

Town Council Actions: September 2026

- Adopted resolution setting the 2027 Calendar Year Regular Town Council Meetings
- Adopted Ordinance O-2026-04 Amending the Town Council Meeting Agenda Process
- Requested the Planning Commission to review and evaluate Town Code Section 157 for possible Zoning Text Amendments
- Discussed and approved moving Riverfest in 2027 to May 15-16 instead of June 5-6

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

THE OCCOQUAN BEAT

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR POLICE DEPARTMENT

October is National Pedestrian Safety Month!

As our town prepares to welcome the start of another busy tourism season, our streets, sidewalks, and crosswalks will be busier than ever. With more visitors, vehicles, cyclists, and pedestrians sharing the road, we all have a role to play in keeping one another safe.

Drivers: Slow down, stay alert, and always yield to pedestrians in crosswalks.

Pedestrians: Use designated crosswalks, stay alert, and make sure drivers see you before crossing. Please remember that getting where you're going safely is more important than getting there quickly. Let's work together to make our community a safe and welcoming place for everyone this tourism season. Stop. Look. Listen. Cross safely.



OCCOQUAN NEWSLETTER

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OCCOQUAN NEWSLETTER

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October 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

A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

First this month I would like to thank everyone who participated in making our fall Arts & Crafts Show a success. It's no simple matter to effectively manage all the moving pieces that come with a show of this size and to deal with the surprises that inevitably arise. I am extremely proud of our Events Director, Tammy Hassett, our Town Manager, Adam Linn, and all the Town staff who come together to make this annual event happen. We're all also grateful to the numerous volunteers without whom the show would not be possible; we know there are other things you could be doing on a weekend and we appreciate you choosing to spend it with and give back to the community. Last, thank you to everyone who patronized the vendors and Town businesses.

As I often say, in Occoquan after Labor Day it's a sprint to the new year, with October a typically busy month. Our last trivia night of the season in River Mill Park will take place on Friday, October 9. We've had really great turnouts for trivia nights this season and look forward to seeing you one last time this year as the weather turns cooler. On October 24th we will be hosting the family-friendly movie, *Coco*, in River Mill Park. Then on Halloween Day itself, October 31, we will be holding multiple events in town. Our annual Halloween parade will kick off at 10:00 and march down Mill Street to River Mill Park, where costume judging will take place – we have a variety of categories and this is always a great deal of fun, so plan to check it out and support the kids (and adults) who participate. We will also be holding a Fall/Halloween Decorating Contest, whose winners will be announced on the 31st. There is more information on all these items elsewhere in this newsletter and on the town and Visit Occoquan web sites. Also, keep alert for a number of new business openings/ribbon-cuttings we expect to take place during the month.

Finally this month, I would like to take a moment to thank Council Member Eliot Perkins, who while he remains the council's appointee on the Planning Commission, recently turned the chair's gavel over to Samantha Sparks. During his tenure, Mr. Perkins has reinvigorated the Planning Commission, leading it in developing strategic/comprehensive plans, researching issues for the council, and addressing critical land use challenges. We appreciate his tireless dedication.

As always everyone, thank you for your continued support and please do not hesitate to contact me at eporta@occoquanva.gov with any comments, questions, or concerns.



2027 Vehicle License Renewal

This is a reminder that [vehicle license fee renewals](#) are due by November 15th. More information will be sent out to you via Mail. You may also drop off completed forms and payment at Town Hall or submit completed forms and payment online at [OccoquanVA.gov/Make-A-Payment](#).

Once processed, your 2027 vehicle sticker will be sent or held for pick up at Town Hall!

2026 Real Estate Tax Bills

Due: December 5th

A friendly reminder that [real estate taxes](#) for the 2026 year are due by December 5th.

Real Estate tax bills will be mailed to each property owner unless a mortgage service company has requested the tax bill. If you do not utilize a mortgage service company, you must pay your tax directly to the town. For more info, please visit: [occoquanva.gov/Make-A-Payment](#)

Fall & Halloween Decorating Contest

Calling all pumpkin enthusiasts and residents with a skeleton in the storage closet – it’s YOUR season! Break out the mums, fluff up the scarecrows, and give your porch a little personality for our Fall & Halloween Contest on October 31st. Whether your style is cozy harvest charm or a spooky spectacle, let’s make Occoquan look positively fa-boo-lous. A little friendly neighborhood competition never hurt, but that suspiciously well-dressed skeleton next door means business!



MEETINGS & EVENTS

October 3
FOTO Cleanup
9am-12pm

October 9
Town Council Meeting
Cancelled

Trivia Night (Last of the Year)
River Mill Park
6:30 pm

October 12
Columbus Day/Indigenous Peoples’ Day
Town Hall Closed

October 20
Town Council Meeting
7:00 pm

Meals Tax Due

October 24
Movie in the Park: Coco
7:00 pm – Movie Starts

October 31
Costume Parade & Contest
10:00 am

Trick-or-Treat & Fall/Halloween Decorating Contest
11:00 am
*Meetings held at Town Hall,
314 Mill Street unless
otherwise noted.*

Trivia Night: The Season’s Final Answer!

All those random facts you’ve been saving? It’s their time to shine! On October 9th at 6:30 pm, join local celebrity MC, Mayor Earnie Porta, in River Mill Park for the last Trivia Night of the season, featuring six-rounds of friendly competition and a grand prize valued at \$100. Gather 8 of your friends and family members and snag a ticket for just \$35 per team. We guarantee you’ll spend an evening laughing, second guessing, and discovering which neighbor knows the most unexpected things. Come for fun, leave with bragging rights, or a good story about the answer you almost had!

Register ahead: [VisitOccoquanVA.com/trivia](#) or Purchase your team’s ticket at the door! Bar will be open for those 21+ who would like to purchase wine, beer or seltzers, so be sure to bring a valid ID.



Movie in the Park: COCO

Sponsored by the VFW Post 7916

Coco follows Miguel, a young aspiring musician in Mexico whose family has banned music for generations. After a mysterious series of events, he finds himself in the land of the dead, where he teams up with the charming trickster, Hector, to uncover his family’s long-buried truths. The film blends vibrant visuals, heartfelt storytelling, and rich cultural authenticity inspired by Día de Los Muertos.

Tickets are just \$5 per person with children 5 and under free for this October 24th event. Entry begins at 6:00pm and movie starts at 7:00pm

Be sure to dress for the night’s weather and bring a lawn chair or blanket to sit on as seating is not provided. Concessions and bar will be made available to purchase movie snacks and beverages. Outside Alcohol strictly prohibited. Bag searches may be conducted at random.

Costume Parade & Contest

Join the town of Occoquan’s family friendly costume parade & contest! The event will be held on Saturday, October 31st in River Mill Park, from 10:00 am – 12:00 pm. Town Mayor, Earnie Porta, AKA Iron Man, will lead the parade down Mill Street to River Mill Park where costume judging will take place. At 10:00, please step outside on to your porches and wave to the kids in participation!

