

June 2015

Town Meetings and Events

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

June 2: Town Council Meeting
7:00 p.m., Regular Meeting, Town Hall

June 6: Occoquan Spring Arts & Crafts Show
10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

June 7: Occoquan Spring Arts & Crafts Show
10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

June 9: Planning Commission
7:00 p.m., Town Hall
Architectural Review Board
7:30 p.m., Town Hall

June 14: Flag Day

June 16: Town Council Work Session
7:00 p.m., Work Session, Town Hall

June 20: 9th Annual Duck Splash
12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. , Town Dock

June 20: May 2015 Meals Taxes Due

June 21: Father's Day

June 21: First Day of Summer

OCOQUAN NEWSLETTER

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TOWN OF OCOQUAN

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OCOQUAN NEWSLETTER

VOLUME XXII, ISSUE VI

(703) 491-1918

JUNE 2015

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
Abigail Breeding, CPA, Treasurer
Greg Holcomb, Town Clerk
Bucky Brill, Maintenance Supervisor
Krista Forcier, Craft Show Director

Occoquan Spring Arts and Crafts Show Saturday, June 6 and Sunday, June 7

The Spring Arts and Crafts Show will be on Saturday, June 6, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday, June 7, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., in Historic Occoquan. We hope everyone will come out for this great two-day event filled with contemporary and country crafters and artisans, live music and great food! For more information on the show, visit www.occoquanva.gov.

Parking

Permits will be available to merchants and residents living or working *in the historic district* for parking under the Route 123 bridge from 10:00 p.m., Friday, June 5, until 6:30 p.m., Sunday, June 7. Due to limited parking spaces, only one permit per business or family - first come, first served - will be issued. Permits will be available at Town Hall beginning **Tuesday, June 2**, between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.

Volunteer!

Want to lend a hand during the show? Volunteer! Sign up at Town Hall, email info@occoquanva.gov or call (703) 491-1918 if you're interested in volunteering!

9th Annual Duck Splash: June 20, 2015

Everyone is invited to watch hundreds of rubber ducks race down the Occoquan River during the 9th Annual Duck Splash in Historic Occoquan on Saturday, June 20, 2015, beginning at 12 p.m. Tickets to "adopt" a duck are \$5 each, and prizes ranging from \$500 to \$20 are awarded for 1st through 10th places. You do not need to be present to win. To purchase tickets online or for more information, visit www.pwtsc.org. Tickets are also available for purchase at the Occoquan Arts and Crafts Show on June 6 and 7, at the Friends of the Occoquan (FOTO) booth! All net proceeds benefit the Prince William Trails and Streams Coalition and the Occoquan, Woodbridge & Neabsco Optimist Club. Come out, do a little shopping, eat some lunch, and enjoy this fun, family friendly event in Occoquan that supports a great cause!

Town Council Actions: May 5, 2015

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.

- Set tax rates and adopted the Fiscal Year 2016 Budget, Capital Improvement Plan, Craftshow Fund and Mamie Davis Fund. 4-1, Councilman Brown voting nay.
- Approved the Kiely Court final site plan. 4-1, Councilman Brown voting nay.
- Approved the Occoquan Heights As-Built drawings.
- Approved the Town's participation in a Board of Zoning Appeals Training Workshop.
- Appropriated \$10,040 from the Capital Improvement Fund for River Road repair and repaving. 4-1, Councilman Brown voting nay.
- Approved the shuttle bus service for the Fall Arts & Craft show in the amount of \$14,040.

ARB Reminder: Historic Designation

Did you know that it was in 1983 that the Occoquan Historic District was added to the National Register of Historic Places Inventory under the National Park Service? The 17-page application gave this as the Summary Description of the Occoquan Historic District:

"The Occoquan Historic District is comprised of sixty structures situated on the north bank of the Occoquan River. The buildings are predominantly frame, two-story, residential structures although the earliest examples are constructed of stone or brick. Most of the residential buildings date to the late 19th century and are variations of the builder vernacular type, many characterized by German siding and decorative porches. During recent years many of these buildings have been converted to specialty shops. The major commercial structures date to the early 20th century and line Mill Street. Occoquan's close proximity to Washington DC and its suburbs, its convenient access to Interstate 95, and its picturesque setting on the river, have converted the early milling to a bustling tourist center."

You can read the entire application at this internet address: http://www.dhr.virginia.gov/registers/Counties/PrinceWilliam/272-0012_Occoquan_Historic_District_1983_Final_Nomination.pdf

It makes for a proud read of how special we are as a community.

Fiscal Year 2016 Adopted Budget in Review

On May 5, the Town Council approved the Fiscal Year 2016 Budget and Capital Improvement Plan (CIP), which will run from July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016.

		FY 2015	FY 2016	Difference	Increase/ (Decrease)
General Fund	Expenditures	\$505,296	\$583,038	\$77,742	15.39%
	Revenues	\$505,296	\$583,038	\$77,742	15.39%
Craft Show Fund	Expenditures	\$90,000	\$104,182	\$14,182	15.76%
	Revenues	\$210,000	\$222,825	\$12,825	6.11%
Mamie Davis Fund	Expenditures	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$0	0%
	Revenues	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$0	0%
Capital Improvement Fund	Expenditures	\$1,640,000	\$1,005,000	(\$635,000)	(38.72%)

The General Fund budget is based on maintaining the current real estate tax rate of \$0.11 per \$100 of assessed value. Beginning July 1, 2015, there will be a one percent increase on meals taxes, increasing the rate from 2% to 3%. This percentage increase is expected to bring in approximately \$51,700 in additional revenue to the Town. While a majority of the revenue will support increased town services and activities, \$15,000 has been set aside in the FY 2016 budget to go back into the community. Staff is working to develop a plan on how to utilize this funding and will be reaching out to businesses and residents in the coming weeks to determine a plan that will support our businesses and benefit the Occoquan community.

The FY 2016 budget focuses on improving service delivery and addressing deferred maintenance issues within the Town. A few items that will be addressed in the coming year include street and parking lot striping, including repainting yellow curbs, yellow lines and crosswalks on town-owned streets; repairing heavily damaged brick sidewalks at key locations and increased landscaping services within the historic district. Within the CIP, the Town Council has set aside \$150,000 for improvements to the Mill Street corridor. Funding from this item will be used toward upgrading key intersections on VDOT roads in order to install pedestrian crosswalks. In addition, this funding will be utilized in the development of a community planning tool in an effort to identify a long-term plan for Occoquan, to be implemented in the coming years.

The adopted budget aims at supporting community and business development, increasing beautification efforts and addressing infrastructure needs.

The complete adopted budget document is available online at www.occoquanva.gov.