BOROUGH OF WHITE OAK
Minutes of April 20, 2026 7:30 PM
Council Meeting

CALL TO ORDER: Council President Loree Scharritter called the meeting to order at 7:30PM.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Loree Scharritter

ROLL CALL: Loree Scharritter requested the roll call. In attendance was:

Elected Officials:
- Mayor Ina Marton
- Loree Scharritter, Council President
- Charles Davis
- Amanda DePaulis
- Brian Dinkfelt
- Janice Kortz
- George Pambacas
- Amy Sotereanos

Borough Staff and Professional Services:
- Ashley Puchalski, Borough Solicitor
- Amber Yon, Borough Engineer
- John Palyo, Borough Manager
- MaryAnn Winemiller, Administrative Assistant

MINUTES: Chuck Davis made a motion to accept the minutes for the March 9, 2026 Workshop Meeting and March 16, 2026 Council Meeting. George Pambacas seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Ms. Ashley Puchalski
None

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Under the Pennsylvania Sunshine Act, 65 Pa.C.S. § 710.1. Public participation: The Borough of White Oak will provide an opportunity for residents and taxpayers of the Borough to make public comments. Comments are limited to three (3) minutes.

Don Hultberg – 115 Long Vue Drive
Mr. Hultberg is concerned with the traffic going into and out of Francis McClure School. He made several suggestions to get drivers to slow down, including 1 to place a 15 mile per hour sign coming out of Francis McClure onto Long Vue as there is not a sign currently posted.

GUEST SPEAKER: Carolyn Yagle, Director of Planning and Policy from Environmental Planning and Design our Consultant and Project Manager for our White Oak Borough and South Versailles Joint Comprehensive Planning and Zoning Update Project.

Ms. Yagle wanted to introduce herself to all the members of Council and the General Public attending the meeting. Some highlights of her presentation:

- Joint Partnership with South Versailles Township
- Survey for Residents and Business (available in paper & on line)
- Comprehensive Plan
- Zoning Ordinances Updates
- Public Meetings going forward
- The Project Web Site is linked to the Borough Web Site

MAYOR'S REPORT: Mayor Ina Marton

Mayor Ina Marton provided the Police Activity Report for March 2026

Alarm Calls both Business and Residential	19
Warrant Arrests	3
Total Traffic Stops	103
Traffic Citations Issued	48
Vehicle Accidents	15
Domestic Related Incidents	5
Welfare Checks	11
Animal Complaints	11
Total Criminal Arrests: (including warrants)	23
Simple Assault Arrests - 2	
Drug Related - 4	
Disorderly Conduct - 3	
Criminal Mischief - 4	
Harassment - 8	
~~Total Reportable Incidents~~	~~359~~

Mayor Martin introduced the newest member of the White Oak Police Department, sworn in on April 1, 2026. Officer Michael Shabe. Officer Shabe previously worked at Penn Borough Police Department and the past 7 and ½ years as a Westmoreland County Park Police Officer. This now brings the department to 13 officers including Chief Binder. Everyone please give a warm welcome to Officer Shabe.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Ms. Loree Scharritter

Council President Scharritter, Council Women Amanda DePaulis, Amy Sotereanos and Mayor Marton attended the Allegheny Legue of Municipalities conference in Seven Springs on April 9, 10 & 11, 2026. Council President Scharritter stated that the sessions are always informative and you can do good networking with other officials.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS:

FINANCE: Mr. Charles Davis

Charles Davis made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report for March 2026. Brian Dinkfelt seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Charles Davis made a motion approving the Check Register for the month of March which includes Electronic Fund Transfers and General Fund Checks in the following ranges (52684 to 52780) totaling $518,024.58. George Pambacas seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Charles Davis made a motion authorizing the following Interfund Transfers for the month of March 2026 George Pambacas seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

From	To	Amount
Liquid Fuels	General Fund	23,614.57
Solid Waste	General Fund	149,820.00
Post Retirement	General Fund	9,124.22
General Fund	Veteran's Memorial Fund	5,631.80

Total Transfers		$ 188190.59

HEALTH, ENVIRONMENT AND CABLE: Ms. Janice Kortz

- **Announcements:**
- Electronics and Household Hazardous Waste Collection Drop off program is Wednesday, April 22nd from 9 to 1 at the Borough Building. This is a pay as you go program.
- White Oak Clean Up Day is scheduled for Saturday, April 25th from 10 to 1 at Heritage Hill Park.

Janice Kortz made a motion to accept the bid submitted by Minniefield Demolition Services, LLC in the amount of $38,000.00 which includes the based bid and the add alternate #1 under the White Oak Safe Neighborhood Demolition Project no. CD 50-3.11.3 and authorize the Borough Manager and An Lewis, Executive Director of the Steel Rivers COG to execute the contract documents. Amanda DePaulis seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

PARKS AND RECREATION: Ms. Amy Sotereanos

Upcoming Events:

Easter Egg Hunt – Saturday, April 4th from 10 to 12

The Easter Egg Hunt was very successful and a lot of positive feedback from the participants. A Thank you to all of our Volunteers and Sponsors we could not have had such a successful event without you.

Veteran's Memorial Project – Buy a Brick Campaign is still active. Please go to our website for more details and ordering instructions.

Amy Sotereanos made a motion to establish the 2026 Pool Season Rates. Janice Kotz seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

The 2026 Rates are as follows:

General Admission	$ 15.00
Residential Season Pass (Proof of Residency Required)	$ 80.00
Non-Resident Season Pass	$ 120.00
Resident Senior (65+) Season Pass (Proof of Residency & Age Required)	$ 40.00
Non-Resident Senior (65+) Season Pass (Proof of Age Required)	$ 80.00
Season Pass Holder – Guest Passes (5)	$ 40.00
Family Pass Option: Only Available at Pre-sale Dates (Initial 4 members full price, anyone thereafter half price)	
Season Pass Holders only from May 25th to June 7th, no daily admission until June 8th	

White Oak Senior Citizens Update: Mr. George Pambacas

March Schedule of Events:

Thursday April 23rd we will be having a luncheon tour of the Hertige Center.
Chair Yoga – Mondays & Wednesdays –11:00am
Monthly Meeting: Wednesday April 15, 2026 – 1:00pm
Guest Speaker – Magician / Comedian Steven Haberman
April 22, 2026 – 1:00pm Guest Speaker Joe Hoffman
A discussion on Western PA Serial killers & some defensive moves for seniors
Coffee Hour: Thursdays – 9th & 23rd – 9:30am
Cardio Drumming Class (Must Pre-Register) Tuesdays – 12:30pm
Fit & Balance Class – Tuesday -1:45pm
Gentle Exercise – Tuesdays - 2:45pm

A complete listing of all activities can be found on the White Oak Seniors Facebook Page.

White Oak Athletic Association Update: Ms. Loree Scharritter
The 7th grade Basketball Team won 3 tournaments in the past month.
04.20.26 – Baseball& Softball Programs start
The April 18th Clean up Day was very successful, thank you to all the volunteers
We are always looking for Volunteers, please contact the WOAA on their Face Book Page
Please visit the WOAA Web Site for a complete list of all activities

PLANNING AND ZONING: Ms. Amanda DePaulis
Councilwoman DePaulis presented the monthly permit/violation report for March 2026. The Report is available for review at the Borough Offices during normal business hours. A discussion on the MAP Grant Surveys and the importance of Surveys for future planning. The next Map Steering Committee Meeting will be on May 13, 2026 at 6pm, here at the Borough Building.

With the creation of the Blight Committee to identify blighted properties in the community and mitigate issues. We are seeking Applicants interested to become Committee Members, please send (email) Resumes and Letters of interest to John Palyo, Borough Manager. Quarterly Meeting are anticipated to start with the first meeting in June 2026.

Our Code Department Intern Leo Rosner will start on Monday May 18,2026 part of his salary will be from an LGA Grant.

PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT: Mr. Brian Dinkfelt
Brian Dinkfelt made a motion to request and authorize the Civil Service Commission to develop a certified list of candidates for the promotion to the position of Sergeant. George Pambacas seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved

Brian Dinkfelt made a motion to authorize the purchase of a used 2017 Ford Taurus Police Interceptor Unmarked Unit including tint, emergency lighting, siren and radio with approximately 55,000 miles from the Borough of Whitehall for the amount of $7,500.00 and authorize the Borough Manager to execute all documents related to the purchase. Charles Davis seconded the motion. The vote was not unanimous.

Council President Lorree Scharritter asked for a Roll Call Vote:
Yes: George Pambacas, Amy Sotereanos, Lorree Scharritter, Charles Davis, Janice Kortz & Brian Dinkfelt
No: Amanda DePaulis
The Motion passed 6 to 1.

PUBLIC WORKS: Mr. George Pambacas
Councilman Pambacas presented the March 2026 Public Works report. The report is available for review during normal business hours at the borough building. Councilman Pambacas reviewed highlights from the report.

Wood Chipping Program starts May – August on Thursdays, Call the Borough Building to schedule an appointment. 412-672-9727, ext. #238, information is also on our web site.

PERSONNEL: Ms. Loree Scharritter
The Personal Committee, myself Councilwomen DePaulis & Kortz met last Friday, April 17th working on New Job Descriptions & Personal Policies. Setting Goals and Objectives for the Borough Employees. The next meeting will be on Monday April 27, 2026.

TAX COLLECTORS' REPORTS: Ms. Loree Scharritter
Charles Davis made a motion to accept the Tax Collectors' Reports and pay the commissions

and fees due for March 2026 (Refer to the separate attachment). Amanda DePaulis seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

ENGINEER'S REPORT: Amber Yon
Ms. Yon stated that in general Penn E&R continues to provided Engineering Support, specifically cost estimates and supporting documentation for various Grant Applications and infrastructure improvement projects within the borough. Specifically, this last period we issued a recommendation to award Minniefield Demolition Services for the demolition of 3 blighted properties within the borough. As you heard Council awarded that this evening. We will continue to support during the execution of that project.

Charles Davis made a motion accept the Engineer's Report**.** Amanda DePaulis seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: Ms. Ashley Puchalski
Solicitor Puchalski stated her office has been very busy assisting the borough with Legal Support with Collective Bargaining Negotiations, Labor Relation Issues, a Resolution to form the Blight Committee. Solicitor Puchalski stated that the formation of the Blight Committee is going to be a plus for the Borough.

George Pambacas made s motion to accept the Solicitor's Report, Amanda DePaulis seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES: Ms. Ashley Puchalski
Resolution No. 2026-14
Charles Davis made a motion to approve Resolution of the Borough of White Oak, County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, providing for the creation of a Blight Committee to operate under the Planning and Zoning Committee of Council. Amanda DePaulis seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Resolution No. 2026-15
Amanda DePaulis made a motion to approve Resolution of the Borough of White Oak, County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, approving notice to be included in the Allegheny County Community Development Block Grant and Home Investment Partnerships Programs for three program years – 2027, 2028, and 2029. Brian Dinkfelt seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Resolution No. 2026-16
Amanda DePaulis made a motion to approve Resolution of the Borough of White Oak, County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, adopting the Allegheny County 2026 Hazard Mitigation Plan as the official Hazard Mitigation Plan of the Borough of White Oak. Charles Davis seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

NEW BUSINESS: None

OLD BUSINESS: None

ANNOUNCEMENTS: (Meetings will be held at the Borough Building and are open to the Public)
- May 11, 2026, 6:45 PM – Council Workshop Meeting
- May 18, 2026, 6:45 PM – Council Workshop Meeting
    - 7:30 PM – Council Meeting

ADJOURNMENT: Amanda DePaulis made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:04 PM. Brian Dinkfelt seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

John Palyo

John Palyo
Borough Manager, Secretary & Treasurer

Date Approved by Council