

Town Council Actions: July 2021

- Approved an Ordinance Establishing Procedures for Participation in Meetings by Electronic Communications
- Adopted a Resolution of Congratulations to VFW Post 7916 on the Occasion of their 75th Anniversary
- Approved two special use permit applications for the Mill at Occoquan project regarding additional height and residential within the B-1 district
- Approved The Mill at Occoquan Preliminary Site Plan PSP-2018-01
- Awarded the RFP-2021-01 Trash, Recycling, Bulk and Yard Waste Collection to Bates Trucking
- Approved Revised Architectural Review Board Design Guidelines

The above items are extracts of recent actions and are not official meeting minutes.

Minutes and agendas are posted at occoquanva.gov.

OCCOQUAN NEWSLETTER

VOLUME XXVIII, ISSUE VIII 703-491-1918

August 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
Michele White, Town Clerk
Manuel Casillas, Town Treasurer
Julie Little, Events Director
Bucky Brill, Maintenance Supervisor

Mayor's Letter

August is a month jam-packed with activities in Occoquan, many of them centering around our Discover Occoquan event, which will run from August 13 through August 22. Among the many highlights are our first-ever outdoor karaoke night, our first-ever SUP/kayak race, the resurrection of our annual Duck Splash, and a beer garden and concert in River Mill Park. These are but a few of the many activities associated with Discover Occoquan. Beyond them, we are also participating for the first time in National Night Out on August 3, hosting a Music on Mill performance on August 6 (featuring returning artist Cheley Tackett), and holding our monthly Trivia Night in River Mill Park on August 27. More information on these and other activities is contained elsewhere in this newsletter and on the Town web site. We're sure there is something that will appeal to you and we hope you'll find the time to enjoy it.

July, of course, also had its share of important developments. On July 6 the Town Council unanimously approved two special use permit applications for the revised Mill at Occoquan project, which has been the subject of various public meetings and hearings over the past four years. Additionally, the Town received its first installment of American Rescue Plan funds. These funds come with a variety of restrictions and are but a part of the pandemic/stimulus-related external funding that the Town is pursuing. Stay tuned for information on opportunities for public comment on the use of such funds. Additionally, in July we opened discussions with VDOT regarding the various road improvements under consideration for the area surrounding the Town — again, stay tuned for details on a public informational meeting we are attempting to schedule on the topic. Last, it is with sadness that I report on the passing of former councilmember Joan Herndon in July.

The heat has no doubt been a challenge for many, but hopefully it will be relenting soon. In the meantime, please keep an eye out for those who might be in heat-related distress, and as always, thank you for your continued support and please do not hesitate to contact me at eporta@occoquanva.gov with questions, comments, or concerns.

DISCOVER OCCOQUAN

KARAOKE SCAVENGER HUNT KAYAK RACE
CONCERTS BEER GARDEN GHOST TOURS

AUGUST 13-22

occoquanva.gov/discoveroccoquan

SEE INSIDE FOR DISCOVER OCCOQUAN CALENDAR OF EVENTS!

OCCOQUAN NEWSLETTER

[OCCOQUANVA.GOV](http://occoquanva.gov) • [INFO@OCCOQUANVA.GOV](mailto:info@occoquanva.gov)

TOWN OF OCCOQUAN

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

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OCCOQUAN, VA 22125

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Occoquan, VA
Permit No. 19

National Night Out

The Occoquan Police Department will participate in the annual National Night Out celebration this year on Tuesday, August 3, 2021. This will be the Town Police's first National Night Out participation.



We encourage our residents to come out and spend the evening outside with their neighbors and the police as a symbol that we care about our neighborhoods. Please join us between 6 p.m. and 9 p.m. on Mill Street in the parking lot under the Rt. 123 bridge for refreshments and information on working together to make our community a safer and more caring place to live and work. For more information and to learn more about National Night Out visit <https://natw.org>.



Back to School Trivia Night: August 27

Bring a team of up to six people and rent a 10ft picnic circle in the park. Bring your camp chairs or a blanket.

One circle can accommodate up to six team members; one circle/registration per team.

Occoquan Mayor Earnie Porta will MC. Gate opens at 6:00 p.m. Trivia begins at 6:30 p.m. Grand Prize: \$100 in gift cards to spend in Occoquan!

Snacks and adult beverages will be available at the park that evening. Reminder: State law permits alcohol use by permit only; no personal inventory of alcohol or glass containers are allowed into the park.

MEETINGS & EVENTS

AUGUST 3

National Night Out

6 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Mill St | Route 123 Bridge Parking Lot

AUGUST 6

Music on Mill Presents:

Cheley Tackett

7 p.m. - 9 p.m.

River Mill Park

AUGUST 15

Duck Splash

11 a.m.

Occoquan River

AUGUST 20

Meals and Transient Occupancy Taxes Due

AUGUST 21

SUP/Kayak Race

10 a.m.

Kayak Launch | Mill St.

Music on Mill Presents:

Up All Night

7 p.m. - 9 p.m.

River Mill Park

AUGUST 25

Planning Commission

6:30 p.m.

AUGUST 24

Architectural Review Board

7:30 p.m.

AUGUST 27

Trivia Night

6:30 p.m.

River Mill Park

Discover Occoquan! August 13-22

This fun event celebrates everything OCQ and features more than a week of free activities including interactive classes and free demonstrations hosted by Occoquan businesses, a scavenger hunt, karaoke, ghost tours, sunset paddling, and much more. The event includes a stand-up paddleboard and kayak race in the river and a beer garden and concert in River Mill Park during the final weekend. Visitors are invited to stroll into the town's unique shops, boutiques, galleries, restaurants, and cafes to experience all that Occoquan has to offer. See Visit Occoquan's page for schedule updates!

Karaoke Night: August 13

Warm up those voices and join us from 7 to 9 p.m. as we host Karaoke Night in River Mill Park! Drinks and snacks will be available for purchase in the park or grab food from a local restaurant on your way in! Doors open at 6:30 p.m. to reserve songs. Bring a blanket or camp chairs and find a spot in the grass to cheer on our singers!



Duck Splash: August 15



Adopt a numbered rubber duck from Patriot Scuba, then join us Sunday, August 15 at 11am to watch it race along the Occoquan River with hundreds of other ducks! \$5 to adopt your duck. Winners receive \$20-500 depending on their place in the race. All proceeds benefit Patriots for Disabled Divers. Get your tickets: occoquantourism.com

Standup Paddle Board and Kayak Race: August 21

On August 21, the Town of Occoquan will be the site of a SUP and Kayak Race along the Occoquan River starting at 10 a.m. View the race from the Riverwalk behind Mamie Davis Park or register to participate. Stay tuned for registration information at paddleguru.com.

River Mill Park Beer Garden and Concert: August 21

Join us from 4 to 9 p.m. for a Beer Garden hosted by Waters End Brewery plus concerts from Up All Night (4-6 p.m.) and Time Warp Rock (7-9 p.m.)! Grab a blanket or camp chairs and enjoy music and freshly made craft brews in Occoquan's River Mill Park.