

Town Council Actions: February 2020

- FY 2019 Audit Report Presentation
- Confirmation of FY 2021 Budget Calendar
- Stormwater Management Report Discussion
- Update on Kayak Ramp Project
- Update on Tanyard Hill Park Clean-up
- FY 2021 Budget Work Session-Budget Presentation

The above items are extracts of recent actions and are not official meeting minutes. Minutes and agendas are posted at occoquanva.gov.

Mill at Occoquan: Public Hearing Date TBD

The formal public review process for the Mill at Occoquan development application will start with a Planning Commission public hearing that will be scheduled for a future date. This will be the opportunity for the public to provide comments to the Planning Commission regarding the application. All documents pertaining to the application are posted at occoquanva.gov.

OCCOQUAN NEWSLETTER

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TOWN OF OCCOQUAN

314 Mill Street
P.O. Box 195
Occoquan, VA 22125

CARRIER ROUTE
OCCOQUAN, VA 22125

HAVE YOU SIGNED UP FOR OCQ ALERTS?

Register to receive email and/or text message alerts about emergencies and town events! Go to occoquanva.gov, scroll to the link for OCQ Alerts and complete the form to customize your account.

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OCCOQUAN NEWSLETTER

VOLUME XXVII, ISSUE III

(703) 491-1918

March 2020

TOWN COUNCIL

Earnie Porta, Mayor
Patrick A. Sivigny, Vice Mayor
J. Matthew Dawson
Cindy Fithian
Laurie Holloway
Eliot Perkins



TOWN HALL STAFF

Kathleen Leidich, Town Manager
Adam Linn, Chief of Police
Katy Nicholson, Town Clerk
Julie Little, Events Director
Bucky Brill, Maintenance Supervisor
Pam Holbert, Administrative Asst.

Mayor's Letter

I begin this month's newsletter with the sad task of reporting on the passing of Leo Smith on February 13. As some of you know, Leo was a long-time Town resident, former Town Council member with whom I had the pleasure of serving, and an enthusiastic promoter of the Town. His gregarious personality will be missed by all those who knew him. Please join me in offering our condolences to Marge Shaffer and Leo's extended family.

Some of you may be aware that the Town briefly had in place a sponsorship program to assist in the refurbishment of the black and gold Town historical markers. Thanks to the initiative of Town resident Kendrea DeLauter, that program has been resurrected. Markers may be "adopted" for a fee of \$800 (\$900 if a photograph is involved). The adoption fee covers the cost of refurbishment, while Town staff handle removal and reinstallation, the Occoquan Historical Society covers the cost of shipping, and Ms. DeLauter handles mailing and coordination of the whole process. Adopters will be recognized in the Town newsletter and on the Occoquan Historical Society website. If you are interested in adopting a marker, please contact Ms. DeLauter by email at KendreaDeLauter@gmail.com or by telephone at 703-451-7399.

In other news, the Town has started the preparation of the FY 2021 budget and the calendar outlining the process is available on the Town website for those who are interested. The kayak/canoe/SUP launch ramp is also progressing. The in-water work that needed to be completed by February 15 due to environmental restrictions was completed in time, so the ramp should be operational this spring. Last, a number of you have contacted me about the County's proposed boat tax. I contacted members of the Board of Supervisors on this issue and placed it on the agenda for the next Town Council meeting. Since that time, the proposed tax has been withdrawn.

Once again, let me close by thanking you for your support and encouraging you to contact me at eporta@occoquanva.gov with any comments, questions or concerns.

March 2020



The Ococoquan Community Peeps Contest is back! Build a fun Peeps diorama and you could win a \$25 prize to spend at any business in Ococoquan.

Winners will be announced **April 11** during the Ococoquan Merchants Guild Annual Peep Show, when Town merchants show off their incredible creative talents and the public votes on a favorite.

Enter in one of four categories:

- Individual
- Family/Team
- Youth (ages 12-16)
- Kids (ages 12 and under)

This event is free and open to the public. For more information on the public contest and to download an entry form, visit ococoquanva.gov.

MEETINGS & EVENTS

MARCH 1
Business, Professional and Occupational License Renewals Due

MARCH 4
Town Council Regular Meeting
7:00 p.m.



Date changed due to Virginia Primaries

MARCH 17
Town Council Work Session
7:00 p.m.

MARCH 20
Meals and Transient Occupancy Taxes Due

MARCH 24
Planning Commission
6:30 p.m.
Architectural Review Board
7:30 p.m.

Meetings held at Town Hall, 314 Mill Street, unless otherwise noted.

Flags, Banners and Signage in the Historic District

The Town has received increasing complaints about flags, banners and signage in the commercial areas of the historic district that violate the Town Code. Flags in that area are limited to four, and neither banners nor flags are permitted to block architectural features.

Additionally, A-frame signs are not permitted either to block the sidewalk or be in the VDOT right-of-way (the area of the sidewalk immediately adjacent to the road). They are best placed against the building wall to avoid violation. Relevant sections of the Town Code are 157.300 – 157.339 and are available at ococoquanva.gov.



Military Tribute Banners

Sponsor a 2020 military tribute banner to honor your family member, ancestor, or friend for their service!

- Go to militarytributebanners.org.
- Find Current Programs on the menu bar.
- Select "Ococoquan VA" and follow the instructions.

Military tribute banners will be displayed in Ococoquan from mid-May through mid-November. More information will be available in the coming weeks at Town Hall or VFW Post 7916.

Business License Renewals Due March 1

Business, Professional and Occupational License (BPOL) renewals are due no later than **March 1**. Renewal notices have been sent to businesses holding a license with the Town.

The business license fee is based on gross receipts for calendar year 2019. Tax rates are listed on the application, with a minimum tax of \$30. A 10 percent penalty may be added if your *application* is received after March 31. A 10 percent penalty will be added if your *payment* is received after May 31.

Home businesses in Ococoquan also are required to obtain a business license and pay BPOL tax to the Town. Contact the Town Clerk at 703-491-1918 or visit ococoquanva.gov for more information.