

Town Council Actions: October 4, 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 the Project Agreement with the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation for State Project Number VRT-297, Canoe & Kayak Ramp.
- Requested a quote from the Virginia Association of Chiefs of Police for a needs assessment for the Town of Occoquan's Police Department.

Occoquan Vehicle License Fee Due Nov. 15

The Town of Occoquan 2017 vehicle license fees/decals are now on sale at Town Hall. Town Ordinance Section 62-37 requires that owners of any motor vehicle principally stored, garaged or parked in the Town obtain a license decal from the Town. **The 2017 decal must be displayed on your vehicle by November 15, 2016.**

Renewal forms have been mailed. If you did not receive a form, please contact Town Hall immediately. Forms and payments can be mailed back to Town Hall or dropped off in person. Town Hall will be open late on Tuesday, November 1 and 15, until 7 pm for your convenience.

If you have any questions, please contact Town Staff at (703) 491-1918, or at info@occoquanva.gov.

OCOCOQUAN NEWSLETTER

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TOWN OF OCOCOQUAN

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VOLUME XXIII, ISSUE XI

(703) 491-1918

NOVEMBER 2016

TOWN COUNCIL

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



TOWN HALL STAFF

Kirstyn Jovanovich, Town Manager
Sheldon E. Levi, Chief of Police
Abigail Breeding, CPA, Treasurer
Chris Coon, Town Clerk
Bucky Brill, Maintenance Supervisor
Donna Brown, Events Director
Pam Holbert, Administrative Asst.

Mayor's Letter

Thank you to the 138 volunteers that participated in the Friends of the Occoquan (FOTO) river clean-up on October 15th. Volunteers cleared 120 large bags of trash and 28 bags of recyclable materials from the river and shoreline from five sites in Prince William County, including the Town of Occoquan. Thank you to everyone that has dedicated their time and efforts in stewardship of the Occoquan River.

On Tuesday, November 29th, we will be hosting a retirement reception for Chief Sheldon Levi at Town Hall. Please join us from 4:30 to 6:30 pm to wish our Chief of Police the best of luck in his retirement. Light refreshments will be served, and there will be a brief presentation ceremony at approximately 5:30 pm.

The Town Council is using this turnover opportunity to review the current arrangement for police services and conduct a community needs assessment. We have engaged the Virginia Association of Chiefs of Police (VACP) to assess the community's needs and assets by interviewing community stakeholders, analyzing calls for service, collecting information about our relationship with Prince William County, and using comparative data for other small towns in Virginia. A representative from VACP will present their findings and recommendations to the Council for consideration during the hiring and FY2018 budgeting processes.

The holiday season kicks off in Occoquan with a number of family-friendly annual events, such as the Business Guild of Occoquan's Holiday Open House from 4:00 to 8:00 pm on November 18th. The Town Tree Lighting will take place at 8:05 pm that evening, followed by the Guild's gift certificate drawings at 8:15 pm in front of Hawthorne House Fine Paper. Planning is underway for a number of other Occoquan traditions in December, to include the Town Blessing at Ebenezer Baptist Church, Santa's Lake Ridge Parade and Occoquan Winterfest, and a variety of charity drives. Watch for details in the December newsletter and on the Town's website at www.occoquanva.gov.

Finally, don't forget to vote on Tuesday, November 8th. You can check www.pwcvotes.com to determine your polling location and view sample ballots. Please remember, voting *does not* occur at Town Hall this election cycle.

Elizabeth A.C. Quist

Doing Home Improvement Projects? Check with the Town!

The Town of Occoquan issues all building and trade permits within the town's corporate limits. If you are planning to do any interior or exterior work to your property, including a new roof, siding, bathroom or kitchen upgrades, electrical work, replacing an HVAC system, plumbing, gas, mechanical or related activities, contact Town Hall first to see if a permit is required. Information on the Town's building permit process, associated fees and applications are available on the town's website at www.occoquanva.gov/building-and-zoning.html. If your property is located within the Historic District, you will need to have any changes to your exterior reviewed by the Architectural Review Board prior to work starting. Information on the ARB process, including applications, is available online at www.occoquanva.gov/architectural-review-board.html.

Please submit applications to Town Hall, 314 Mill Street, M-F, 9 am - 4 pm or mail to PO Box 195. All applicable fees are due at the time the application is received. Any work started without a permit will incur double fees. If you have any questions, please contact Town Hall at (703) 491-1918 or info@occoquanva.gov.

Retirement Reception for Chief Levi, November 29



The Town of Occoquan invites the public to a reception honoring Chief of Police Sheldon Levi, who will retire from his position with the Town of Occoquan on December 3, 2016. The reception will be held on **Tuesday, November 29, 2016, from 4:30 pm to 6:30 pm** at Town Hall, 314 Mill Street. Please be sure to stop by during that time to wish Chief Levi well wishes and best of luck on his retirement. There will be a short presentation at approximately 5:30 p.m. Light refreshments will be served. No RSVP required.

Chief Levi first joined the Town of Occoquan as an Auxiliary officer in 2007 and has served as Occoquan's top law enforcement official since being appointed to the position in 2010.

During his tenure with the Town, he served as the Acting Town Manager during a time of transition while the Town Council conducted the search for a new Town Manager. He also assisted with expanding the department's Auxiliary Officer program in an effort to increase Occoquan's police coverage, while limiting costs to the town. Earlier this year, Chief Levi was awarded the Bronze Medal for Valor from the Prince William Chamber of Commerce for his life saving efforts during a dangerous situation on the Route 123 Bridge.

Chief Levi has been a true asset to our community and has been an integral member to town staff during a period of growth and transition - the Town is going to miss his dedication and enthusiasm, and unwavering love for this community!

The Town has partnered with the Virginia Association of Chiefs of Police to undergo an assessment process to determine the needs and future of the Town's police department. The results of the assessment will assist the Town Council in conducting the recruitment process for Levi's replacement. Be sure to check the Town's website for more information on how you can provide your input on the police department assessment and information on the recruitment process. For more information, visit www.occoquanva.gov.

November 2016

Town Meetings and Events

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

November 1: Town Council Meeting
7:00 pm, Regular Meeting
Extended Auto Decal Hours 9 am-7 pm

November 8: Election Day

November 9: Planning Commission Meeting
6:45 pm, Regular Meeting

November 11: Veterans Day
Town Hall Closed

November 15: Town Council Meeting
7:00 pm, Work Session
Extended Auto Decal Hours 9 am-7 pm

November 18: Holiday Tree Lighting,
8:05 pm
Business Open House 4pm-8 pm

November 22: ARB Meeting
7:30 pm, Regular Meeting

November 24 & 25: Thanksgiving
Town Hall Closed

November 29: Chief Levi's Retirement Reception
4:30 - 6:30 pm, No RSVP Required, open to the public, Town Hall

Holiday Shopping Event & Tree Lighting: November 18

Kick off the holiday season with an evening of shopping in Historic Occoquan on Friday, November 18, 2016 from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Stroll through the many unique shops of Occoquan during the Business Guild of Occoquan's Holiday Open House and enjoy special deals, refreshments and activities.

Immediately following this special shopping event, stop by Town Hall for the annual tree lighting event at 8:05 p.m. Then at 8:15 p.m. the Guild will hold it's Open House drawing in front of Hawthorne House Fine Papers, and distribute \$1,500 in gift certificates!

