BOROUGH OF WHITE OAK
Minutes of January 19, 2026 7:30 PM
Council Meeting

CALL TO ORDER: Council President Loree Scharritter called the meeting to order at 7:39 PM. Council President Scharritter apologized for starting the meeting late.

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
- Robert Roach, Borough Engineer
- John Palyo, Borough Manager
- MaryAnn Winemiller, Administrative Assistant

MINUTES: Chuck Davis made a motion to accept the minutes for the December 8, 2025 Council Workshop Meeting, December 15, 2025, Council Meeting and a Special Council Meeting on December 30, 2025. George Pambacas seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Ms. Ashley Puchalski
Executive Session was held this evening to discuss Personal, Ligation and Legal Advice.

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.

Dave Preece – 142 Carmella Drive
Mr. Preece wanted to make some comments about the newly installed Cable that has been installed across the entrance at Hertige Hill Park to help secure the park. He stated that this is the 3rd attempt to close the entrance to the park and it hasn't worked in the past and it's not working now. He feels we are going backwards with having to open and close the park 2 times a day 365 days of the year. What we need to do is install cameras at the entrance so we can monitor who is entering the park during Dusk to Dawn hours when the park is closed. The gate is not going to stop vandalism in the park, people who are doing the vandalism are not driving into the park.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Ms. Loree Scharritter

Loree Scharritter presented the following appointments to the collective positions as listed:
- Joelle Harbert to serve as the Chair of the Vacancy Board for a one-year term until (12/2026)
- Joseph Hoffman to serve on the Civil Service Commission for a six-year term until 12/2031
- Robert Boyle to serve on the Civil Service Commission as an Alternate #2 for a six-year term until 12/2031
- Helen Stratigos to serve on the Planning Commission for a three-year term until 12/2029
- David Preece to serve on the Zoning Hearing Board for a three-year term until 12/2028

Chuck Davis made a motion for approve the appointments as presented. Brian Dinkfelt seconded the motion. The Motion unanimously approved.

We have several openings as Alternates on the Planning Commission and Zoning Hearing Board along with Board Members on the Building Code of Appeals Board and the Recreation Committee. If anyone is interested in serving in these capacities, please send a letter of interest and a resume to the Borough office.

MAYOR'S REPORT: Mayor Ina Marton
Mayor Ina Marton provided the Police Activity Report for December 2025

Alarm Calls both Business and Residential	20
Warrant Arrests	4
Total Traffic Stops	36
Traffic Citations Issued	7
Vehicle Accidents	17
Domestic Related Incidents	6
Welfare Checks	4
Animal Complaints	3
Total Criminal Arrests:	11
Simple Assault Arrests - 1	
DUI - 1	
Public Drunkenness - 1	
Disorderly Conduct - 1	
Hit N Run - 1	
Criminal Mischief - 1	
Criminal Trespass - 1	
Harassment - 1	
~~Total Reportable Incidents~~	~~359~~

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS:

FINANCE: Mr. Charles Davis
Charles Davis made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report for December 2025. Brian Dinkfelt seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Charles Davis made a Motion approving the Check Register for the month of December, which includes Electronic Fund Transfers and General Fund Checks in the following ranges (52340 to 52473) totaling $852,245.60. Amanda DePaulis Seconded the Motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Charles Davis made a motion authorizing the following Interfund Transfers for the month of December 2025. George Pambacas seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

From	To	Amount
Liquid Fuels	General Fund	9,169.70
Solid Waste	General Fund	69,688.10
Post Retirement	General Fund	5,512.54
Solid Waste	General Fund	60,000.00
General Fund	Capital Fund	200,000.00
General Fund	Post Retirement	125,327.00
Total Transfers		$ 469697.34

Charles Davis made a motion to authorize the advertising of the "White Oak Salary Ordinance 2026". George Pambacas seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved

Amanda DePaulis made a motion to reopen the 2026 Budget that was adopted on December 30, 2025.Charles Davis seconded the motion. George Pambacas and Janice Kortz voted no.
Council President Loree Scharritter asked for a Roll Call vote:
Yes – Charles Davis, Brian Dinkfelt, Amanda DePaulis, Loree Scharritter and Amy Sotereanos
No – George Pambacas and Janice Kortz
The vote passed to open the 2026 Budget by 5 to 2.

Charles Davis made a motion to advertise an amended 2026 Budget. Brian Dinkfelt seconded the motion, George Pambacas voted no.
Council President Loree Scharritter asked for a Roll Call vote:
Yes – Amy Soteranos, Loree Scharriter, Janice Kortz, Charles Davis, Brian Dinkfelt and Amanda DePaulis.
No – George Pambacas
The Vote passed 6 to 1.

Amanda DePaulis made a motion to advertise the 2026 Tax Levy Ordinance, if necessary, as a result of reopening of the 2026 budget Brian Dinkfelt Seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved

Announcement: The amended 2026 Budget and tax levy ordinance will be advertised prior to adoption on or before February 15, 2026.

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.

PARKS AND RECREATION: Ms. Amy Sotereanos
Announcements:
We are proud to announce we received correspondence on behalf of Bird Town Pennsylvania, the Audubon Society of Western Pennsylvania and the Pennsylvania Audubon Council that we were accepted into the Bird Town Program. We are the 99th Bird Town Community in the program.

Upcoming Events:
- White Oak Recreation Committee had a meeting last week to discuss and plan future events for 2026.
- White Oak Recreation Committee Spring Craft Show - Saturday, March 14th from 10 to 3
- Easter Egg Hunt – Saturday, April 4th from 10 to 12

- Veteran's Memorial Project – Buy a Brick Campaign to support the development of the memorial: 4"x8" Red Brick is $ 100.00; 8"x8" Red Brick is $150.00; and 4"x4" Replica Coaster is $ 15.00. Go to our website for more details and ordering instructions.

Community Day Preparation:
Amy Sotereanos made a motion to enter into an agreement with Pyrotecnico Fireworks Inc. for a fireworks display at Community Day in an amount of $ 12,000 and authorize the Borough Manager to execute the agreement on behalf of the Borough. George Pambacas seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Amy Sotereanos made a motion to authorize the Council Parks and Recreation Committee to book a band for Community Day in an amount not to exceed $ 3,000 and authorize the Borough Manager to execute the agreement. Charles Davis seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

White Oak Senior Citizens Update: Mr. George Pambacas
February Schedule of Events:
Chair Yoga – Mondays & Wednesdays –11:00am -12:00pm
Monthly Meeting: Wednesday February 11, 2026 – 2:00pm
Motown Sounds by Tenor Vocalist Brian Mahan
Coffee Hour: Thursdays – 15th & 29th – 9:30am
Cardio Drumming Class (Must Pre-Register) Tuesdays 02/03,02/10,02/17, 02/24 1:00pm – 2pm
Gentle Exercise – Tuesdays – 02/03,02/10,02/17,02/24 – 2:30pm – 3:30pm
A complete listing of all activities can be found on the White Oak Seniors Facebook Page.

White Oak Athletic Association Update: Ms. Loree Scharritter
February 21, 2026 – WOAA Annual Cash Bash – 6:00pm
Sign ups for Baseball & Softball are happening now
Please visit the WOAA Web site for a listing of all our activities.

PLANNING AND ZONING: Ms. Amanda DePaulis
Councilwoman DePaulis presented the monthly permit/violation report for November and December 2025.

Announcement:
White Oak Borough was awarded a Grant from the LGA to hire a Summer Intern for the Code Department

PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT: Mr. Brian Dinkfelt
Brian Dinkfelt made a motion to enter into an agreement with Lexipol, LLC in an amount of $22,737.20 to subscribe to their Policy Management Platform on behalf of our Police Department and authorize the Borough Manager to sign on behalf of the Borough. Janice Kortz seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Brian Dinkfelt made a motion to enter into an agreement with VIPR.AI, LLC in an amount of $6,553.75 for the Camera and License Plate Readers located at Route 48 and Lincon Way and State Street and Lincoln Way on behalf of our Police Department and authorize the Borough Manager to sign on behalf of the Borough**.** Charles Davis seconded the motion. Amanda DePaulis voted No.
Council President Loree Scharritter asked for a Roll Call Vote:
Yes – George Pambacas, Janice Kortz, Chuck Davis, Brian Dinkfelt, Loree Scharritter and Amy Soteranos.
No – Amanda DePaulis
Motion passed 6 to 1

PUBLIC WORKS: Mr. George Pambacas
Councilman Pambacas stated that he had a meeting last week with Councilwoman Sotereanos bringing her up to date with upcoming events and current issues.

Councilman Pambacas presented the November & December Public Works report. The report is available for review during normal business hours at the borough building. Mr. Pambacas wanted to go on record saying the Public Works Department did an outstanding job during our recent snow events. Councilman Davis asked Councilman Pambacas if we have enough salt. Councilman. Pambacas answered yes.

George Pambacas made a motion to table a motion to purchase a gate for the entrance of Heritage Hill Park from North American Fence in the amount of $ 2,750.00 and authorize the Borough Manager to sign the quote on behalf of the Borough. Charles Davis seconded to table the motion to look into the cost of a Camera System for up at Heritage Hill Park. The motion was unanimously approved.

PERSONNEL: Ms. Loree Scharritter
Charles Davis made a motion to approve a two (2) year employment agreement for John Palyo, Borough Manager, and authorize the execution of the agreement. Janice Kortz seconded the motion. Brian Dinkfelt voted no.
Council President Loree Scharritter asked for a Roll Call vote.
Yes – George Pambacas, Janice Kortz, Charles Davis, Amanda DePaulis, Loree Scharritter, Amy Sotereanos.
No – Brian Dinkfelt
Motion passed 6 to 1.

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 December 2025 (Refer to the separate attachment). Brian Dinkfelt seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

ENGINEER'S REPORT: Robert Roach
Mr. Roach gave a brief overview for 4 properties on the Demo list in the borough. Contracts should be awarded shortly.

Brian Dinkfelt made a motion to accept the Engineer's Report. George Pambacas seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: Ms. Ashley Puchalski
No report on Resolution

RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES: Ms. Ashley Puchalski
RESOLUTION #2026-01
Charles Davis made a motion to approve Resolution of Council of the Borough of White Oak appointing a Representative and Alternates to the Allegheny County Southeast Tax Collection Committee, John Palyo (Representative)), Janice Kortz and Loree Scharritter (Alternates). George Pambacas seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

RESOLUTION #2026-02
Brian Dinkfelt made a motion to approve Resolution of Council of the Borough of White Oak appointing a Representative and Alternate to the South Hills Area Council of Governments (SHACOG) Janice Kortz (Representative) and Amanda DePaulis (Alternate) Franchising Authority Board. Amanda DePaulis second the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

RESOLUTION #2026-03
Brian Dinkfelt made a motion to approve Resolution of Council of the Borough of White Oak appointing a Representative and Alternate to the South Hills Area Council of Governments (SHACOG) Joint Rate Review Board. Janice Kortz (Representative) and Amanda DePaulis (alternate). Amanda DePaulis second the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

RESOLUTION #2026-04
Charles Davis made a motion to approve Resolution of Council of the Borough of White Oak authorizing the appropriate signatories as President, Vice President, President Pro-Tem, Chair of Finance Committee and Borough Manager on our First Commonwealth Bank Accounts as presented. Amanda DePaulis seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

RESOLUTION #2026-05
Geoge Pambacas made a motion to approve Resolution of Council of the Borough of White Oak authorizing the appropriate signatories as President, Vice President, President Pro-Tem, Chair of Finance Committee and Borough Manager on our PNC Bank Accounts as presented. Charles Davis seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved

RESOLUTION #2026-06
George Pambacas made a motion to approve that the acquisition and subsequent disposition of numerous parcels of vacant property known as block and lot number 551-B-318 would be in accord with the comprehensive plan of the municipality. (This project is in cooperation with the County of Allegheny and the Redevelopment Authority of Allegheny County through the Allegheny County Vacant Property Recovery Program). Amanda DePaulis seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved

RESOLUTION #2026-07
George Pambacas made a motion to approve that the acquisition and subsequent disposition of numerous parcels of vacant property known as block and lot number 550-R-77 would be in accord with the comprehensive plan of the municipality. (This project is in cooperation with the County of Allegheny and the Redevelopment Authority of Allegheny County through the Allegheny County Vacant Property Recovery Program). Amanda DePaulis seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved

NEW BUSINESS:
Amanda DePaulis stated that she didn't know if this was new business but the comments she made earlier was for Line Item in the Budget 402-310 which was previously approved for the amount of $12,000.00.

OLD BUSINESS: None

ANNOUNCEMENTS: (Meetings will be held at the Borough Building and are open to the Public)

- **February 9, 2026, 6:45 PM – Council Workshop Meeting**
- **February 16, 2026, 6:45 PM – Council Workshop Meeting**
    - **7:30 PM – Council Meeting**

ADJOURNMENT: Chales Davis made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:14 PM. Brian Dinkfelt seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

John Palyo

John Palyo
Borough Manager, Secretary & Treasurer

Date Approved by Council