

Town Council Actions: February 2023

- Held a public hearing on Zoning Map and Comprehensive Plan Amendments and held a public hearing on Zoning Map Amendments in accordance with the Comprehensive Plan.
- Adopted a Resolution of Appreciation and Recognition to Public Safety Partners of Occoquan and the Occoquan Police Department.
- Adopted an Ordinance amending the Zoning Map in Accordance with the Comprehensive Plan.
- Adopted a Resolution requesting Prince William County to Act as Building Maintenance Code Official.

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 2023 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 2023, visit militarytribute-banners.org and select Virginia/Occoquan under the Banner 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

VOLUME XXX, ISSUE III

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March 2023

TOWN COUNCIL

Earnest W. Porta, Jr., Mayor
Jenn Loges, Vice Mayor
Nancy Freeborne Brinton
Theo Daubresse
Cindy Fithian
Eliot Perkins



TOWN HALL STAFF

Adam C. Linn, Town Manager / Chief of Police
Manuel Casillas, Town Treasurer
Philip Auville, Town Clerk
Julie Little, Events Director
Bucky Brill, Maintenance Supervisor
Matt Whitmoyer, Management Fellow

Mayor's Letter

March is the time of year when the town staff and town council spend a significant amount of time working on the operating and capital budgets for the next fiscal year, which starts on July 1. As was the case last year, we will be making decisions on the use of funds that have not typically been available to us in the past, but are this year as a result of several federal initiatives related to the COVID-19 pandemic. As part of that process, the town staff and council are also working on a strategic framework that will outline priorities for the coming four years. I encourage everyone who is interested in these items to attend council meetings, check the town web site for periodic updates, and/or stay alert for announcements about other public information sessions.

To the maximum extent practical, we also during this time of year typically attempt to handle a variety of smaller capital projects before the weather turns more pleasant. At the moment, however, we do not have a significant number of such projects planned, though it is possible that you will see progress on the Mill at Occoquan project and the new beer garden shortly. We did recently complete one capital project — the dredging of the stormwater outflow pipe areas along Mill Street — thanks to funding secured by Delegate Luke Torian. We also anticipate receiving a grant for additional stormwater infrastructure activities soon. So, please be alert for periodic updates about capital projects.

Last, I encourage you to look elsewhere in the newsletter for information on events coming up early next month (i.e. in April), particularly related to Occoquan's popular Peep Week, held by our friends in the business community. There are a variety of ways to participate in and enjoy that event. Additionally, there is information in the newsletter about business taxes and the annual Military Tribute Banners program run by our VFW Post 7916.

As always, thank you for your continued support and please do not hesitate to contact me at eporta@occoquanva.gov with any comments, questions, or concerns.



Occoquan Peep Week!

Mark your calendars, because it's not too early to start thinking about The Occoquan Business Partners' popular annual Peeps event with a weeks worth of fun!

April 4 to April 8

Stroll through historic Occoquan and vote for your favorite PEEPS® Dioramas, made by and displayed at Occoquan Businesses and the Community! Cast your vote and enter to win a Peep basket of goodies. Forms are available at participating business locations and Occoquan Town Hall. See visi-toccoquanva.com/peeps for more info.

Town of Occoquan Community Peep Contest



The community is invited to participate in the 6th Annual Community Peep Contest by designing, creating, and submitting family-friendly PEEPS® dioramas. Enter into one of the four categories: Individual; Family/Team; Youth (ages 12-16); and Kids (ages 12 and under). Drop off entries to Town Hall at 314 Mill Street by

April 3rd for community voting that runs **April 4 - 8**. Winners will receive gift certificates to use around Occoquan!

MEETINGS & EVENTS

March 1
Business License Renewal Applications Due

March 7
Town Council Meeting
7:00 pm

March 20
Meals and Transient Occupancy Taxes Due

March 21
Town Council Meeting
7:00 pm

March 28
Planning Commission
6:30 pm
Architectural Review Board
7:30 pm

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

SIGN UP FOR ALERT OCCOQUAN

Register to receive email and/or text message alerts about emergencies and town events! Go to occoquanva.gov, scroll to the link for Alert Occoquan and complete the form to customize your account.

Business License Renewal Applications Due March 1 and Payments Due May 31

Town of Occoquan Business, Professional and Occupational License (BPOL) renewals for 2022 are due March 1st. Renewal notices were emailed in January to businesses holding a license with the Town. Please be sure to submit applications and payments on time.

- A 10% penalty may be added if your **application** is received after March 31st.
- A 10% penalty will be added if your **payment** is received after May 31st.

The business license fee is based on gross receipts for the calendar year 2022. Visit occoquanva.gov/doing-business-in-occoquan or contact the Town Treasurer at (703) 491-1918 or treasurer@occoquanva.gov.

FY2024 Budget Calendar

Budget Work Session: March 7, March 21, and April 4, 2023 *if needed*

Public Hearings: April 18 (Budget) and May 2, 2023 (Tax Rates)

Budget and Tax Rate Adoption: May 2, 2023

The FY 2024 Budget is effective from July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024. The budget guides the Town's daily activities, as well as larger capital improvement projects over the next year. The public is encouraged to attend work sessions, as well as provide feedback and comments during the public hearings. All meetings are held at Town Hall, 314 Mill Street, beginning at 7 p.m. Budget work sessions presentations, and once finalized, the proposed budget, are available online at www.occoquanva.gov.

Be a River Hero: Friends of the Occoquan River Clean Up Saturday, April 15, 9 am to 12 pm - Volunteers Needed!

Join us in April for the Occoquan River Clean Up! Hosted by Friends Meet in front of Town Hall on Saturday, April 15 starting at 9 am and collect your gloves and bags and come help us tidy the riverbank and town to prevent trash from collecting in the river. Refreshments will be in a grab-and-go style, which will include packaged snacks and bottled drinks. Make sure to wear sturdy shoes and proper attire for getting muddy. Don't forget to bring a friend!

This event will take place rain or shine! For more information, visit friendsoftheoccoquan.org.