

City of Howell Board and Commissions

Desired 'Skill Sets' for Members (not intended to be inclusive)

Board of Review

Per City Charter, members of the Board of Review are elected. Therefore, any resident of the City of Howell can become a member of the Board of Review.

Board of Zoning Appeals

The BZA heads requests for variances, appeals of denials, or appeals of interpretations, all related to the Zoning Ordinance. The reviews done by the board are for items that do not meet the explicit standards of the Zoning Code. Further appeals of decisions after the BZA are made to Circuit Court, so members of the BZA are often lawyers or related to the field of construction. A good BZA member will have strong analytical skills to review both complex and simple requests, while being able to set aside potentially hostile emotions surrounding an application.

Brownfield Redevelopment Authority

The Brownfield Redevelopment Authority facilitates the implementation of brownfield plans and promotes the redevelopment or revitalization of environmentally distressed areas. Members of the BRA are community members in field related to environmental issues, construction, or financing. One City Council member is appointed to the Board. The City's Economic Development partners, Ann Arbor Spark, also have a spot on the Authority board, to provide technical insight and assistance.

Building Authority

The Howell Building Authority provides oversight for the debt obligations on the purchase and/or improvement of City Hall. Members can be any resident of the City of Howell, but knowledge of municipal finance/debt servicing or construction are both important to have on the Authority.

Building Board of Appeals

This board hears appeals from Building Code related decisions made by the City's Building Official. Members must be related in some way to the field of construction, whether as architects, code compliance officials, inspectors, builders, or a similar field.

Capital Improvement and Rate Advisory Board

CIRAB provides oversight for the operation and management of the Wastewater Treatment Plant that serves the City of Howell and Marion Township. Its members are drawn from the City of Howell and Marion Township residents, with at least one Howell City Councilmembers and one Marion Township Trustee, and one member from the Livingston County Board of Commissioners.

Downtown Development Authority

DDA Board members have strong connections to the downtown, whether as a resident, a business owner, downtown employee or a building owner. Previous volunteers with Main Street or DDA activities often become board members, as volunteering for

downtown events require a significant investment of time and talents in the community. The DDA Board Bylaws require that a majority of the board be made up of small businesses owners or representatives of downtown businesses, as their mission is to create a vibrant, strong, and economically viable downtown, which in turn supports those small businesses.

Economic Development Authority of Howell

The EDC is used for Industrial Revenue Bond oversight on specific projects. Members of this board are a mix of elected officials and residents that have knowledge of basic development processes of financial tools available to local governments.

Historic Preservation Commission

The Historic Preservation Commission in the City of Howell was established for the purposes of creating a Historic District to preserve the Howell Opera House in the downtown and support its rehabilitation. Members are encouraged to have a background in historic preservation, construction, or a related field, or to have a demonstrated interest in historic preservation on a local level.

Local Development Finance Authority

LDFA members work to prevent conditions of unemployment, promote economic growth, and authorize the acquisition and disposal of interest in real and personal property. Specific members include elected officials and the City's Economic Development partners, Ann Arbor Spark. Appointed members should have a background in development or development finance, as the work can be technical.

Local Officers Compensation Commission

This Commission establishes the compensation of elected officials. Members of the Compensation Commission are required to be residents of the City of Howell.

Park and Recreation Commission

The Parks and Recreation Commission is a regional group, as the Howell Area Parks and Recreation Authority encompasses the City of Howell and the four surrounding townships. The makeup of the Commission is one elected official from each of the five municipalities that are part of the Authority.

Planning Commission

The Planning Commission develops the City's master plan and zoning ordinances reviewing applications for development and uses in the City. There is no specific background for a Planning Commission member that is needed. Members can be owners or renters, business owners or residents, with a background in development or not. The City does try and have geographic diversity on the PC, so that as many parts of the City as possible are represented on the board.

Storm Water Management Commission

The Storm Water Management Commission members should have a technical engineering or planning background, or a noted knowledge in stormwater management.

Tax Increment Finance Authority

The TIFA provides oversight for industrial development activities and funding of public infrastructure needs in areas where the TIFA district was established. Background of potential members may include development finance or finance in general, residence in or near the TIFA district, or construction.