

## Town Council Actions: June 2025

- Named the 19th Century Army Corps of Engineers Dike in the Occoquan River to "Paddler's Point".
- Rescheduled the July 1st Town Council Meeting to July 8th.
- Readopted the Remote Participation Policy.
- Executed the FY 2026 Visit Occoquan Contract for a term starting July 1st, 2025, and ending June 30th, 2026.
- Adopted a Public Water Ordinance Relating to the Use of Public Waters and Town Properties along the Occoquan River.

*The above items are extracts of recent actions and are not official meeting minutes. Minutes and agendas are posted at [occoquanva.gov](http://occoquanva.gov).*

## FOX 5 Zip Trip

We're thrilled to announce that we will welcome back *Fox 5 DC* to broadcast live from the Historic Town of Occoquan on **Friday, July 11 from 7am - 11 am**, as part of their popular *Zip Trip* series! Join us as we showcase the charm, history, and local flavor that make Occoquan a standout destination. The morning will be filled with live interviews, community highlights, and plenty of small-town spirit!



## 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 VII

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July 2025

### TOWN COUNCIL

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



### 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  
Tammy Hassett, Events Director  
James Auville, Maintenance Associate

## Mayor's Letter

I'd like to begin by thanking everyone who helped make the RiverFest & Craft Show in June a success. Especially I wish to thank our new Events Director, Tammy Hassett, our Town Manager, Adam Linn, and all the staff and volunteers who participated. We had some 89 volunteers and according to Ms. Hassett, they and all the town staff worked cooperatively in a true team effort. We appreciate all of you, as well as the vendors, town businesses, patrons, and Visit Occoquan. A special thanks as well, to our retiring Events Director, Julie Little who worked right up until the days of the show to help make it a success.

There are a variety of town events this month, starting with a Fox 5 Zip Trip on Friday, July 11, from 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m., followed on the 12th by a free concert in River Mill Park by the 257th Army Band beginning at 7:00 p.m. Then we have our monthly Trivia Night in River Mill Park on July 25. You can find more information about all of these events, as well as information on upcoming Independence Day fireworks celebrations in the area elsewhere in this newsletter and on the town's official web site ([www.occoquanva.gov](http://www.occoquanva.gov)).

One of our recent fun traditions is the annual naming of the island adjacent to the Route 123 bridge, with the names selected from submissions during the RiverFest & Craft Show. Each year a new sign is placed on the island and after a year it is given to the individuals whose name was selected. Currently named Craighill Isle, at its last meeting the Town Council chose the name Paddler's Point from among the new submissions.

Please note in this newsletter the section on Volunteer Occoquan. This is a community volunteer program the town has implemented with a number of partners. In particular, I would like to note that the Mill House Museum is looking for volunteers to serve as docents at the museum during the day. Check out the opportunities and see if one works for you.

Last, I know the heat has been oppressive. Hopefully, we will get some relief, but in the meantime, please exercise caution and keep an eye out for others who might be in distress. Thank you for your support and please do not hesitate to contact me at [epota@occoquanva.gov](mailto:epota@occoquanva.gov) with any comments or questions.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Ernest W. Porta, Jr.'

## RiverFest & Craft Show

### Thank You!

A profound thank you to residents, businesses, visitors, and volunteers for all of their efforts in helping to make RiverFest a success! We are already planning and looking forward to the annual Fall Arts & Crafts Show on September 27 and 28 - we can't wait to see you all again!

## Independence Day Fireworks

- **Workhouse Arts Center:** Saturday, June 28th, 4pm to 9:30pm, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton, VA
- **Celebrate America, Historic Manassas:** July 4th, 3 pm - 10 pm; fireworks display 9:15 pm
- **Independence Day Parade, Fairfax City:** July 4th, 10 am Downtown Fairfax
- **Independence Day Evening Show, Fairfax City:** July 4th from 6:30pm to 10:30pm; fireworks display 9:30pm, Fairfax High School
- **Fourth of July Celebration, Manassas Park:** July 5th, 5pm to 10pm, Signal Hill Park

## 257th Army Band: Saturday, July 12

Join us for a FREE concert in River Mill Park between 7 - 9 pm. The 257th Army Band, "The Band of the Nation's Capital", is the official musical ambassador for the D.C. Army National Guard.

## Trivia Night: Friday, July 25

Join us in River Mill Park to test your smarts with six rounds of trivia, and you might just walk away with the \$100 Grand Prize! June's theme is Trivia Takedown. Tickets are \$30 per group of up to 8 people. Register ahead or purchase a spot at the door. For more information visit: [visitoccoquanva.com/trivia](http://visitoccoquanva.com/trivia).

## MEETINGS & EVENTS

### July 4

#### Independence Day

Town Hall Closed

### July 8

#### Occoquan Business Partners Meeting

6:00 pm

### July 8

#### Town Council Meeting

7:00 pm

### July 12

#### 257th Army Band

7 pm - 9 pm

### July 20

#### Meals and Transient Occupancy Taxes Due

### July 23

#### Planning Commission

6:30 pm

#### Architectural Review Board

7:30 pm

### July 25

#### Trivia Night

7 pm - 9 pm

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

## Fiscal Year 2026 Adopted Budget

At its May 20, 2025 meeting, the Occoquan Town Council adopted the Town's FY 2026 Budget and Tax Rates following two public hearings.

		FY 2025	FY 2026	Difference	+/(-)
General Fund	Rev	\$1,408,258	\$1,498,176	\$89,918	6.4%
	Exp	\$1,408,258	\$1,498,176	\$89,918	6.4%
Events Fund	Rev	\$313,285	\$322,402	\$9,117	2.9%
	Exp	\$238,726	\$245,880	\$7,154	3.0%
Mamie Davis Fund	Rev	\$256	\$840	\$584	228.1%
	Exp	\$0	\$3,200	\$3,200	0%
E-Summons Fund	Rev	\$15,200	\$14,500	(\$700)	-4.6%
	Exp	\$7,200	\$11,900	\$4,700	65.3%
Capital Improvement Fund	Rev	\$1,374,031	\$1,294,556	(\$79,475)	-5.8%
	Exp	\$1,374,031	\$1,294,556	(\$79,475)	-5.8%

The FY 2026 Budget maintains the Real Estate Tax Rate of \$0.116 per \$100 of assessed value with a due date of December 5th each year. The Meals Tax Rate was maintained at 3.5% and the Transient Tax Rate was maintained at 7%. The Adopted Budget is available online at [occoquanva.gov](http://occoquanva.gov).

## Volunteer Occoquan

The Town of Occoquan, Visit Occoquan, Inc., and the Occoquan Historical Society have partnered together to create a new community volunteering program, Volunteer Occoquan. Residents can sign up to help out with Town events and projects like gardening and beautification or to get involved with Visit and OHS programming. To sign up and find out more, visit [www.visitoccoquanva.com/getinvolved](http://www.visitoccoquanva.com/getinvolved).

## Stay Connected: AlertOccoquan and Resident Emails

For real-time communications about emergencies and Town activities, like severe weather, road closures, and parking restrictions, subscribe to AlertOccoquan at [occoquanva.gov/government/public-safety/alertoccoquan](http://occoquanva.gov/government/public-safety/alertoccoquan).

To receive non-emergency and non-real-time email communications and newsletters from the Town about a range of services, programs, and events, subscribe to the resident email list at [occoquanva.gov/government/town-newsletters](http://occoquanva.gov/government/town-newsletters).