

Town Council Actions: April 2025

- Held Budget Work Session for proposed FY2026 budgets, including the eSummons Fund, Mamie Davis Fund, Events Fund, General Fund, and Capital Improvement Program.
- Appointed a member and reappointed members to the Planning Commission.
- Reappointed a member to the Architectural Review Board.
- Accepted the resignation of Councilmember Nancy Freeborne Brinton.
- Appointed Robert "Bob" Love to complete the term vacated by Nancy Freeborne Brinton until a special election is held in November.

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

Visit Occoquan's NEW Occoquan Community Group



Join your neighbors in Visit Occoquan's NEW Occoquan Community Group on Facebook. The Occoquan Community Group is a place where people who live, work, and play in Occoquan can ask questions, come together, and celebrate our little historic town of Occoquan, Virginia!

To sign up visit the link or scan the QR Code: Facebook.com/groups/occoquancommunity

OCCOQUAN NEWSLETTER

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May 2025

TOWN COUNCIL

Earnest W. Porta, Jr., Mayor
Jenn Loges, Vice Mayor
Theo Daubresse
Cindy Fithian
Robert E. Love
Eliot Perkins



TOWN HALL STAFF

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

Mayor's Letter

There are two important dates to keep in mind this month if you're interested in the town budget and tax rates for fiscal year 2026, which begins July 1. First, the May 6 Town Council meeting will include a public hearing on the town's proposed budget, which was developed and presented over the last several months at town council meetings and work sessions. Then, at the Town Council meeting on May 20, there will be a public hearing on the proposed tax rates, followed later that evening by votes to adopt both the tax rates and the budget for FY 2026. These public hearings provide another opportunity for residents to express their views regarding the proposed budget and tax rates before the town council votes. No tax rate increases have been proposed. For more information on the proposed budget and tax rates, as well as on the public hearings, go to the town's official web site at www.occoquanva.gov.

As the weather warms, we move into a different event season in town. Our popular monthly Trivia Nights in River Mill Park begin on Friday, May 16, and on May 3rd, from 10:00 a.m. to noon in Town Hall we will be hosting an Occoquan Volunteer fair. The latter provides a chance for folks of all ages and abilities to discover volunteer opportunities in town and connect with representatives from the town, Visit Occoquan, and other nonprofit groups who are looking for folks to help out on a wide variety of activities. This is an open house-type event so show up any time between 10:00 and noon; no rsvp is required and refreshments will be served.

I also want to mention that one of our council members, Nancy Freeborne-Brinton, is beginning a new job and given the travel it involves has resigned from the Council. We appreciate Nancy's service to our community and wish her well in her new position. Former councilmember, Bob Love, has been appointed to fill her seat until a special election in November. In addition to welcoming Bob to the Council, I also want to welcome a new member of the Planning Commission, Rich Grant—we appreciate your willingness to serve as well.

Once again, thank you all for your support and please do not hesitate to contact me at eporta@occoquanva.gov with any questions, comments, or concerns.

Earnest W. Porta, Jr.

FY2026 Budget Calendar

Public Hearings: May 6 (Budget) and May 20 (Tax Rates)
Budget and Tax Rate Adoption: May 20

The FY 2026 Budget is effective from July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026. The budget guides the Town’s daily activities, as well as larger capital improvement projects over the next year. The public is encouraged to attend work sessions, as well as provide feedback and comments during the public hearings. All meetings are held at Town Hall, 314 Mill Street, beginning at 7 p.m. Budget work session presentations, and once finalized, the proposed budget, are available online at www.occoquanva.gov.

Trivia Nights in River Mill Park

Get your brain buzzing and join us for a night of fun, friendly competition in River Mill Park! Test your smarts with six rounds of trivia, and you might just walk away with the \$100 Grand Prize!

Tickets are \$30 per group and can be up to 8 people. Register ahead or purchase a spot at the door. You can purchase season subscription tickets for all dates and for more information by visiting: visitoccoquanva.com/trivia.

Coming up for 2025:

- Pop Culture Palooza:** May 16th
- The Great Brain Bake-Off:** June 20th
- Trivia Takedown:** July 25th
- Mindbender Bonanza:** August 15th
- Trivia Treasure Hunt:** September 12th
- Trivia Bingo:** October 10th



MEETINGS & EVENTS

May 3
Occoquan Volunteer Fair
10 am - 12 pm

May 6
Town Council Meeting
7:00 pm

May 16
Trivia Night
7 pm - 9 pm

May 20
Town Council Meeting
7:00 pm

May 20
Meals and Transient Occupancy Taxes Due

May 26
Memorial Day
Town Hall Closed

May 27
Planning Commission
6:30 pm
Architectural Review Board
7:30 pm

June 7 & 8
RiverFest & Craft Show

Occoquan RiverFest & 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! The event will be held on both **Saturday and Sunday from 10 am to 5pm, June 7 & 8**. Nearly 300 vendors, including talented artisans, line the streets, showcasing their unique arts and crafts.

The annual **Duck Splash** hosted by Patriots for Disabled Divers will take place on **Sunday, June 8 at 12 pm!** Exclusively during RiverFest weekend, Carefree Boat Club will be offering 45-minute **boat tours** on the Occoquan River. Head over to **Conservation Alley** for demonstrations, recycled crafts, music, and plenty of love for the natural world. Through the **Jr. Passport** program, kids can earn a Conservation Alley sticker badge while learning simple ways to protect our wildlife and water. River Mill Park, with its spectacular views of the river, will hold the **Beer Garden** and **Live Music**. Ample seating makes this a great place to take a break, grab a drink, and enjoy food from the food court.

RiverFest & Craft Show is free admission, though shuttle service is \$8, round trip. More information can be found at occoquanfestivals.com.



Volunteers Needed!

This two-day event draws thousands of people to town and is successful due to support of our volunteers! Lots of opportunities are available. To learn more visit: occoquanfestivals.com/volunteer.

STREET CLOSINGS

The following roads will be closed from 8 am to 6:30 pm on June 7 and 8: Mill, Commerce, Union, Washington Streets, as well as Ellicott Street from Mill Street to Center Lane. During this time, please coordinate movers or deliveries accordingly.

RIVERFEST PARKING - Event Area Residents and Businesses ONLY

Permits will be available to residents and businesses living or working in the historic district for parking under the Route 123 bridge from 10:00 pm, Friday, June 6, until 6:30 pm, Sunday, June 8. 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 3**, between 9:00 am and 4:00 pm. Town Hall will observe extended hours until 6:00 pm on Tuesday, June 3, 2025.