

Business License Renewals and BPOL Due March 1

The 2016 Business and Professional Occupational License (BPOL) renewals are due no later than March 1, 2016. Renewal notices were sent during the first week in February to businesses currently holding a license with the Town. A penalty of 10% may be added if your *application* is received after March 1, and/or a 10% penalty will be added if your *payment* is received after May 31, 2016.

The business license fee is based on gross receipts for calendar year 2015. Tax rates are listed on the application, with a minimum tax of \$30.

Businesses operating out of homes within Occoquan are also required to obtain a business license and pay BPOL to the Town. For question, please contact the Town Clerk at (703) 491-1918 or visit www.occoquanva.gov for more information.

Trash and Recycling Collection Reminders

Please place refuse to the curb **no earlier than 4 pm** on Tuesdays, but **before 7 am on Wednesdays**, and remove your containers as quickly as possible after collection. Ensure there is a pedestrian path available at all times by not blocking public sidewalks and rights of way with refuse containers. **Do not place household refuse in/next to Town-owned trash receptacles.**

OCOQUAN NEWSLETTER

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TOWN OF OCOQUAN

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

CARRIER ROUTE
OCOQUAN, VA 22125

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Occoquan, VA
Permit No. 19

OCOQUAN NEWSLETTER

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MARCH 2016

TOWN COUNCIL

Elizabeth A.C. Quist, Mayor
Patrick A. Sivigny, Vice Mayor
Tyler C. Brown
J. Matthew Dawson
Jim Drakes
Joseph McGuire



TOWN HALL STAFF

Kirstyn Jovanovich, Town Manager
Sheldon E. Levi, Chief of Police
Christopher Coon, Town Clerk
Abigail Breeding, CPA, Treasurer
Bucky Brill, Maintenance Supervisor

Mayor's Letter

I hope that you all have recovered from the January and February snow events and are looking forward with me to the spring thaw! Many thanks to Town Staff, led by Town Manager Kirstyn Jovanovich, for their planning, coordination and clean-up efforts in dealing with one of the worst snow storms in Occoquan in recent memory. Special recognition goes to Bucky Brill, who went above and beyond the call of duty during this State of Emergency. Over the course of the four day event, he single-handedly manned snow shovel and snow blower, and coordinated snow removal efforts between our regular contractor, a team of front-loader operators overnight on Sunday, and a backhoe and driver donated by Vulcan Quarry on Monday. Town Hall was operating on a skeleton crew, as usual, but we managed to open on Tuesday morning to sunny skies and warmer temperatures, well ahead of other local governments. As a result of their efforts, of which I am incredibly proud, Tuesday and Wednesday also saw the majority of Town merchants open for business. An incredible team effort!

Over the next few months, Council and Staff will be working on a number of important initiatives. The Town's FY17 Budget season kicked off at the February 16th Council Work Session and the schedule for the remainder of the budget process can be found on the Town website. Also of significance this spring is the Planning Commission's undertaking of the Comprehensive Plan revision. The process will include meetings and work sessions of the Planning Commission and two professional consultants, as well as public input sessions and eventually joint sessions with Council. Adoption of the final Comprehensive Plan document should occur in late June or early July. As the weather warms up, our focus will turn to the outdoors and progress within our Town Parks (River Mill, Mamie Davis, Furnace Branch, and Tanyard Hill). Council awarded the construction contract for Phase II of River Mill Park at its February meeting, so be sure to watch the Town website and newsletter for updates on the park opening.

Finally, please join me in welcoming our new Town Clerk, Christopher Coon, to the team this month, and thanking outgoing Town Clerk Greg Holcomb and Craft Show Director Krista Forcier, for their contributions since August of 2014. We hope to announce Krista's successor in the coming weeks, well in advance of the June 4th & 5th, Occoquan Arts and Crafts Show.

Elizabeth A.C. Quist

March 2016

Town Council Actions: February 2, 2016

The following items are extracts of recent Town Council actions and are not official meeting minutes. The most recent approved Town Council minutes and agendas are available online at www.occoquanva.gov. All votes are unanimous unless noted otherwise.

- Approved Floodplain Management Ordinance and Associated Subdivision Amendments.
- Awarded a contract in the amount to \$288,590 to Dominion Construction for Phase II of the River Mill Park Project, and reallocated \$96,000 from Mill Street Revitalization CIP Project to the River Mill Park CIP Project.
- Approved extension of employment offer to Chris Coon for the position of Town Clerk.

Adopt a Historic Marker



The Occoquan Historical Society (OHS) recently 'adopted' the historic marker in front of the museum on Mill Street and had the weathered sign refurbished through Lake Shore Ind., the original manufacturer of the sign. OHS invites other businesses, residents and community groups to 'adopt' a historic marker in town in order to update and improve the appearance of the downtown area, and preserve the past. Adopting a marker includes paying for the shipping and refurbishment of the sign and costs approximately \$750 per sign. The Town will assist with removing and remounting the marker. If you're interested in learning more, contact Dolores Elder, Museum Curator at (703) 491-7525 or curator@occoquanhistoricalsociety.org.

Town Meetings and Events

All meetings are held at Town Hall, 314 Mill Street, unless otherwise noted.

March 1: Town Council Meeting
7:00 pm, Regular Meeting, Town Hall

March 1: Town Election Candidate Filing Deadline

March 1: Business License Application Deadline

March 8: Planning Commission
7:00 pm, Town Hall
Architectural Review Board
7:30 pm, Town Hall

March 15: Town Council Meeting
7:00 pm, Work Session, Town Hall

March 20: February 2016 Meals Taxes Due

Town Election Day: May 3, 2016

This is an election year for the positions of Mayor and Town Council members. Anyone wishing to be a candidate may obtain the necessary filing forms by visiting elections.virginia.gov or calling the Prince William County Office of Elections at (703) 792-6470. **The candidate filing deadline is March 1, 2016.**

Voting will take place at Town Hall from 6 am to 7 pm on Tuesday, May 3, 2016. The voter registration deadline for the May 3 election is April 11, 2016. Absentee voting will begin Friday, March 18, and end on Saturday, April 30, 2016. For more information, visit the Prince William County Office of Elections website at www.pwcgov.org.

Tax Relief Programs for Elderly and Disabled Persons

Senior citizens and disabled persons who meet certain criteria may be granted relief from all or part of real estate and personal property taxes. Tax Relief is granted on an annual basis and a renewal application must be filed each year by April 15th.

Application forms for these programs are available at the PWC Real Estate Assessments Office or by mail. You may also request an application form by calling (703) 792-6780 or visiting www.pwcgov.org.

SAVE THE DATE

Annual Spring Town Cleanup Day: April 16

COMING UP

The Friends of the Occoquan (FOTO) will host the Town's annual Spring Town Cleanup Day on Saturday, April 16, 2016, from 9 am to 12 pm. Look for more information on how you can help in the April Town Newsletter!