

# PREFACE

## *History*

Whitehall Borough, which became operative in January 1948, is a relatively new municipality among the 130 in Allegheny County.

Whitehall was formed from the Fourth, Fifth, Sixth and Seventh Wards of Baldwin Township following a petition in October 1946 by the residents of those wards for incorporation as a borough. Baldwin Township, which subsequently became a borough, was formed in 1844 from parts of Jefferson, Mifflin and St. Clair Townships.

The petition to incorporate Whitehall was the result of years of frustration over what was perceived as an imbalance of services and representation in those wards as compared to other areas of the township. Also, the new wave of suburban living and the need for more rigid controls were in conflict with the views of long-time residents who wanted services and zoning held to a minimum. Because of legal obstacles, more than a year was to pass before the court approved the incorporation.

The name Whitehall had long been associated with the area. A map of circa 1865 shows a Whitehall Hotel, later the Windsor Hotel at the present site of the Whitehall Brentwood Shopping Center. A map of circa 1900 shows a Whitehall railroad station at the present intersection of Curry and Norwin Roads and a Whitehall Driving Park, a racetrack, on what is now Club Drive, East.

Whitehall Borough encompasses 2,042 acres (about 3.3 square miles). The population was estimated at 4,250 in 1947 and 8,220 in 1952; it peaked at 16,450 in 1970 and declined, as did most municipalities, to 15,142 in 1980.

In mid-1961 Council authorized the purchase of 14 acres for \$80,000 from the South Hills County Club as a site for the present Borough Building, Library and Swimming Pool. In January 1962 Council authorized the issuance of a \$490,000 bond issue for the buildings and site development.

The first meeting in the new Borough Building was on March 20, 1963. The Library was dedicated on May 5, 1963.

In 1972 the voters of Whitehall approved a referendum to study and draft a Home Rule Charter and also elected a Government Study Commission. In January 1974 the Commission submitted its recommendations, and the Home Rule Charter was adopted at the election in May.

Although the Charter did not substantively change the form of Whitehall government, it did give it more flexibility in its operations. Among the innovative features of the Charter are provisions for initiative of residents in proposing ordinances and referendums.

## ***Principles of Codification***

While only a few simple laws were necessary at the time of the incorporation of the Borough of Whitehall, subsequent growth of the community, together with the complexity of modern life, has created the need for more and detailed ordinances for the proper function and government of the borough. The recording of local law is an aspect of municipal history, and as the community develops and changes, review and revision of old laws and consideration of new laws, in the light of current trends, must keep pace. The orderly collection of these records is an important step in this ever-continuing process. Ordinances must be more than mere chronological enactments reposing in the pages of old records. They must be available and logically arranged for convenient use and must be kept up-to-date. It was with thoughts such as these in mind that the Borough Council ordered the following codification of ordinances and resolutions.

## ***Contents of Code***

The various chapters of the Code contain all currently effective ordinances and resolutions of a general and permanent nature enacted by the Council of the Borough of Whitehall. In accordance with recognized codification procedures, any revisions or amendments made in existing ordinances or resolutions in the course of the codification, upon authorization of the Council, are referred to in the ordinance adopting the Code and are adopted thereby.

## ***Reserve Chapters***

Space has been provided for the convenient insertion, alphabetically, of later enactments. In the Table of Contents such space appears as chapters entitled "(Reserved)." In the body of the Code, reserved space is provided by breaks in the page-numbering sequence between chapters.

## ***Division of Code***

The Code is divided into parts. Part I, Administrative Legislation, contains ordinances and resolutions of an administrative nature, namely, those dealing with the administration of government, those establishing or regulating municipal departments and those affecting officers and employees of the municipal government and its departments. Part II, General Legislation, contains all other ordinances and resolutions of a regulatory nature. Ordinances in this part generally impose penalties for violation of their provisions, whereas those in Part I do not.

## ***Grouping of Ordinances and Resolutions and Arrangement of Chapters***

The ordinances and resolutions are organized into chapters, their order being an alphabetical progression from one subject to another. Wherever there are two or more ordinances or resolutions dealing with the same subject, they are combined into a single chapter. Thus, for example, all legislation imposing taxes of a general and permanent nature may be found in Part II, in the chapter entitled "Taxation." In such a chapter, use of Article designations has preserved the identity of the individual enactments.

## ***Table of Contents***

The Table of Contents details the arrangement of material by chapter as a means of identifying specific areas of legislation. Wherever two or more ordinances or resolutions have been combined by the editor into a single chapter, titles of the several Articles are listed beneath the chapter title in order to facilitate location of the individual enactment.

## ***Pagination***

A unique page-numbering system has been used, in which each chapter forms an autonomous unit. One hundred pages have been allotted to each chapter, and the first page of each is the number of that chapter followed by the numerals "01." Thus, Chapter 14 begins on page 1401, Chapter 107 on page 10701, etc. By use of this system, it is possible to add or to change pages in any chapter without affecting the sequence of subsequent pages in other chapters and to insert new chapters without affecting the existing organization.

## ***Numbering of Sections***

A chapter-related section-numbering system is employed, in which each section of every ordinance is assigned a number which indicates both the number of the chapter in which the ordinance is located and the location of the section within that chapter. Thus, the first section of Chapter 5 is § 5.1, while the sixth section of Chapter 68 is § 68.6.

## ***Scheme***

The Scheme is the list of section titles which precedes the text of each chapter. These titles are carefully written so that, taken together, they may be considered as a summary of the content of the chapter. Taken separately, each describes the content of a particular section. For ease and precision of reference, the Scheme titles are repeated as section headings in the text.

## ***General References***

In each chapter containing material related to other chapters in the Code, a table of General References is included to direct the reader's attention to such related chapters.

## ***Index***

The Index is a guide to information. Since it is likely that this Code will be used by persons without formal legal training, the Index has been formulated to enable such persons to locate a particular section quickly. Each section of each chapter has been indexed. The index will be supplemented and revised from time to time as new legislation is added to the Code.

## ***Appendix***

Certain forms of local legislation do not fall into the categories as established for Parts I and II of the Code, but are of such significance that their application is community-wide or their provisions are germane to the conduct of municipal government. The Appendix of this Code is reserved for such legislation and for any other material that the community may wish to include.

### ***Supplementation***

Supplementation of the Code will follow the adoption of new legislation. New ordinances or resolutions and amendments will be included and repeals will be indicated as soon as possible after passage.