

Town Council Actions: August 2026

- Adopted a Resolution of Appreciation for Officer Justin Hendrickson
- Discussed the Audit Presentation by Robinson, Farmer, Cox and Associates
- Discussed the Swords, Brooms and Magical Beasts Event presentation

19th Century Army Corps of Engineers Dike in the Occoquan River Named Paddler’s Point

During RiverFest 2026, an island naming competition was held, where the winning submission was chosen by the Town Council. The “island” name is inscribed on signs placed on the Kayak Ramp and “island” for a period of one year. The winner of the annual competition with the name of “Stepping Stones Isle” was submitted by town resident, Bob Love.



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OCCOQUAN NEWSLETTER

VOLUME XXXII, ISSUE IX 703-491-1918 September 2026

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
Jason Forman, Deputy Chief of Police
Megan Lubash, Asst. Town Manager/Town Clerk
Philip Auville, Deputy Town Treasurer
Kristin Shaw, Town Treasurer
Tammy Hassett, Events Director
Jordan Sanders, Administrative Assistant

Mayor’s Letter

I would like to start this month by recognizing Officer Justin Hendrickson, a member of the Occoquan Police force who was the subject of a letter from the Virginia State Police. While traveling on I-95 in Stafford County, Officer Henrickson voluntarily stopped at a catastrophic accident that ultimately claimed five lives and resulted in more than 30 injuries. The lead investigator for the State Police noted that, “despite the extreme danger posed by the incident, [Officer Hendrickson] assisted in rescuing victims from a burning vehicle and provided lifesaving first aid and reassurance to the injured until Fire and Rescue personnel assumed patient care. His calm demeanor, decisive actions, and willingness to place the welfare of others above his own safety undoubtedly made a meaningful difference in the survival of victims during an exceptionally chaotic and traumatic event.” We are very proud of Officer Hendrickson and thank him for exemplifying the highest standards of professionalism that reflect so well on our police department and the town.

The big news in September is almost always our Fall Arts & Crafts Show, which takes place this year on September 26th & 27th. As always, please encourage your friends and others to attend and patronize the vendors and town businesses. Revenues from the show are an important piece of our financial picture and help us keep our town tax rates among the lowest in the region and fund various capital and other projects. We are, of course, always in need of volunteers to make the show successful, so please consider volunteering for one shift some time during the show — there are plenty of easy gigs. Information on the show and volunteering can be found elsewhere in this newsletter and on the town web site. September will also feature our next-to-last trivia night of the season in River Mill Park on September 11. Last month had the largest number of teams yet, so check it out if you can. Then, September 18 is National POW/MIA Recognition Day, so be on alert for ceremony announcements from VFW Post 7916.

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

Festival Merch

Occoquan is excited to introduce the *latest* **festival merchandise** for our amazing vendors, local businesses, and residents! Whether you're part of the event or simply want to show your Occoquan pride, there's something for everyone.

Special pre-sale pricing through Friday, September 4 at 11:59 p.m.

Shop this year's Stickers, Tees and Totes here —>



Volunteer Occoquan Fair

September 12th — 10 am - 12pm

Learn about volunteer opportunities in historic Occoquan!



Enjoy a coffee and pastries while chatting with representatives from Town of Occoquan, Historical Occoquan Society, and Visit Occoquan. Learn about how you can support your community nonprofits through clean up initiatives, museum docents, event volunteering, and

Trivia Night: Friday, September 11

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 \$35 per group and can be up to 8 people. Register ahead by visiting: visitoccoquanva.com/trivia or purchase at the door.

MEETINGS & EVENTS

September 1
Town Council Meeting
7:00PM

September 7
Labor Day
Town Hall Closed

September 11
Trivia Night
7 pm - 9 pm

September 12
Volunteer Occoquan Fair
10 am - 12 pm

That Day in September
Theatre in River Mill Park
2pm

September 15
Town Council Meeting
7:00 pm

September 20
Meals and Transient Occupancy Taxes Due

September 22
Planning Commission
6:30 pm
Architectural Review Board
7:30 pm

September 26 & 27
Fall Arts & Crafts Show

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

Fall Arts & Craft Show: September 26 & 27

The **Fall Arts & Crafts Show** will return **September 26 & 27, 2026!** The event will run from 10 am to 5 pm both days and featuring over 300 vendors in over 20 categories. You'll have the opportunity to indulge in festival fare, enjoy live music and take part in Kids will want to stop by **Imagination Alley** to create their own art at the Art Bar! **NEW** this year is **Art Park**. Stop by and experience the talented makers showcasing their craft, maybe even make something of your own to take home! The Fall Arts & Crafts Show is free admission, though the shuttle service is \$10 round trip. More information can be found at occoquanfestivals.com/fall.



Volunteers Needed!

The **Fall Arts & Crafts Show** is **September 26 & 27** and we need every set of hands, please join in and invite a friend! There are lots of ways to help out: at the Shuttle Stops or Info Booth, with Vendor Assistance, in Imagination Alley, or with Set Up & Breakdown. Select a shift (or two!) here: occoquanfestivals.com/volunteer.



Street Closings

The following roads will be closed from 8 am on September 26 to 8 pm on September 27: Mill, Commerce, Union, and Washington Streets, as well as Ellicott Street from Mill Street to Center Lane. During this time, please coordinate movers or deliveries accordingly. There will be no street parking on the above streets after 10 pm on September 25 until 8 pm on September 27.

Fall Arts & Crafts Show 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, September 25, until 6:30 pm, Sunday, September 27. 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, September 22, between 9:00 am and 4:00 pm. Town Hall will observe extended hours until 6:30 pm on September 22.