

Town Council Actions: December 5, 2017

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.

- Adopted an Ordinance to Add Section 50-9 to the Town Code, Relating to Public Tree Maintenance
- Appropriated \$4,542.76 from FY17 for River Mill Park Trail Project
- Appropriated \$6,215.62 from FY18 for Poplar Alley Paving Project
- Appropriated \$17,313 from FY17 CIP for Settlement Agreement

Reminder: Town Real Estate Taxes Due February

The 2017 Real Estate Taxes are due on February 15, 2018. If not paid by the due date, an 8% penalty will be assessed. Additionally, a 10% per annum interest charge begins to accrue on March 16, 2018. If you have questions regarding your taxes and pay out of escrow, please contact your mortgage company. If you do not utilize a mortgage company for escrow, please remit payment directly to the Town of Occoquan.

OCCOQUAN NEWSLETTER

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TOWN OF OCCOQUAN

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P.O. Box 195
Occoquan, VA 22125

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OCCOQUAN NEWSLETTER

VOLUME XXV, ISSUE I

(703) 491-1918

JANUARY 2018

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
Adam Linn, Chief of Police
Carla Rodriguez, Treasurer
Chris Coon, Town Clerk
Bucky Brill, Maintenance Supervisor
Julie Little, Events Director
Pam Holbert, Administrative Asst.

Mayor's Letter

Happy New Year 2018!

As I'm sure you have noticed, there has been considerable activity in the historic business district over the past few months. In addition to the numerous exciting and successful events here throughout the holidays, Occoquan has had its share of business and property development announcements of late. Businesses such as Blue Arbor Café, The Golden Goose, and Polka Dot Divas have announced their retirement, after long and successful runs, while others such as Fetch, Georgetown Caterers, Puzzle Palooza, and Quinn's Goldsmith have announced their relocation and expansion or consolidation to larger spaces. New retail and restaurants such as Gift and Gather, Pretentious Chef, and Third Base Pizza and Frozen Custard have recently opened, with rumors of other exciting new ventures on the horizon.

One of the most frequently asked questions I get from visitors is "with all there is to do and see in Occoquan, where do I stay?" I'm happy to report that I'm aware of at least eight short-term rental properties in Town, with approximately 22 available beds, in addition to public dock space for the transient boating community, which gives visitors a reason to stay and play another day. Another frequent inquiry relates to the rusted boat dry dock and buildings from 401-407 Mill Street just before the Mill House Museum, River Mill Park, and the recently renovated footbridge. It was purchased this past fall by a local land developer, with plans to create a mixed-use, retail and residential project. It is important to stress that, contrary to rumors which have circulated throughout Occoquan, the Town Planning Commission and Town Council have *not yet received a site plan*. There is, therefore, no approved plan for the site, nor a definite timeline for development. However, there has been open dialogue with the developer, including a preliminary discussion with the Architectural Review Board. We look forward to working with them and applaud their commitment to stay true to Occoquan's historic nature and design a project which contributes to the community goals of mixed-use development, suitable parking, and public waterfront access.

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...Mayor's Letter Continued

All this is to say that Occoquan is experiencing a surge in growth and change that, while it may seem extreme for our tiny community, is the ebb and flow of a thriving economy. While we will miss those businesses that are leaving, we wish the owners the very best, our neighbors and friends, who have contributed immensely to the Town over their decades of service and involvement. Being a small business owner is exhilarating, exhausting, and rewarding all at the same time, so we salute those who choose Occoquan as a partner in this challenge.

In the spirit of supporting the entrepreneurs and artisans that call Occoquan "home", the Town will kick-off its quarterly Town and Business Partnership meeting series beginning January 23rd at 5:30 pm. The goal of the meetings is to strengthen communications, cultivate successful partnerships, and promote commerce, tourism, and community engagement within the Town of Occoquan. They will be led by our Events and Community Development Director, Julie Little, at Town Hall. Handicapped parking and lift facilities are available.

Elizabeth A.C. Quist

Snow Removal - Emergency Snow Routes

While it has been a mild winter so far, snow continues to be a possibility over the next several months. As a reminder, the Town has established snow emergency routes throughout town (Chapter 62, Article VII, Sections 192-196). When snow is expected, on-street parking will not be permitted on the identified roads. This will allow the town to remove snow from on-street parking. During inclement weather, if you normally park on-street, please consider parking under the Route 123 bridge. For more information, visit www.occoquanva.gov.

Important Phone Numbers

Prince William County Police- Non-Emergency:	703-792-6500
Bates Trucking Trash Removal- Special Pick-up:	800-840-6454 (<i>ex 331 special pickups</i>)
Prince William County Landfill:	703-792-5750
Prince William County Service Authority:	703-335-7950 (<i>Water and Sewer</i>)
Washington Gas:	703-750-1000
Dominion Virginia Power:	888-667-3000

January 2018

Town Meetings and Events

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

January 1: New Year's Day
Town Hall Closed

January 2: Town Council Meeting
7:00 pm, Regular Meeting, Town Hall

January 9: Planning Commission
7:00 pm, Town Hall

January 9: Architectural Review Board Meeting
7:30 pm, Town Hall

January 15: Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
Town Hall Closed

January 16: Town Council Meeting
7:00 pm, Work Session, Town Hall

January 20: December 2017 Meals Tax and Transient Occupancy Tax Due

January 23: Town/Business Meeting
5:30 pm, Town Hall

Holiday Greenery Recycling

After all the holiday festivities are done, don't toss your holiday greenery to the curb. Give your Christmas tree, wreath and other cut greenery a fitting final resting place. Simply remove all ornaments, decorations, tinsel, nails and the tree stand and take the greenery to one of the following locations:

- The Prince William County Landfill, 14811 Dumfries Rd., Manassas, VA
- The Balls Ford Road Compost Facility, 13000 Balls Ford Rd., Manassas, VA
- Leesylvania State Park, 2001 Daniel K. Ludwig Dr., Woodbridge, VA
- Northern Virginia Electric Cooperative, 5399 Wellington Branch Rd., Gainesville, VA

*For more information about recycling in Prince William County, please visit –
<http://www.pwcgov.org/trashandrecycling> or call 703-792-4670.*

Message from the Occoquan Post Office...

The Occoquan Post Office would like to express our appreciation for all the kind words and gifts we received during the holiday season from residents and town merchants. Happy New Year! - *Judy and Eleanor*