

Town Council Actions: July 3, 2018

The following items are extracts of recent Town Council actions and are not official meeting minutes. The most recent approved Town Council minutes and agendas are available online at www.occoquanva.gov. All votes are unanimous unless noted otherwise.

- Approved Mobilitie Site License Agreement
- Approved to Lease Replacement Public Safety Vehicle
- Approved Purchase Replacement Refuse and Recycling Containers
- Appointed Bruce Reese as Town Engineer, Floodplain Manager, Assistant Zoning Administrator and Assistant Subdivision Agent
- Appointed Ned Marshall as Zoning Administrator, Subdivision Agent and Assistant Town Engineer
- Appointed Martin Crim as Town Attorney
- Appointed Christopher Coon as Town Clerk
- Appointed Carla Rodriguez as Town Treasurer
- Appointed Adam Linn as Town Sergeant and Chief of Police
- Appointed Eliot Perkins to the Planning Commission
- Appointed Laurie Holloway and Lori Domenech to the Architectural Review Board
- Appointed Elizabeth Quist as Interim Town Manager

OCCOQUAN NEWSLETTER

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AUGUST 2018

TOWN COUNCIL

Earnie Porta, Mayor
Patrick A. Sivigny, Vice Mayor
J. Matthew Dawson
Cindy Fithian
Laurie Holloway
Eliot Perkins



TOWN HALL STAFF

Elizabeth Quist, Interim Town Manager
Adam Linn, Chief of Police
Chris Coon, Town Clerk
Carla Rodriguez, Town Treasurer
Julie Little, Events Director
Bucky Brill, Maintenance Supervisor
Pam Holbert, Administrative Asst.

Mayor's Letter

I would like to start this month's newsletter by recognizing several members of our community. First, the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) has awarded Occoquan's Post 7916 "All-American" status for the second year in a row. The post, now led by Jeff Lett, first won the award last year under the leadership of Charles P. "Chuck" Wilson, who later became Commander of District 10, Virginia's largest, with over 8,000 members. In this role Chuck Wilson himself last month also achieved "All-American" status as a District Commander. Second, please join me in welcoming a new business to town, *Mandrill Toys and Collectibles*, located in the River Walk Shops complex at 125 Mill Street. Last, I want to thank everyone in our community for contributing to Occoquan being named the "Best Tourist Destination" in Prince William County as determined by InsideNova's readership. This is the fourth year in a row that Occoquan has won this designation, and it is a testament to the hard work and welcoming attitude of the town staff, businesses, and residents.

Beyond these achievements, of course, the hard rains of the last month have once again turned the minds of many of us to issues surrounding potential flooding and the town's stormwater management system. Recently, Prince William County provided great assistance to Occoquan by presenting information on the status of some of the main stormwater arteries in the town gathered from site visits that made use of the county's substantial staff and technological resources. We are currently digesting the knowledge gained and hope to hold one or more public information sessions on the topic in the next few months. In the meantime, we are working diligently to make short-term improvements in key areas such as the entrance of Ballywhack Creek on Tanyard Hill Road.

Finally, I would like to remind everyone of the wonderful, family-friendly events we have coming up at River Mill Park, which are described in more detail elsewhere in this newsletter, and encourage those who are able to consider signing up early to volunteer for our fall Arts and Crafts Show. As many of you know, the latter is a significant source of funding for town capital projects and depends heavily on the generosity of volunteers to make it successful. In closing, my thanks to everyone for your support, and if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at epor-ta@occoquanva.gov.

Earnie W. Porta, Jr.

Sales Tax Holiday/Tax-Free Weekend August 3-5, 2018

The Virginia Department of Taxation legislation enacted by the 2015 General Assembly combined Virginia's three sales tax holidays into one three-day holiday beginning the first Friday in August at 12:01 a.m. and ending the following Sunday at 11:59 p.m.

During the sales tax holiday period, consumers can purchase qualifying school supplies, clothing, footwear, hurricane and emergency preparedness items, and Energy Star™ and WaterSense™ products without paying sales tax. This includes qualifying items purchased online, by mail or over the phone. For more information, please visit www.tax.virginia.gov/virginia-sales-tax-holiday.

Occoquan is Best of Prince William 2018

For the 4th year in a row, the Town of Occoquan won the Best Tourist Destination in Prince William County, as determined by InsideNOVA's readership, which resulted in more than 70,000 votes from 11,000 participants in the 2018 competition. Participants selected their favorites among nearly 200 people, places and businesses from across the county.

VFW Post Named 'All-American' for 2nd Year in a Row

The Occoquan VFW Post 7916 is pleased to announce, for the second year in a row, its recognition as an All-American Post under leadership of Commander Jeff Lett.

To achieve this honor, Post Commanders must meet strict requirements in their role to include exceptional leadership, authentic accomplishment in membership growth and strong support of VFW core programs.

Post 7916 is part of District 10, led by Commander Charles P. "Chuck" Wilson, which has been named #1 District in the World. Congratulations to both Commanders and over 8,000 Veterans and Auxiliary members on this outstanding achievement. Thank you for your continued service and contributions to the community.

August 2018

Town Meetings and Events

(All meetings are held at Town Hall, 314 Mill Street, unless otherwise noted.)

**August 3: Music on Mill
FeelFree (Reggae/Rock)**
6:00 pm – 8:00 pm, River Mill Park

August 7: Town Council Meeting
7:00 p.m., Town Hall

August 10: Band of the Nation's Capital
Special Presentation of the 257th Army Band
7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m., River Mill Park

August 14: Architectural Review Board
7:00 p.m., Town Hall

**August 18: Music on Mill
Rocknoceros (Kids' Rock)**
6:00 pm – 8:00 pm, River Mill Park

August 20: July 2018 Meals Tax and Transient Occupancy Tax Due

**August 26: Music on Mill
Sub-Radio (Indie/Pop/Rock)**
2 p.m. – 4 p.m., River Mill Park

**August 28: Planning Commission, 6:30 p.m.
ARB Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Town Hall**

Occoquan Fall Craft Show Volunteers Needed

Interested in giving back to the community? Consider volunteering your time and talents to the Town's Arts and Crafts Show. This two-day event draws thousands of people to town and is successful due to the support of our businesses and volunteers! Many different positions and shifts are available. If you're interested in volunteering for the Arts and Crafts Show, call (703) 491-2168, email jlittle@occoquanva.gov, or stop by Town Hall to sign up.

Disposing of Yard Waste

It's that time of year for outdoor cleaning projects. While doing this work, keep in mind that there are regulations regarding the disposal of yard waste. Brush and tree limbs must be cut into 4-foot lengths, bundled with rope or twine, and should not exceed 50 pounds. Grass clippings, leaves and twigs can be placed in paper bags or personal containers. However, tree limbs that are larger than 6 inches in diameter and 4 feet in length will not be collected. Please place refuse to the curb **no earlier than 4 pm** on Tuesdays, but **before 7 am on Wednesdays**, and remove your containers as quickly as possible after collection.