



**OCCOQUAN TOWN COUNCIL**  
**Meeting Minutes - DRAFT**  
**Town Hall - 314 Mill Street, Occoquan, VA 22125**  
**Tuesday, May 18, 2021**  
**7:00 p.m.**

**Present:** Mayor Earnie Porta; Vice Mayor Jenn Loges; Councilmembers Kryss Bienia, Cindy Fithian, and Laurie Holloway

**Absent:** Councilmember Eliot Perkins

**Staff:** Kirstyn Jovanovich, Town Manager; Adam Linn, Chief of Police; Julie Little, Events and Community Development Director; and Michele White, Town Clerk

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Porta called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

**2. CITIZENS' TIME**

No one spoke at Citizens Time.

**3. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

a. Face Covering Policy at Town Hall

Mayor Porta asked for unanimous consent to add to the agenda a discussion on the Town's current face covering policy in town facilities. There being no objection the item was added to the agenda.

In response to recent changes to CDC guidelines related to the COVID-19 pandemic and the Governor's lifting of the face covering requirement for vaccinated individuals on May 14, 2021, Town Council discussed the Town's face covering policy. Effective immediately, the Town Council updated the policy to (1) allow members of the public who are fully vaccinated to choose to wear or not wear a face covering when in public areas of town facilities; (2) Town staff must continue to wear a face covering at this time until the VA Department of Labor and Industry (DOLI) updates the Final Standard for COVID-19; and (3) all individuals entering staff-only areas are required to wear a face covering regardless of vaccination status.

**4. CONSENT AGENDA**

a. May 4, 2021 Meeting Minutes

**Councilmember Holloway moved approval of the item on the Consent Agenda. Councilmember Fithian seconded. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.**

**5. PUBLIC HEARING**

a. Public Hearing on Proposed Fiscal Year 2022 Budget

Mayor Porta called the public hearing to order at 7:17 p.m.

No comments were received.

Mayor Porta closed the public hearing at 7:18 p.m.

## 6. DISCUSSION ITEMS

### a. May Artisan Walk Preliminary Report

Julie Little, Events and Community Development Director, provided an update on the May Artisan Walk. She reported that overall, the event was a success with 50 participating vendors and approximately 2,200 in attendance over the two days. In general, Ms. Little reported that the customer response was positive as it related to the location and vendor selection. Ms. Little stated that while there were challenges with the weather and vendor logistics, vendor feedback was also very positive. The twelve VIP packages sold out three weeks in advance of the event and the Occoquan tote bags sold out at the event. Ms. Little stated that a survey of the Merchant's Guild is underway, but preliminary responses were positive.

Councilmember Holloway gave kudos to Ms. Little for conducting the Merchant survey quickly. Councilmember Bienia stated that the success of the Artisan Walk is a testament to Ms. Little's dedication.

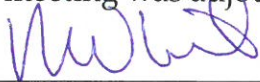
Councilmember Loges echoed that she likes the new model and believes it encourages people to shop in town.

Ms. Jovanovich stated that staff is planning on hosting the Fall Craft Show in September as it has traditionally been set up, with some adjustments due to the ongoing pandemic.

### b. Other Discussion Items

Mayor Porta stated he spoke briefly with representatives of Ebenezer Baptist Church at 209 Washington Street, who have given him permission to speak with the broker in regards to the pending sale. Mayor Porta mentioned that the Prince William Times will be running a story on the future of Rockledge Mansion.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:53 p.m.



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Michele L. White, Town Clerk