

Town Council Actions: January 2025

- Reappointed Elizabeth Quist to the Board of Zoning Appeals.
- Adopted Resolutions for the National Incident Management System (NIMS) and Emergency Operations Plan.
- Had a presentation on the FY2023 Audit by Robinson, Farmer, Cox Associates.

The above items are extracts of recent actions and are not official meeting minutes. Minutes and agendas are posted at occoquanva.gov.

Business License Renewal Applications and Payments

Both Due By March 1, 2025

Town of Occoquan Business, Professional, and Occupational License (BPOL) renewals for 2025 and the payments are both due by March 1st. Renewal notices have been emailed and mailed in January to businesses holding a license with the Town. Please be sure to submit applications and payments on time. A penalty of 10% of the tax may be imposed upon failure to file an application or payment of the tax by the due date.

The business license fee is based on gross receipts for the calendar year 2024. Visit occoquanva.gov/doing-business-in-occoquan for more information.

OCCOQUAN NEWSLETTER

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TOWN OF OCCOQUAN

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Occoquan, VA 22125

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OCCOQUAN NEWSLETTER

VOLUME XXXII, ISSUE II

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February 2025

TOWN COUNCIL

Earnest W. Porta, Jr., Mayor
Jenn Loges, Vice Mayor
Nancy Freeborne Brinton
Theo Daubresse
Cindy Fithian
Eliot Perkins



TOWN HALL STAFF

Adam Linn, Town Manager & Chief of Police
Matt Whitmoyer, Deputy Town Manager
Philip Auville, Town Clerk
Asma Rupani, Town Treasurer
Manuel Casillas, Assistant Town Treasurer
Julie Little, Events Director
Tammy Hassett, Events Coordinator
Jason Forman, Deputy Chief of Police

Mayor's Letter

I would like to thank everyone for their patience and cooperation during the snow events last month. It is our understanding that a number of the VDOT plowing personnel as well as some of the town's snow removal contractor personnel were new to the Occoquan beat and that this contributed to some delays and misunderstandings regarding the timing and extent of snow removal. Additionally, some of you experienced excessive salting from VDOT that extended beyond the streets and sidewalks to some of your dwellings. We believe we have addressed all of these issues with the relevant agencies and contractors, so hopefully if there are additional snow events these issues will not arise. In the meantime, I do hope you noticed as well the extensive efforts by town staff to clear various areas, including parking spaces and sidewalks. These efforts involved not only public works personnel, but a number of administrative staff who took to the streets to assist over a period of several days. Personally and professionally I am grateful for their extensive efforts that went above and beyond what can reasonably be expected of many of them.

I also received numerous inquiries over the past month regarding the status of the Mill at Occoquan project, presumably since many of you are aware that work needs to begin before the return of the Osprey in the spring. Although the property owner has been issued a demolition permit for the steel structure, none has yet been sought for the buildings, and at the moment we thus have no firm information on when demolition/construction might start. You may find periodic updates on the project's status on the town web site.

Last, as many of you know, January is the only month of the year that we do not have a town event. This month we will begin our calendar year of events with a Firelight Night on Valentine's Day, February 14. More information is available elsewhere in this newsletter.

As always, thank you for your continued support and please feel free to contact me at eporta@occoquanva.gov with any questions, comments, or concerns.

Emergency Snow Removal Routes

Town staff and the OPD's Division of Emergency Management monitor inclement weather and its potential impact on the Town and coordinates with Prince William County's Emergency Management Office, VDOT, and the Town's snow removal contractor. When snow is expected, on-street parking will not be permitted on the following roads to allow for snow removal: Mill, Commerce, Ellicott, Union, and Washington Streets.

During inclement weather, if you normally park on-street, please consider parking under the Route 123 bridge. Timed parking restrictions will not be enforced under the bridge during snow emergencies. For more information, visit occoquanva.gov.

Please Clear Your Sidewalks

Help keep your community safe during the winter season and clear sidewalks of snow and ice. Residents and businesses are responsible for clearing snow and ice from sidewalks adjacent to their property. Please do not use salt on brick sidewalks. For more information, visit occoquanva.gov/snow-removal.

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 15 with Prince William County.

Application forms for these programs are available at the PWC Real Estate Assessments Office or by mail. You may request an application form by calling (703) 792-6780 or visiting www.pwcva.gov/department/tax-administration/elderly-and-disabled.

MEETINGS & EVENTS

February 4

Town Council Meeting

7:00 pm

February 17

Presidents' Day

Town Hall Closed

February 20

Meals and Transient Occupancy Taxes Due

February 18

Town Council Meeting

7:00 pm

February 25

Planning Commission

6:30 pm

Architectural Review Board

7:30 pm

March 1

BPOL Renewal Applications and Payment Due

Meetings held at Town Hall, 314 Mill Street, unless otherwise noted.

Vehicle Licensing Decal Information

Occoquan residents are required to pay the Town's Vehicle Licensing Fee annually and display the issued decal on their vehicles by November 15. The licensing fee applies to any vehicle principally stored, parked, or garaged within the Town's limits (§ 71.02). Vehicles not displaying a valid annual Town Vehicle Licensing Decal by November 15, are subject to ticketing.

Vehicle Licensing Decals are not parking passes to park within the Timed Parking District. If you live within the Timed Parking District and have limited off street parking, then you can apply to the Residential Parking Permit Program. For more information please visit: occoquanva.gov

Firelight Night: February 14

Bundle up, grab some friends, and hang under the stars in historic Occoquan! Join us at the Mill Street cul-de-sac in front of the Mill House Museum (413 Mill Street) between 6 - 9 pm. In addition to fire pits, we will have beer, wine and cocktails, hot drinks, s'mores kits, and snacks available for purchase.



Mark Your Calendar for Our Other 2025 Events!

We already have a bunch of events scheduled for you to enjoy in 2025, so don't forget to mark your calendars!

- **Occoquan Peep Show:** April 15 - 19. Stroll through historic Occoquan and vote for your favorite PEEPS® dioramas, made by and displayed at Occoquan businesses! Plus check out the community-made dioramas in Occoquan Town Hall.
- **Trivia Night:** Third Fridays, May - October. Test your knowledge during our outdoor trivia nights in River Mill Park. Play six rounds of questions for a chance to win a \$100 Visit Occoquan Gift Card to use at businesses around town.
- **RiverFest and Craft Show:** June 7 - 8. Get ready for a vibrant weekend at RiverFest, where the historic district transforms into a lively hub of creativity and family fun! Stroll through streets lined with nearly 300 vendors, including many talented artisans showcasing their unique arts and crafts.
- **Fall Arts and Crafts Show:** September 27 - 28. Explore the work of hundreds of talented artisans from across the region. Dive into live demonstrations and meet the creators behind the work. Plus, don't miss River Mill Park for great food, drinks, and live music.