

**BOROUGH OF WHITE OAK**  
**Minutes of September 19, 2022 7:30 PM**  
**Council Meeting**

**CALL TO ORDER:** Council President Charles Davis called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Charles Davis

**ROLL CALL:** Charles Davis requested the roll call. In attendance was:

**Elected Officials:**

Charles Davis, President  
Mayor Ina Marton  
Louis Bender  
Joelle Harbert  
Julie Opferman  
George Pambacas  
Jason Russell  
Lorree Scharritter

**Borough Staff and Professional Services:**

Patricia McGrail, Borough Solicitor  
Kenneth Hillman, Borough Engineer  
John Palyo, Borough Manager  
MaryAnn Winemiller Administrative Asst.

**MINUTES:** George Pambacas made a motion to accept the minutes for the August 15, 2022 Council Meeting. Julie Opferman seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Ms. Patricia L. McGrail  
No Executive Session prior to this evenings' meeting

**PUBLIC COMMENTS REGULAR MEETING:** 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.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Vince Suskey – 178 Upper Heckman Road

Mr. Suskey stated he has tried many times to reach the White Oak Code office and has had no return call. Mr. Suskey has questions concerning his property with regards to putting up a building in his front yard and an explanation of what is allowable in terms of ordinances and zoning. Council President Charles Davis informed Mr. Suskey that a new full time Code Officer will be starting in October and we will be able to work more closely with him on his proposed project.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** Charles Davis

None

**MAYOR'S REPORT:** Mayor Ina Marton provided the Police Activity Report for August 2022.

Arrests: (16 adults / 0 juvenile)	16
Assault	2
Criminal Mischief (Vandalism)	1
Criminal Trespass	1
Cruelty to Animals	1
Disorderly Conduct	4
Drug Offenses	2
DUI	2
Harassment	1
Public Drunkenness	1
Reckless Endangering Another Person	1
Summary Traffic Violations	50
Total Incidents	608

**COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**FINANCE:** Jason Russell

Jason Russell made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report for August 2022. Joelle Harbert seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Jason Russell made a motion approving the Check Register for the month of August, which includes Electronic Fund Transfers and General Fund Checks in the following ranges (208824 - 208955) totaling \$739,514.30. Joelle Harbert seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Jason Russell made a motion authorizing the following Interfund Transfers for the month of August. George Pambacas seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

From	To	Amount
Liquid Fuels	General Fund	9,492.00
Solid Waste	General Fund	40,080.28
Capital Projects	General Fund	288,328.63
Post Retirement	General Fund	3,590.34
Total Transfers		\$341,491.25

Jason Russell made a motion setting the annual MMOs (Minimum Municipal Obligation), for the year of 2023 for the pension plans. Joelle Harbert Seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Plan	Amount of MMO
Uniformed Retirement Plan	\$470,662.00
Non-Uniformed Retirement Plan	\$276,617.00
TOTAL 2023 MMO	\$747,279.00

**HEALTH, ENVIRONMENT AND CABLE: Ms. Lorree Scharritter**

Lorree Scharritter made a motion authorize payment to Kevin Cain, for Wildlife Control Services, in the amount of \$400.00 for the month of August and \$800.00 for the month of September. Grand total \$1,200.00. George Pambacas seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Lorree Scharritter made a motion to authorize payment to Who Rescued Who Humane Society, for Animal Control Services, in the amount of \$700.00 for the First Quarter 2022 and \$1,050 for the Second Quarter 2022. Grand total \$1,750.00. Joelle Harbert seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

**PARKS AND RECREATION: Ms. Julie Opferman**

White Oak Borough 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee planning meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 27<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 PM at the Municipal Building. Anyone who is interested in helping with the celebration are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Councilwoman Opferman also informed everyone of a few of the bands that the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee are inquiring about: Six Gun Sally, Booze Brothers, Blues Attack and the Clarks, when responses are returned, we will notify everyone.

**PLANNING AND ZONING: Ms. Joelle Harbert**

Presented the monthly permit/violation report for August 2022, the report is available for review during normal business hours at the borough building.

Joelle Harbert made a motion to enter into a contract with Lee Carmen Industries, LLC for their Stormwater Management Best Practices Operation and Maintenance Agreement as per our Stormwater Management Ordinance and authorize the President and Borough Manager to execute the agreement. Jason Russell seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Next Zoning Hearing Board meeting is scheduled for September 29<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM

Next Planning Commission Meeting is scheduled for October 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 PM

**PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT: Louis Bender**

Louis Bender made a motion to authorize the White Oak Borough Civil Service Commission to begin the entry level selection process for the development of a new police officer candidate list as per the rules and regulations of the Commission. Lorree Scharritter seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

**PUBLIC WORKS: Mr. George Pambacas**

George Pambacas presented the monthly report for August 2022, the report is available for review during normal business hours at the borough building.

George Pambacas made a motion to approve a new Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Borough of White Oak and the Utility Worker Union of America, Local 433 for a period of January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2025. Joelle Harbert seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

George Pambacas made a motion to appoint Jason Greenawald to the vacant "Operator A" position effective from September 19, 2022 as per all conditions within the Collective Bargaining Agreement. Joelle Harbert seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

**PERSONNEL:** Charles Davis

Joelle Harbert made a motion to hire John Snelson for the Code Enforcement / Zoning Officer position. The motion was unanimously approved on at an annual salary of \$72,000.00 plus benefits. George Pambacas seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

**TAX COLLECTORS' REPORTS:** Charles Davis

Joelle Harbert made a motion to accept the Tax Collectors' Reports and pay the commissions and fees due for August 2022. Julie Opferman seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

**ENGINEER'S REPORT:** Mr. Ken Hillman

Joelle Harbert made a motion to accept the Engineer's Report and pay the fees due to Senate Engineering Company for Invoices 61742 through 61750, dated August 19, 2022 totaling \$24,857.10. Julie Opferman seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Joelle Harbert made a motion to approve Pay Request #4 in an amount of \$174,021.38 submitted by Tresco Ping Corporation for the 2022 Paving Project as reviewed and approved by the Engineer and authorize the Borough Manager to sign the above listed request on behalf of the Borough. Julie Opferman seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

**SOLICITOR'S REPORT:** Ms. Patricia L. McGrail

Joelle Harbert made a motion to accept the Solicitor's Report and pay the fees due to McGrail & Associates, LLC for Invoices 38063 through 38068, dated August 15, 2022 totaling \$3,011.84 and Invoices 38069, 38098 through 38103, dated September 14, 2022 totaling \$4,337.50. The grand total is \$7,349.34. Julie Opferman seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

**RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES:** Ms. Patricia L. McGrail

**RESOLUTION #2022-23**

George Pambacas made a motion to make refund of certain real property taxes to certain property owners as hereinafter listed by reason of official change order, gentrification, issued by the Allegheny County Board of Assessments, appeals and review as well as abatements or overpayments. Julie Opferman seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

**RESOLUTION #2022-24**

Lorree Scharritter made a motion authorizing the filing of a \$200,000 grant request under the GEDTF Program through the Redevelopment Authority of Allegheny County and approving the Steel Rivers COG Executive Director as appropriate signatory for all grant documents for the White Oak Athletic Association HVAC Replacement Project. Julie Opferman seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

**NEW BUSINESS:** None

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Councilman George Pambacas announced that the White Oak Senior's Meeting for the month of October will feature:

- Coffee Hour – 9:30am
- Yoga – 11am
- Senior Safety Speaker – 1pm
- At our September Meeting we had between 36 – 37 people attending

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

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

- **October 10, 2022, 6:45 PM – Council Workshop Meeting**
- **October 17, 2022, 6:45 PM – Council Workshop Meeting**
  - **7:30 PM – Council Meeting**

**ADJOURNMENT:** Joelle Harbert made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:47 PM. Julie Opferman seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

*John Palyo*

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John Palyo  
Borough Manager, Secretary & Treasurer

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Date Approved by Council