

Town Council Actions: January 2021

- Approved Timed Parking District Plan to go into effect March 1. More information: occoquanva.gov/timed-parking
- Authorized Occoquan Artisan Market events in the spring 2021 in lieu of the traditional Spring Craft Show due to ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. More information: occoquanva.gov/town-festivals/arts-craft-show
- Approved a contract with Legacy Engineering in the amount of \$1,750 for an extended scope of the planimetric survey project related to the development of the Town's Striping Plan.
- Held a work session on the FY2022 budget and discussed and identified priorities for the FY2022 fiscal year.

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

Business License Renewal Applications Due March 1

Town of Occoquan Business, Professional and Occupational License (BPOL) renewals for 2021 are due March 1. Renewal notices are sent in February to businesses holding a license with the town. Please be sure to submit applications and payments on time.

- A 10% penalty may be added if your **application** is received after March 31.
- A 10% penalty will be added if your **payment** is received after May 31.

The business license fee is based on gross receipts for calendar year 2020 Visit occoquanva.gov/doing-business-in-occoquan or contact the Town Treasurer at (703) 491-1918 for details.

OCCOQUAN NEWSLETTER

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TOWN OF OCCOQUAN

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

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Permit No. 19

OCCOQUAN NEWSLETTER

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February 2021

TOWN COUNCIL

Earnest W. Porta, Jr., Mayor
Jenn Loges, Vice Mayor
Krys Bienia
Cindy Fithian
Laurie Holloway
Eliot Perkins



TOWN HALL STAFF

Kirstyn Jovanovich, Town Manager
Adam Linn, Chief of Police
Julie Little, Events Director
Bucky Brill, Maintenance Supervisor
Pam Holbert, Administrative Asst.

Mayor's Letter

There were a number of actions taken over the past month that I want to bring to everyone's attention. The first is that the Town Council adopted the final version of the free, timed parking program that will go into effect in the business district March 1. A subject of analysis and discussion since 2017, the initial timed-parking proposal was presented to the Town Council in October and subsequently modified after public input. This program essentially establishes 4-hour street parking and 8-hour lot parking in business areas during the day, with exceptions for business district residents who do not have off-street parking. Effectively this will result in business owners and employees who do not have off-street parking being moved to 8-hour lots, freeing up street parking for residents and visitors who are shopping, dining, or otherwise visiting the business district. Implementation of this program is but one component of a three-part comprehensive parking plan the Town is pursuing to address our long-standing parking challenges. Additional elements of the plan include pursuing the construction of a public parking facility and working with private landowners to make underused space available for paid parking. For more information go to occoquanva.gov/timed-parking.

In another major development, last week the Town Planning Commission unanimously recommended approval, with numerous conditions, of three special exception requests made by the owner of the proposed Mill at Occoquan development. The subject of more than three years of discussion and various public meetings, the requests will now go to the Town Council in March.

Last, it is with great sadness that I note the passing of Occoquan Business Guild president, Cathy Campbell. Cathy was a valued member of our community who effected real positive change in Town. We have over the past couple of months lost several current and former Town residents, including in December David Terrill, Jr., Cynthia Britto, and former Mayor Larry Casperson. Our thoughts are with their families and friends.

Thank you for your support and please do not hesitate to contact me at eporta@occoquanva.gov with any questions, comments, or concerns.

ChocolateFest: February 4 – 14, 2021



Occoquan's traditional one-day Chocolate Walk becomes a ten-day ChocolateFest this year. This refreshed event will feature in-person and virtual activities and a chance to win an Occoquan Romantic Getaway package, estimated to be worth \$1,000. Local merchants will be hosting workshops,

demonstrations, and tutorials both online and in-person. The event is kicked off with a Shop Occoquan Facebook Live on February 4 at [Facebook.com/VisitOccoquan](https://www.facebook.com/VisitOccoquan) at 6pm.

Reminder: Town Real Estate Taxes Due February 15

The 2020 Real Estate Taxes are due on February 15, 2021. If you have questions regarding your taxes and pay out of escrow, please contact your mortgage company. If you do not utilize a mortgage company, please remit payment directly to the Town. More information: [occoquanva.gov/tax-information](https://www.occoquanva.gov/tax-information)

Mill at Occoquan Public Hearing - March 2, 2021

After a public hearing on January 26, the Planning Commission voted to recommend approval with conditions for the Mill at Occoquan's Special Exception Applications and Preliminary Site Plan. As a result, the Town Council will hold a public hearing on the Special Exception Applications on Tuesday, March 2, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. at Town Hall, 314 Mill Street. Visit [occoquanva.gov/development-projects](https://www.occoquanva.gov/development-projects) for project information and meeting information.

MEETINGS & EVENTS

FEB 2

Town Council Meeting
7:00 p.m.

FEB 4-14

Occoquan ChocolateFest
[OccoquanGuild.org](https://www.occoquanguild.org)

FEB 15

Presidents' Day
Town Hall Closed

FEB 16

Town Council Meeting
7:00 p.m.

Real Estate Taxes Due

FEB 22

**Meals and Transient
Occupancy Taxes Due**

FEB 23

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

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

Occoquan Artisan Markets: May 8/9 | June 5/6 | July 10/11



Occoquan Artisan Markets will be hosted in River Mill Park and will occur on three separate weekends: each a sleek and distinct arts and crafts market individually curated from the work of juried artisans.

An admission fee of \$5 will provide patrons an opportunity to enter raffle giveaways over the course of the weekend. The park will close for outside use during market week-

ends. The roads in the historic district will remain open and patrons will be invited to use the free shuttle service from the VDOT lot at Old Bridge and 123. There are limited spaces at each market for interested Town businesses, including eating establishments to participate. Contact JLITTLE@occoquanva.gov or visit [occoquanva.gov/town-festivals/arts-craft-show](https://www.occoquanva.gov/town-festivals/arts-craft-show) for more info.

Free Timed Parking Program Launches in March

The Town of Occoquan will launch the free Timed Parking District, generally located within the historic business district, in March. Once in place, the District will limit parking generally on-street to 4-hours, and to 8-hours in the town-maintained parking lots. In addition, there will be several 20-minute parking spaces located throughout the District for quick pick-up trips and visits to town businesses.

Residents who live within the Timed Parking District will be eligible to receive exceptions from the parking restrictions through the Residential Parking Permit Program. Eligible residents are those that (1) live within the designated Timed Parking District, (2) do not have on-site parking at their residence, and (3) vehicles are registered within the Town of Occoquan and are in compliance with the Town's Vehicle License Fee program. Information on the Residential Parking Permit Program, including how to apply, will be available online at [occoquanva.gov/timed-parking](https://www.occoquanva.gov/timed-parking) within the next few weeks.

Staff is currently working on developing the Residential Parking Permit Program, as well as implementing appropriate signage within the district. Check the Town's website for more information as we get closer to launching the program. All public parking will remain free. More info: [occoquanva.gov/timed-parking](https://www.occoquanva.gov/timed-parking).

