BOROUGH OF WHITE OAK
Minutes of the Workshop Meeting of Monday, February 9, 2026 - 6:45 PM

CALL TO ORDER: Council President Loree Scharritter called the meeting to order at 6:45 PM.

Meeting attendance:

Elected Officials:
Mayor Ina Marton
Loree Scharritter, 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
MaryAnn Winemiller, Administrative Assistant
John Palyo, Borough Manager

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Council entered Executive Session #1 at 6:46 PM to discuss personnel matters. Council exited Executive Session at 7:30 PM

Council recessed the workshop meeting at 7:30 PM to convene a Special Meeting of Council. Council reconvened the Workshop meeting at 7:40 PM

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

GUEST SPEAKER(s): None

General Discussion occurred on the following items:

ENGINEER'S REPORT – Amber Yon, Robert Roach

- Heritage Hill Park Playground and Pickleball – Playground construction complete. Penn E&R assisted with close out documents. Borough to receive grant funds after close out. Borough to submit funding breakdown and request to DCNR. Documentation is due by end of February. Borough to provide documentation to request funds
- Gate costs received for main entrance to park. Quotes received are $4,771.63 (Penn Fencing) and $4,150 (Tri State Fence) and $2,750 (North American Fencing).
- Greenways, Trails, and Recreation Program (GTRP) Open 2/1 – 5/31/26: • For planning, acquisition, development, rehabilitation and repair of greenways, recreational trails, open space, parks and beautification projects. Max grant is $250,000 and minimum 15% match required (max. ~$43,000).
- Submitted application for Heritage Hill Park Asphalt Court project which consists of turning existing fenced asphalt into (2) basketball and (1) tennis courts. Penn E&R worked with Costars member Snider Recreation to finalize the project cost estimate. Borough committing to $41,610 match (15%) for $277,400 total project cost. Application received and processed by project manager. NOT FUNDED – Reapply?
- PA Small Water & Sewer Grant • Manager received email Borough received $200,000 - assume $30k match
- YR 50 CDBG Grant - $ 35,000
    - 8 Allen Way, 2172 Lewis Street, 610 Osborne Street & 612 Osborne Street

Borough Projects:

- Demolition of 1139 California Avenue – Final Inspection / Punchlist
- WOAA – HVAC Project Maintenance Bond expires 05.13.2026 – items to fix

SOLICITOR'S REPORT – Ashley J. Puchalski

- Discussion on the Blight Committee Formation Resolution

MANAGER'S REPORT – John Palyo

Discussion Points:

- Solid Waste Billing – Keystone Collections Group – Transition
- 2026 Budget Development – Re-Opening
- Banking Signature Cards - Bonding of Signers
- 2026 Salary Ordinance
- 2024 DCED Financial Audit completed
- Heritage Hill Gate Project Discussion – on hold
- WOCSC
  - New Candidates – Process Conditional Offers of Hire
- WOPW
  - Collective Bargaining Negotiations – Financial Projections
  - Vehicle Status
- Processing Pension Requests - update
- Active RTKR's – 4 Active
- Close out grant projects
  - DCNR C2P2 Program – Heritage Hill Park Playground Project
- Insurance Claims – ongoing
- Tomco Lane Request
- McKee Road request -

Review of the draft agenda for our next Council Meeting: (February 16th)

MAYOR'S REPORT – Ina Marton

- Monthly Statistical Report
- Introduction of two new officers

PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Loree Scharritter

- Council Committee Appointments

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS:

FINANCE – Charles Davis, Chair

- Treasurer's Report

HEALTH, ENVIRONMENT, CABLE AND TECHNOLOGY: Janice Kortz, Chair

- Demolition Project Status
- Website and Email Redesign Project Update

PARKS AND RECREATION – Amy Sotereanos, Chair

- Monthly Meetings
- 2026 Events
- 2026 Community Day – Band
- Veterans Memorial Project
    - Buy a Brick Campaign project update
- 2026 Pool season and Management Team
- George Pambacas – White Oak Senior Citizens Update
- Loree Scharritter – White Oak Athletic Association Update

PLANNING, ZONING AND CODES: Amanda DePaulis, Chair

- Monthly Report
- MAP Grant Project Update – Project was awarded a $ 50,000 grant
- Discussion on Committee Meetings and Blight Committee formation Resolution
- Discussion LGA Internship Program - $15.00 per hour

PUBLIC SAFETY – Brian Dinkfelt, Chair

- New Police Vehicle (SUV, Outfitting, Lettering, transfer of old to Code, Liquidate 2 old vehicles with Municibid)
- Axon Tasers
- Yubico Security Keys Project
- Allegheny County's Alternative 911 Response Initiative Program implementation
- Plate Smart 1 year agreement extension $3,876.00

PUBLIC WORKS AND GROUNDS: George Pambacas, Chair

- Monthly Report
- Public Works Department Collective Bargaining Negotiations
- Rock Salt State of Emergency

PERSONNEL – Loree Scharritter, Chair

- Executive Session

TAX COLLECTORS' REPORT – Loree Scharritter

- Monthly Report

RESOLUTIONS/ORDINANCES:

- **Blight Committee Formation Resolution – hold for a Committee meeting**
- **2026 Salary Ordinance – add to agenda**
- **Tax Refund Resolution – add to agenda**

NEW BUSINESS: None

OLD BUSINESS: None

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- **February 16, 2026**, **6:45 PM** – Council Workshop Meeting (Open to the Public)
  7:30 PM – Council Meeting (Open to the Public)

MINUTES: Available for Approval:

- January 5, 2026, Reorganization Meeting
- January 12, 2026, Council Workshop Meeting
- January 19, 2026, Council Meeting

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Council entered Executive Session #2 at 9:01 PM to discuss personnel matters and pending litigation. Council exited Executive Session at 9:50 PM

ADJOURNMENT: Loree Scharritter, President adjourned the meeting at 9:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

John Palyo

John Palyo
Borough Manager, Secretary & Treasurer

Date Approved by Council