

Town Council Actions: December 2021

- Prior to the meeting, hosted a swearing in ceremony for new Board of Zoning Appeal members: Jim Drakes, Liz Quist, Nick Roper, Walt Sieberling and Vicky Somma
- Adopted the 2021 Update to the Town's Comprehensive Plan
- Adopted an ordinance to amend the Town Code relating to land development process
- Adopted an ordinance to amend Town Code § 157.121 to permit residential use by-right in one story buildings fronting Commerce and Ellicott Streets in the B-1 zoning district
- Adopted an ordinance to Amend Town Code § 157.304 (B)(12) regarding illuminated signs
- Adopted an ordinance to change the Occoquan Town election date from May to November as required by state law
- Approved a revised fee schedule
- Approved Revised Administrative Manual

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

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.

OCOCOQUAN NEWSLETTER

OCOCOQUANVA.GOV • INFO@OCOCOQUANVA.GOV

TOWN OF OCOCOQUAN

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

CARRIER ROUTE
OCOCOQUAN, VA 22125

Presort Standard
U.S. Postage Paid
Occoquan, VA
Permit No. 19

OCOCOQUAN NEWSLETTER

VOLUME XXIX, ISSUE I

703-491-1918

January 2022

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
Ginny Rosell, Administrative Assistant

Mayor's Letter

Happy New Year to everyone! Hopefully, each of you in your own way was able to find joy, comfort, and happiness during this recent holiday season. Though it showed significant improvement over 2020, the past year was still a quite difficult one for many as we all continued to struggle with the disruptions caused by the pandemic. I would like to thank all of you for your support, understanding, and cooperation as we have worked to navigate these difficulties as a community. Of course, I am grateful to our Town staff who once again confronted the vagaries associated with pandemic-affected events, meetings, and essentially any public activity that required advance planning. Additionally, I am grateful that all of you did not forget our business community, whose success is critical to the financial health of the Town, and who needed our support as both patrons and marketers, particularly over what for them is typically a critical holiday season. And I am always humbled by the townspeople and business owners who volunteer to help put on what has become a diverse array of Town events throughout the year — we simply could not do it without you.

As some of you are aware, two businesses in Town closed at the end of December, the Yarn Cloud and The Reclaimed Treasures. We're grateful for the time they spent in Occoquan and wish their owners all the best in their future endeavors. It is also with great sadness that I report on the passing last month of two Occoquan residents, Bendine Whittle and Petra Casipit. They will be missed and I ask that you keep their families in your thoughts.

With January and the true onset of winter comes the obligation to think about snow. At the risk of jinxing us, I encourage all of you to review the information regarding emergency routes, plowing, and sidewalk clearance contained elsewhere in this newsletter and on the Town web site. Again, thank you for your continued supported, and please do not hesitate to contact me at eporta@occoquanva.gov with any questions, comments, or concerns.

Emergency Snow Removal Routes

We've dodged the snow so far, but winter is just beginning! As a reminder, the Town has established snow emergency routes. When snow is expected, on-street parking will not be permitted on the following roads to allow for snow removal: Mill, Commerce, Ellicott, Union and Washington Streets.

During inclement weather, if you normally park on-street, please consider parking under the Route 123 bridge. Timed parking restrictions will not be enforced under the bridge during snow emergencies. For more information, visit occoquanva.gov.

Please Clear Your Sidewalks

Help keep our community safe during the winter season and clear sidewalks of snow and ice. Residents and businesses are responsible for clearing snow and ice from sidewalks adjacent to their property. Please do not use salt on brick sidewalks. For more information, visit occoquanva.gov/snow-removal.

Thank You for Shopping Small

Many thanks to the Occoquan community for shopping small this holiday season! With your continued support to our mom & pop owned shops, restaurants, galleries, and personal service businesses in Occoquan, you are supporting your neighbors, artists, shop keeps, restaurant owners and all their hardworking staff. Thank you!!



Mark your calendar for **Saturday February 12 and Sunday February 13**, when the Town of Occoquan together with the Occoquan Business Partners will sponsor a passport event for **ChocolateFest!** More information to come soon.

MEETINGS & EVENTS

JANUARY 4

Town Council Meeting
7:00 p.m.

JANUARY 17

Martin Luther King Day
Town Hall Closed

JANUARY 18

Town Council Meeting
7:00 p.m.

JANUARY 20

Meals and Transient Occupancy Taxes Due

JANUARY 25

Architectural Review Board
7:30 p.m.

JANUARY 26

Planning Commission
6:30 p.m.

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

Message from the Occoquan Post Office:

Thank you for the kindness and generosity we received from the community during the holiday season. Happy New Year!

Curb Your Christmas Tree and Wreaths After the Holidays

After all the holiday festivities are over, curb your Christmas tree, wreath, and other cut greenery for yard waste collection in January. Simply remove all ornaments, decorations, tinsel, nails, and the tree stand and set the empty tree and greenery at the curb for pickup on the Town's regular yard waste collection day (Wednesday). During the first two weeks in January, you may also take the tree and greenery to one of the locations listed below to be recycled:

Prince William County Landfill

14811 Dumfries Road in Manassas

Monday - Friday, 6 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Saturday and Sunday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

The facility is closed New Year's Day.

Balls Ford Road Compost Facility located

13000 Balls Ford Road in Manassas

Monday - Friday, 6 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Saturday and Sunday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

The facility is closed New Year's Day.



For more information on refuse and recycling collection in the Town of Occoquan, visit occoquanva.gov/living-here/refuse-and-recycling-collection.

Licensing Fee Decal Enforcement in January

Occoquan residents are required to pay the Town's Vehicle Licensing Fee annually and display the issued decal on their vehicles by November 15. The licensing fee applies to any vehicle principally stored, parked, or garaged within the Town's limits (\$ 71.02). Vehicles not displaying a valid annual Town Vehicle Licensing Decal by November 15, are subject to ticketing. If you have not paid your annual licensing fee and received your 2022 decal, you may purchase them at Town Hall, 314 Mill Street, Monday - Friday, 9 am - 4 pm, by mailing your form and payment to PO Box 195, Occoquan, VA 22125, or utilizing the after hours drop box at Town Hall.

Vehicle Licensing Fee enforcement activities will be occurring throughout town in January. Please ensure you have paid your fee and displayed your decal in a conspicuous place on your front windshield. Those who have not will be subject to ticketing. Please note that the Town decals are proof of payment for your required licensing fee; they are not town parking permits.

Questions? Contact Town Hall at (703) 491-1918 or visit occoquanva.gov/living-here/tax-information.