BOROUGH OF WHITE OAK
Minutes of Swearing in Ceremony / Council Reorganization Meeting
January 5, 2026, 7:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Ina Marton called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mayor Ina Marton

SWEARING In:
Mayor Marton introduced Magisterial District Judge Thomas G. Miller to conduct the Oath of Office for the following newly elected officials:

- Mayor Ina J. Marton
- Council Members: Janice M. Kortz, Loree L. Scharritter, Amy R. Sotereanos and Brian Dinkfelt

ROLL CALL: Mayor Marton requested the roll call. In attendance was:

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

Borough Staff and Professional Services:
Ashley Puchalski, Solicitor
John Palyo, Borough Manager
MaryAnn Winemiller, Admin. Asst.

NOMINATION FOR THE PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL: Mayor Marton

Mayor Marton opened the floor for nominations for President of Council. Janice Kortz nominated George Pambacas for President of Council. Amand DePaulis nominated Loree Scharritter for President of Council. Mayor Marton asked if there were any other nominations for President. None were made. Nominations for President of Council was closed.

Mayor Marton asked for a roll call vote:
Votes for George Pambacas: George Pambacas, Janice Kortz, Amy Sotereanos
Votes for Loree Scharritter: Charles Davis, Brian Dinklfelt, Loree Scharritter and Amanda DePaulis

Loree Scharritter was elected as President of Council by a four to three vote.

NOMINATION FOR THE VICE PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL: Mayor Marton

Mayor Marton opened the floor for nominations for Vice President of Council. Amanda DePaulis nominated George Pambacas for Vice President of Council. Mayor Marton asked if there were any other nominations for Vice President. None were made. Nominations for Vice President of Council was closed.

Mayor Marton asked for a motion to elect George Pambacas as Vice President of Council, Amanda DePaulis made a motion with a second from Charles Davis.

George Pambacas was elected as Vice President of Council by a unanimous vote.

Mayor Ina Marton passed the gavel to President Loree Scharritter to preside over the rest of the meeting.

NOMINATION FOR THE PRESIDENT PRO-TEM: Loree Scharritter

Council President Loree Scharritter opened the floor for nominations for President Pro-Tem. George Pambacas nominated Amy Sotereanos for President Pro-Tem. Charles Davis nominated Amanda DePaulis for President Pro-Tem. Loree Scharritter asked if there were any other nominations for President Pro-Tem. None were made. Nominations for President Pro-Tem was closed.

President Scharritter asked for a roll call vote:
Votes for Amy Sotereanos: George Pambacas, Janice Kortz, Amy Sotereanos
Votes for Amanda DePaulis: Charles Davis, Brian Dinklfelt, Loree Scharritter and Amanda DePaulis

Amanda DePaulis was elected as President Pro-Tem of Council by a four to three vote.

APPOINTMENTS TO POSITIONS: Loree Scharritter

Charles Davis made a motion to appoint John Palyo as Borough Secretary. Amanda DePaulis seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Amanda DePaulis made a motion to appoint John Palyo as Borough Treasurer. Charles Davis seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Amanda DePaulis made a motion to appoint John Palyo as Right to Know Request Officer Charles Davis seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Amanda DePaulis made a motion to appoint Chief Jason Binder as Right to Know Officer for the Police Department Charles Davis seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

George Pambacas made a motion to appoint Penn Environmental & Remediation, Inc. (Penn E & R) as Borough Engineer. Amanda DePaulis seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

George Pambacas made a motion to appoint Tucker Arensberg, P.C. as Borough Solicitor. Amanda DePaulis seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARD AND COMMISSION POSITIONS: Loree Scharritter

Council President Loree Scharritter asked for a motion to table the following appointments:

- Vacancy Board
- White Oak EMS
- Steel Rivers COG
- White Oak Athletic Association Representative to the Board
- Library Board
- ALOM / Borough's Association
- Tri-COG Land Bank

Charles Davis made a motion to table the appointments as presented. Seconded by Amanda Depaulis. The motion was unanimously approved.

PRESENTATION OF COUNCIL COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS: Loree Scharritter

Council President Loree Scharritter asked for a motion to table the Council Committee appointments until our next meeting:

Brian Dinkfelt made a motion to table the Council Committee appointments. Seconded by Amanda Depaulis. The motion was unanimously approved.

ESTABLISH DATES AND TIMES FOR COUNCIL MEETINGS AND WORKSHOP MEETINGS:

Council President Loree Scharritter established the Council Meeting Schedule

- Workshop: 2nd Monday of every month (6:45 PM)
- Workshop / Council: 3rd Monday of every month (6:45 PM/7:30 PM)

ANY OTHER BUSINESS: None

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- January 12, 2026, 6:45 PM – Council Workshop Meeting
- January 19, 2026, 6:45 PM – Council Workshop Meeting
    - 7:30 PM – Council Meeting

ADJOURNMENT

Charels Davis made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:12 PM, Amanda DePaulis seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

John Palyo

John Palyo
Borough Manager, Secretary & Treasurer

Date Approved by Council