

Town Council Actions: September 6, 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.

- Proclaimed September 2016 as Blood Cancer Awareness Month and September 15, 2016 as Lymphoma Awareness Day.
- Awarded a contract for Annual Financial Audit Services to Robinson, Farmer, Cox and Associates.
- Approved the extension of the Town's contract with Virginia Lawn Service for snow and ice removal services for FY2017 in an amount not to exceed \$5,000.
- Approved after-the-fact emergency plumbing repairs at Town Hall in the amount of \$1,516.90

Trash and Recycling Collection Reminders

Please place refuse to the curb **no earlier than 4 p.m.** on Tuesdays, but **before 7 a.m. on Wednesdays**, and remove your containers as quickly as possible after collection and store at the rear of your property. 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 or next to Town-owned trash receptacles.** Need a new container? Contact Town Hall at (703) 491-1918.

Free Community Shred Event, Saturday, October 29

Bring up to 4 boxes of confidential documents for secure shredding between 9 am and 1 pm on October 29, to the Prince William County Landfill, 14811 Dumfries Road, or Balls Ford Road Compost Facility, 13000 Balls Ford Road. No business or commercial shredding. For more information, call (703) 792-4670 or visit www.pwcgov.org/trashandrecycling.

OCOCOQUAN NEWSLETTER

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TOWN OF OCOCOQUAN

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Occoquan, VA 22125

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OCOCOQUAN NEWSLETTER

VOLUME XXIII, ISSUE X

(703) 491-1918

OCTOBER 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

Thanks to all for another great Fall Arts & Crafts Show! We had wonderful weather and great foot traffic, and we greatly appreciate the efforts of Town Staff, volunteers, residents and merchants. As I frequently remind everyone about our Craft Shows, this 47-year tradition is an important part of the Town's financial plan. The money we raise over the course of just *four days* each year funds almost 15% of the Town's total budget, covering all of our standard capital improvements (including street maintenance, building maintenance, equipment replacement, gaslight maintenance, and park improvements), as well as special projects such as this year's Town Code recodification and the Town's 20% contribution towards construction of an ADA compliant canoe and kayak launch - coming Spring 2017. Thanks for supporting this important Occoquan tradition.

Our Music on Mill summer concert series at River Mill Park might be over, but there are plenty of great outdoor events coming our way as the days get cooler and the leaves start to fall. Join us for the semi-annual Friends of the Occoquan (FOTO) River Clean-up on Saturday, October 15th from 9 am to 12 pm (rain date Sunday October 16th). Each year, the Town of Occoquan joins FOTO in clearing trash and debris by land and by boat. Last year, 128 volunteers cleared 1.3 tons of trash from the river. For details on how you can help by volunteering this year, visit www.friendsoftheoccoquan.org or www.OccoquanVA.gov. Other events coming soon include the Town's annual tree lighting, Town blessing, Santa's arrival by boat, and the second annual WinterFest celebration. See the Town website for details.

Finally, as you may have already heard, our Chief of Police, Sheldon Levi, has announced his retirement, effective December 3rd of this year. Chief Levi has been with the Town since 2007, and was appointed Chief in 2010. He has been much more than the Town's chief law enforcement officer in his tenure with the Town of Occoquan. As a former auxiliary officer himself, he has helped grow the department with the addition of three auxiliary officers that help supplement Town police coverage during evenings, weekends, and special events. He has been an integral member of Town staff during a period of growth and transition, and we offer sincerest congratulations to him on his pending retirement.

Elizabeth A.C. Quist

October 2016

Town Meetings and Events

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

October 4: Town Council Meeting
7:00 pm, Regular Meeting

October 10: Columbus Day
Town Hall Closed

October 11: Planning Commission, 7:00 pm
Architectural Review Board, 7:30 pm

October 15: FOTO Town Cleanup Day
9 am – 12 pm

October 18: Town Council Meeting
7:00 pm, Work Session

October 20: September 2016 Meals Taxes Due

October 29: Haunt the Town Hunt and Magic Show

Halloween in Occoquan, October 29

During the month of October, the businesses of Occoquan will host Haunt the Town from October 1 -31, where you can enjoy life-size Halloween characters found on shop benches, porches and doorways. On Saturday, October 29, 2016, from 10 am to 4:30 pm, participate in the **Haunt the Town Hunt** where you can hunt for six Halloween characters pictured on the entry form (available at any participating shop) and be entered into a drawing to win a life-sized Venetian Victorian Halloween figure!

After the Hunt, stay for the free show! From 4:30 pm to 5:30 pm, see The Amazing Kevin at River Mill Park perform amazing magical feats that will delight and amaze kids of all ages! Also, while you're here, be sure to schedule a Haunted Occoquan Tour (haunted-occoquan.com) and learn about Occoquan's spooky history. For more information on these events, visit www.occoquanva.gov or historicoccoquan.com.

With Sympathy

The Town would like to express its deepest condolences to the families of Hazel Dawson, Mike Jones and Harry Ervin, who recently passed away. Mrs. Dawson, a long time resident of Occoquan whose family legacy can be seen throughout Occoquan and the region, passed away on September 6, 2016. Mr. Jones, a longtime resident whose family's history dates back to early Occoquan, passed away on August 16, 2016. Mr. Ervin, owner of Ervin Engineering and former Town Councilmember and Town Engineer, passed away on August 6, 2016. We are saddened by the sudden loss of so many well-loved and long-time Occoquan residents. Our hearts and thoughts go out to their families and friends.

Annual Fall Cleanup Day October 15, Volunteers Needed

Friends of the Occoquan (FOTO) will host the annual Fall cleanup day on Saturday, October 15, (rain date October 16) from 9 am to 12 pm in Occoquan. The event will focus on town beautification, river cleanup and trash removal. If you would like to volunteer, meet at Town Hall, 314 Mill St., at 9 am on October 15. Tools will be provided and you are encouraged to wear comfortable clothing and sturdy shoes. For more information contact Renate Vanegas, Friends of the Occoquan, at (703) 674-6659 or foto@friendsoftheoccoquan.org.

Occoquan Arts and Crafts Show - Thank You!

Thank you to all of our residents, businesses, vendors, visitors and volunteers for a successful Fall Occoquan Arts and Crafts Show! With your support, we were able to host over 300 exhibitors and welcome more than 10,000 visitors to our community! In our 47th year, proceeds generated from the semi-annual shows continue to go toward funding infrastructure and maintenance improvements in town, including sidewalks, roads, parks and public buildings. Together, the shows generate almost \$120,000 in net revenue to go toward capital improvement projects, allowing the town to limit tax impacts on our residents and businesses. Thank you once again for a great year – we're already looking forward to 2017!

Occoquan Vehicle License Fee Due

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.**

You will be receiving your renewal form in the mail during the first week of October. 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.

Prince William Recycles Day: Saturday, October 15

From 10 am to 2 pm on October 15, enjoy a free family friendly event with landfill tours, recycle art display, face painting, food, games, prizes and scarecrow making (clothing donation required). Prince William County Landfill, 14811 Dumfries Road, Manassas. For more information, call (703) 792-4670 or visit www.pwccgov.org/trashandrecycling.