



OCOCOQUAN TOWN COUNCIL
Meeting Minutes
Town Hall - 314 Mill Street, Occoquan, VA 22125
Tuesday, March 18, 2025
7:00 p.m.

Present: Mayor Earnie Porta; Vice Mayor Loges (remote), Councilmembers Nancy Freeborne Brinton, Cindy Fithian, Eliot Perkins, and Theo Daubresse

Absent: None

Staff: Adam Linn, Town Manager / Chief of Police; Matt Whitmoyer, Deputy Town Manager; Philip Auville, Town Clerk; Jason Forman, Deputy Chief of Police

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Porta called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

As a result of personal reasons, Vice Mayor Loges attended remotely from Kent Island, MD.

Mayor Porta introduced the new Maintenance Associate, James Auville to the Council.

Mayor Porta added Citizens' Time to the agenda.

One resident from Mill Cross Lane spoke on the impact of light pollution and its effects on migratory birds.

Mayor Porta noted that he had drafted the Native Plant Ordinance in 2009, which requires that all new plantings on Town properties are 100% native species and for new developments within the Town are 50%. He also noted that in 2008, he authored the Dark Sky Ordinance, which required all new developments to curb light pollution. With respect to Bird Sanctuary, the Town does not have authority under Virginia State Law to implement regulations relating to bird protections.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

a. Request to Accept March 4, 2025, Town Council Meeting Minutes

Councilmember Freeborne Brinton moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Councilmember Fithian seconded. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

3. REGULAR BUSINESS

a. Request to Adopt Ordinances O-2025-04 and O-2025-05 Amending Title III of the Town Code

Mayor Porta indicated that he preferred that the original part of Ordinance O-2025-05 relating to the Planning Commission providing an annual report to Council should be kept in and given to Council at their first meeting in February without having a joint meeting.

Councilmember Perkins moved to adopt the ordinances as presented with the caveat that there would be an annual report provided by the Planning Commission that would be provided to the Town Council no later than the first meeting in February. Councilmember Fithian seconded. Motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

Ayes: Vice Mayor Loges, Councilmember Perkins, Councilmember Freeborne Brinton, Councilmember Fithian, and Councilmember Daubresse

Nays: None

4. DISCUSSION ITEMS

a. Bird Sanctuary Discussion

Mayor Porta noted that the Town Attorney has reported that the Town doesn't have the authority under the State Code to do anything specific for protection of birds and asked staff to talk to the Town Attorney if there is anything we can do in relations to the Bird Sanctuary status.

b. FY2026 Budget Work Session #3 - Capital Improvement Program

Mr. Linn made a presentation and briefed the Town Council on the Capital Improvement Program (CIP). Mr. Linn responded to various questions from the Council.

Mr. Linn reviewed the Strategic Framework and suggested that Council add the following: Under Capital Tier 2, Improving Town Infrastructure; Under Operating Tier 1, Enhancing Public Safety, Enhancing Town Services, and Enhancing Town Beautification.

Councilmember Fithian moved to add under Capital Tier 2, Improving Town Infrastructure and under Operating Tier 1, Enhancing Public Safety, Enhancing Town Servies, and Enhancing Town Beautification. Councilmember Freeborne Brinton seconded. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

5. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.



Philip Auville, Town Clerk