



OCCOQUAN TOWN COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes

Town Hall - 314 Mill Street, Occoquan, VA 22125

Tuesday, May 3, 2022

7:00 p.m.

Present: Mayor Earnie Porta; Vice Mayor Jenn Loges; Councilmembers Cindy Fithian (remotely), Laurie Holloway, Robert Love, and Eliot Perkins

Absent: None

Staff: Kirstyn Jovanovich, Town Manager; Adam Linn, Chief of Police; Julie Little, Events Director; Manual Casillas, Town Treasurer; Philip Auville, Town Clerk

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Porta called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Councilmember Fithian attended remotely from her home for health reasons.

Mayor Porta welcomed Councilmember Bob Love to the Town Council, who was officially sworn in prior to the start of the meeting to fill the remainder of Councilmember Bienia's term. In light of a new member joining the Town Council, Mayor Porta briefly reviewed meeting procedures and processes.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. CITIZENS' TIME

No one spoke at Citizens' time.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

a. April 19, 2022, Meeting Minutes

Councilmember Perkins moved approval of the Consent Agenda. Councilmember Holloway seconded. Motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

Ayes: Vice Mayor Loges, Councilmember Fithian, Councilmember Holloway, Councilmember Love, Councilmember Perkins

Nays: None

5. MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Porta reported the following:

- On April 9, he participated in a ribbon cutting for a new business, Andre Soriano Atelier, and participated in the FOTO cleanup.
- On April 16, he participated in Peeps Week activities.
- On April 20, he provided a town history talk to a sorority group.
- On April 22, he spoke at the Occoquan Mosque and attended the call to prayer with Vice Mayor Loges. He thanked Councilmember Perkins for attending the call to prayer on April 29.

- On April 26, he gave a history tour of Occoquan to a bus group of California visitors brought by Sports Leisure Travel.
- On April 27, he served as a celebrity waiter for the Lake Ridge Rotary's annual luncheon fundraiser.
- Mayor Porta also wished to remind everyone of the dedication of the historic marker for Valentine Peyton planned by the Peyton Society of Virginia on Saturday, May 21.

6. COUNCILMEMBER REPORTS

Councilmember Holloway noted the success of Peep Week.

Vice Mayor Loges thanked Mayor Porta for the opportunity to attend the call to prayer at the Occoquan Mosque with him.

Councilmember Fithian reported that she attended the FOTO Cleanup with her grandkids.

Councilmember Love expressed his thanks for having the opportunity to serve on the Town Council.

7. BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

ARB Chair Seefeldt reported that the Architectural Review Board met on April 26, and the Board reviewed and approved four applications.

Councilmember Perkins reported that the Planning Commission did not meet in April.

8. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

a) Administrative Report

Ms. Jovanovich provided a written report as part of the agenda packet and responded to brief questions from the Council.

Ms. Jovanovich asked Chief Linn to present the Agency Trilogy Award that the Occoquan Police Department was recently awarded. This award is presented to law enforcement agencies whose entire Command Staff have completed the FBI-LEEDA Trilogy Leadership series, which includes the FBI-LEEDA's Supervisor Leadership Institute, Command Leadership Institute, and Executive Leadership Institute. Chief Linn, Lt. Forman, and Sgt. Jackson have all completed the leadership series.

Ms. Jovanovich stated that the Eagle Scout project to make and install fishing line recycling receptacles is scheduled for May 7, weather permitting. The scout plans to install three units along the waterfront. Councilmember Fithian stated she would volunteer to empty and maintain the units once they are installed.

Councilmember Perkins asked for an update on VDOT projects. Ms. Jovanovich stated that paving for most VDOT streets in town is expected to occur around September and that the no block the box marker has been painted at the intersection of Commerce Street

and Route 123. Ms. Jovanovich also stated that she has contacted VDOT to request repairs of the footbridge flooring.

Councilmember Fithian thanked Ms. Jovanovich and staff for their work in coordinating street paving with VDOT.

b) Town Treasurer Report

Mr. Casillas provided a written report as part of the agenda packet. There were no questions for Mr. Casillas.

c) Town Attorney Report

Mr. Crim provided a written report as part of the agenda packet.

Mayor Porta asked Mr. Crim about the Town's vehicle noise ordinance to ensure its enforceability by July 1, when the State law goes into effect wherein a vehicle noise offense is moved from a secondary to a primary offense. Mr. Crim stated that he has drafted a revision to the Town Code that would become effective by July 1, and enforceable under the updated State Code. The ordinance will be on the Town Council's May 17, 2022 agenda.

Councilmember Perkins asked Mr. Crim to provide detail to the Council on what would be considered illegal and legal under the revised vehicle noise ordinance. Mr. Crim stated he would research and provide that information.

9. PUBLIC HEARING

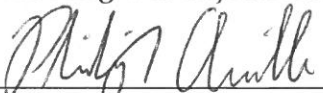
a) Public Hearing on the FY 2023 Proposed Tax Rates

Mayor Porta opened the public hearing at 7:46 p.m. Mayor Porta invited the public to speak. One person, Occoquan resident Walt Seiberling, spoke. Mayor Porta closed the public hearing at 7:48 p.m.

Mayor Porta made a presentation reviewing the proposed FY2023 budget for the Town and responded to brief questions. He requested that between now and June 7, when the tax rates and budget are scheduled to be voted upon, that Council members review the budget. If they wish to propose any changes to what staff has submitted and the Council has discussed over prior months, he asked that they discuss such changes with their colleagues individually in advance so that everyone is prepared to make the necessary decisions at the June 7 meeting.

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:18 p.m.



Philip Auville, Town Clerk