



Establishment and Membership:

According to [Indiana Code \(IC 36-7-4-901\)](#), when a zoning ordinance is adopted, the Indiana Code requires that a Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) be created.

The Whitestown Board of Zoning Appeals (WBZA) is made up of five citizens. 3 of them are appointed by the Town Council President, 1 by the Town Council and 1 by the Whitestown Plan Commission. Each member serves a four year term.

Duties:

As a quasi-judicial body, the WBZA provides a "safety valve" through which land owners can seek relief from strict application of a zoning ordinance. Further, the BZA functions to give greater assurance that zoning is fair and equitable, that it is properly interpreted, and does not cause excessive hardship.

Powers and duties of the WBZA include: To hear and determine appeals from and review any order, requirement, decision, or determination made by an administrative official, staff member, or board charged with the enforcement of a zoning ordinance; To hear and determine special uses as detailed by terms of the zoning ordinance; and, To authorize variances from the zoning ordinance in certain cases.