

Town Council Actions: February 2021

- Passed a Resolution of Recognition for Cathy Campbell
- Appointed Town resident Amy Wong as the Town's representative on the Bull Run ASAP Board.
- Adopted an Ordinance to amend the Town Code generally relating to parking and traffic control.
- Approved expenditures to purchase equipment to implement the e-summons program.
- Discussed the planimetric survey in regards to updated striping plan for the Town's historic district.
- Appointed Manuel Casillas as Town Treasurer.

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

Military Tribute Banners



Beginning in March 2021 residents, businesses, friends, and visitors to Occoquan can once again sign up to sponsor a banner honoring a U.S. military veteran. This successful and popular program is a partnership between the Town and VFW Post 7916. If you are a new sponsor interested in honoring your family member, ancestor, or friend for their military service, or a former sponsor wishing to renew for 2021, visit militarytributebanners.org and select Virginia/Occoquan under the Current Programs menu; or, stop by Town Hall or VFW Post 7916 for more information.

OCCOQUAN NEWSLETTER

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TOWN OF OCCOQUAN

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OCCOQUAN NEWSLETTER

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March 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
Manuel Casillas, Town Treasurer
Julie Little, Events Director
Bucky Brill, Maintenance Supervisor
Pam Holbert, Administrative Asst.

Mayor's Letter

Spring begins this month and with it comes the Merchant Guild's popular annual Peeps event, which includes Occoquan's Community Peeps Contest. For more information about Peeps week please see elsewhere in this newsletter.

As you likely already know, the Town Council was scheduled to hold a public hearing on the proposed Mill at Occoquan project on March 2. The applicant, however, has requested additional time to review and respond to comments and suggestions received over the last month. Consequently, it is expected that the Town Council will defer the public hearing to a date to be determined.

Please note as well that on March 1, the Town's free, timed-parking program will go into effect in the Town's historic and business districts. This program 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. An outgrowth of the November 2017 parking study, the free, timed-parking program is but one component of a larger three-part Town parking management initiative that is designed to finally address the parking issues that have been a major source of frustration for residents, business owners, and visitors for more than twenty years. Timed-parking is designed to encourage more efficient use of existing parking resources by directing longer-term users of daily parking to park in designated lots so that street parking in front of businesses is more conveniently available for those residents and visitors who are patronizing shops, restaurants, and other businesses. The other two parts of the parking management initiative involve increasing parking inventory by (a) encouraging the construction of a parking facility, and (b) by partnering with private property owners to implement app-based paid parking in lots they are not fully using. Together it is hoped that these approaches will effectively address the parking issues that have troubled Occoquan's historic and business districts for so long.

In closing this month I would like to ask you to join me in welcoming our new Town Treasurer, Manuel Casillas. Manuel joined us a few months ago and has recently come on board full time. As always, thank you for your support and please do not hesitate to contact me at eporta@occoquanva.gov with any comments, questions or concerns.

OCOQUAN COMMUNITY PEEP CONTEST!

ONLINE



Peep Week!

The Occoquan Merchants' Guild will host the popular annual Peeps event with over a week's worth of fun, including:



Thursday, March 25

Shop Occoquan! Virtual Home & Garden Show



Mar 25 - Apr 4

Stroll through historic Occoquan and vote for your favorite merchant-made Peep Diorama! Cast your vote and enter to win a Peep basket of goodies. See visitoccoquanva.com/peeps for more info.

Town of Occoquan Community Peep Contest

For the 4th year in a row, the community is invited to participate in the **Town of Occoquan Community Peep Contest** by designing, creating, and submitting family-friendly Peep dioramas. Enter by **March 25** to win a \$25 gift card to spend at any participating Occoquan business!

Participate virtually by uploading photos of your project. Participate in person by dropping your completed diorama at Town Hall between Monday, March 22, and Thursday, March 25, between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. Entry categories: Individual; Family/Team; Youth (ages 12-16); and Kids (12 and under). Judging will take place on Facebook March 27 through April 2. Entries with the most "likes" in each category wins with winners announced April 3 on Facebook.

More information at: occoquanva.gov/occoquan-events/peep-week.

MEETINGS & EVENTS

MAR 1

Business License Renewal Applications Due

MAR 2

Town Council Meeting
7:00 p.m.

MAR 16

Town Council Meeting
7:00 p.m.

MAR 22

**Meals and Transient
Occupancy Taxes Due**

MAR 23

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

MAR 30

Town Council Meeting
7:00 p.m.

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

SIGN 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.

Mill at Occoquan Public Hearing Postponed

The Town Council expects to defer to a future date the public hearing originally scheduled for March 2 for the Mill at Occoquan project's special exception applications. The applicant has requested the postponement to allow additional time to review and respond to comments received since the Planning Commission public hearing. Once the public hearing has been rescheduled, we will readvertise and share information on the Town's website at occoquanva.gov and in the Town's monthly newsletter.

Keep up to date on the Mill at Occoquan project and view application documents online at occoquanva.gov/development-projects.

Free Timed Parking Program Launches March 1

The Town's Free Timed Parking Program starts March 1. The free parking district includes 4-hour and 8-hour time limits, with 20 minute parking locations for quick trips. Residents who live within the free Timed Parking District may be eligible for exception if they do not have off-street parking or have limited off-street parking. Application and information is available on the Town's website at occoquanva.gov/timed-parking or at Town Hall, 314 Mill Street, M-F, 9 am—4 pm.

