

## Town Council Actions: December 2023

- Reappointed Walt Seiberling to the Board of Zoning Appeals
- Adopted an Ordinance to Amend Title VII of the Town Code
- Adopted Arbor Day 2023 Proclamation
- Held a Public Hearing on an Invitation to Bid on a Franchise for EV Charging Stations at the Public Parking Lot on the 100 Block of Mill Street
- Awarded Greenspot the Franchise to Own and Operate EV Charging Stations at the Public Parking Lot on the 100 Block of Mill Street for Public Use

*The above items are extracts of recent actions and are not official meeting minutes. Minutes and agendas are posted at [occoquanva.gov](https://occoquanva.gov).*

## Business License Renewal Applications and Payments Both Due By March 1, 2024

Town of Occoquan Business, Professional, and Occupational License (BPOL) renewals for 2024 and the payments are both due by March 1st. Renewal notices will be emailed and mailed in January to businesses holding a license with the Town. Please be sure to submit applications and payments on time. A penalty of 10% of the tax may be imposed upon failure to file an application or payment of the tax by the due date.

The business license fee is based on gross receipts for the calendar year 2023. Visit [occoquanva.gov/doing-business-in-occoquan](https://occoquanva.gov/doing-business-in-occoquan) for more information.

## OCCOQUAN NEWSLETTER

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### 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 NEWSLETTER

VOLUME XXXI, ISSUE I

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January 2024

### TOWN COUNCIL

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



### TOWN HALL STAFF

Adam Linn, Town Manager & Chief of Police  
Matt Whitmoyer, Deputy Town Manager  
Philip Auville, Town Clerk  
Manuel Casillas, Assistant Town Treasurer  
Julie Little, Events Director  
Jason Forman, Deputy Chief of Police

## Mayor's Letter

Happy New Year to all! I know the winter holidays can be a rushed and stressful period for many, but I hope each of you found some time to relax and enjoy the season. We are now coming upon what can pass for a slow time in town with January being one of the few months when there is not a major event taking place. It's also a time, however, when we periodically experience some serious inclement weather. There is no predicting such occurrences, but I encourage everyone to review the information in this newsletter and on the town website about snow emergency routes and road and sidewalk clearing so that we are all as prepared as possible. For those trying to plan their year ahead, this newsletter also has a concise listing of the schedule of events in town for calendar year 2024. Among them you will notice a new one in February that we hope many of you will be able to enjoy.

Typically, weather permitting, we attempt to do a variety of maintenance work in town during this relatively slow time of year to minimize disruption. This year is no exception so please stay tuned for more information on upcoming projects. We will do our best to keep you informed in advance as much as possible.

Last this month I would like to thank all of you for the support you have provided to the town over the past year. Many of you have volunteered for various town functions, and without you, our limited size and corresponding financial and personnel resources simply would not be sufficient to accomplish what we do. Others of you, though perhaps unable to volunteer, have made it a point to patronize town businesses, who are a critical component of our community. And, of course, I would like to encourage everyone to join me in expressing appreciation to our town staff. Well-led by Adam Linn, they have helped make it truly a joy to serve as the town's mayor. Again, Happy New Year, and please do not hesitate to contact me at [eporta@occoquanva.gov](mailto:eporta@occoquanva.gov) with any comments, questions, or concerns.

## Emergency Snow Removal 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.

## Please Clear Your Sidewalks

Help keep your 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](https://occoquanva.gov/snow-removal).

## Holiday Greenery Recycling

After all the holiday festivities are over, recycle your Christmas tree, wreath, and other cut greenery. Ornaments, decorations, tinsel, nails, and tree stands must be removed before greenery items are taken to the following locations to be composted or repurposed: **Prince William County Landfill** or the **Balls Ford Road Compost Facility**.

## RiverFest Volunteer Committee

**Calling all volunteers!** Ever wanted to be part of making Riverfest a reality? Then the new Riverfest Volunteer Committee might be the right fit for you. The Events Director is looking for energetic and dedicated individuals who want to make a positive impact on the town to apply to be on the new committee. All interested parties can apply using the QR Code or go to [www.occoquanfestivals.com](https://www.occoquanfestivals.com)



## MEETINGS & EVENTS

**January 1**

**New Year's Day**

Town Hall Closed

**January 15**

**Martin Luther King, Jr. Day**

Town Hall Closed

**January 16**

**Board of Zoning Appeals**

6:30 pm

**January 16**

**Town Council Meeting**

7:00 pm

**January 20**

**Meals and Transient**

**Occupancy Taxes Due**

**January 23**

**Planning Commission**

6:30 pm

**Architectural Review Board**

7:30 pm

**March 1**

**BPOL Renewal Applications  
and Payment Due**

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

## Mark Your Calendar For Our 2024 Events!

Mark your calendars so that you don't miss out on any of our Town events that we have planned so far for 2024. Occoquan has something for everyone to enjoy and we hope to see you at one of our many events!

- **Firelight Night:** *New!* February 16. Get some dinner in town, then head to the cul-de-sac for some live music and s'mores at the cozy firepits.
- **Peep Week:** March 26 - 30. Stroll through historic Occoquan and vote for your favorite PEEPS® dioramas, made by and displayed at Occoquan businesses! PLUS check out the community-made dioramas inside Town Hall.
- **Music on Mill Concert Series:** Saturdays, May - August. The Town hosts an outdoor concert series in River Mill Park, featuring local bands. Concerts are free, so bring a lawn chair or blanket, and a picnic to enjoy the music.
- **Trivia Nights in River Mill Park:** Fridays, May - October. Held on one Friday per month., the Town hosts Trivia Night in River Mill Park. Test your knowledge and play six rounds of brain busters for your chance to win!
- **RiverFest & Craft Show:** June 1 & 2. Occoquan's annual RiverFest & Craft Show is the perfect kick off to summer! Hundreds of artisans and creators fill the streets for a weekend of family fun. In addition, check out our popular Beer & Wine Garden with live concerts in River Mill Park and head to Conservation Alley for performances, demonstrations and crafts. This year, the Whatever Floats Your Boat Parade is June 1 and the Duck Splash moves from August to June 2 as part of the RiverFest event.
- **Fall Arts & Crafts Show:** September 28 & 29. Hosted in the streets of Historic Occoquan, this event will feature a wide range of makers and creators. Meet emerging and experienced artisans, talk to them about their work, and view demonstrations of some of their craft techniques. You'll have the opportunity to enjoy live music in the beer & wine garden in River Mill Park. Don't forget to check out Imagination alley, where kids can create their own art.
- **Spirits & Spirits:** October 25 - 26. Get ready for a spooky, scary good time in Occoquan! Visit the Haunted Maze & Spirits Garden or enjoy our family friendly costume parade and contest. We'll also bring back the popular murder mystery night!
- **HolidayFest and Holiday Artisan Market:** Winter 2024. HolidayFest bring two full weeks of holiday activities, entertainment, and shopping, beginning with the annual Tree Lighting in front of Town Hall, followed by firepits in the cul-de-sac. The Holiday Artisan Market will be held on the first weekend of December featuring artists and crafters, as well as a visit with Santa and a Gingerbread House Contest.

For more information on events visit: [visitoccoquan.com/events](https://visitoccoquan.com/events)