

Snow Removal – Emergency Snow Routes

During their regular meeting in October, the Town Council established snow emergency routes within the Town of Occoquan (Chapter 62, Article VII, Sections 192-196). The snow emergency routes prohibit on-street parking during (or threat of) inclement weather. The purpose of this is to aid the town and VDOT in clearing snow and ice from travel lanes, as well as from on-street parking areas. The streets impacted include Commerce Street, Ellicott Street, Mill Street, Union Street and Washington Street. During inclement weather (or threat of), park vehicles on your private property or in the public parking lot under the Route 123 bridge at the end of Mill Street. Vehicles left on-street during a snow or ice event, will be removed at the owner's cost. For more information, visit www.occoquanva.gov.

Trash and Recycling Collection Reminders

Please place refuse to the curb **no earlier than 4 p.m.** on Tuesdays, but **before 7 a.m. on Wednesdays**, and remove your containers as quickly as possible after collection and store at the rear of your property. Ensure there is a pedestrian path available at all times by not blocking public sidewalks and rights of way with refuse containers. **Do not place household refuse in or next to Town-owned trash receptacles.** Need a new container? Contact Town Hall at (703) 491-1918.

OCCOQUAN NEWSLETTER

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TOWN OF OCCOQUAN

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(703) 491-1918

DECEMBER 2015

TOWN COUNCIL

Elizabeth A.C. Quist, Mayor
Patrick A. Sivigny, Vice Mayor
Tyler C. Brown
J. Matthew Dawson
Jim Drakes
Joseph McGuire



TOWN HALL STAFF

Kirstyn Jovanovich, Town Manager
Sheldon E. Levi, Chief of Police
Abigail Breeding, CPA, Treasurer
Greg Holcomb, Town Clerk
Bucky Brill, Maintenance Supervisor
Krista Forcier, Craft Show Director

Mayor's Letter

December is always an exciting month in Occoquan – the shops are bustling, Santa arrives by river boat, the community comes together to show support for those less fortunate, and we enjoy a candle-light Town blessing at Mamie Davis Park. Remember to check the Town website for upcoming seasonal events, and to sign up for the new electronic newsletter at www.occoquanva.gov.

This month I'd like to welcome three new businesses to the Town of Occoquan. Bar-J Chili Parlor (opening soon), Fathom Realty (opened in June), and Past Generation Toys (opening soon) are all new additions to the Occoquan community and I encourage you to visit them and make them feel welcome.

And, as we head into a season of extended travel, shopping, and the end of daylight savings time, I would like to take a moment to highlight an important public safety item. Town Staff and I often encounter confusion in the community about the relationship between the Occoquan police department and Prince William County. The most important thing to remember, as always, is that if you are experiencing an emergency, **dial 911**. Please do not call Town Hall or call the Occoquan Chief of Police directly; contact the emergency dispatcher of Prince William County by dialing **911**. The dispatcher will always deploy the closest available officer, which may or may not be Chief Levi.

For non-emergency situations, a list of which can be found at www.pwcgov.org/policereport, you have the option of dialing Prince William County's non-emergency number (703) 792-6500 or filing the report online. The best course of action is always to contact Prince William County for any police assistance, whether or not it is considered an emergency. This assures you of getting the fastest response from the nearest available officer. Chief Levi welcomes you to contact him once Prince William County has been notified, so that he may be made aware of the issue in a timely manner and follow-up with you if necessary.

Wishing you and yours a happy and safe holiday season!

Elizabeth A.C. Quist

Town Council Actions: November 4, 2015

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 proposal to remove hazardous trees from Occoquan Heights Development's resource protection area. (4-0, Vice Mayor Sivigny abstained)
- Approved bond release request and a one-year maintenance agreement with Elm Street Development (Occoquan Heights).
- Awarded a contract to Virginia Lawn Service for snow and ice removal services for FY 2016.
- Approved a not-to-exceed amount of \$1,800 for the Town's Holiday party at Madigan's.
- Approved a not-to-exceed amount of \$2,000 for installation and removal of lighted holiday decorations on Dominion poles.
- Approved Occoquan Business Guild's request for the purchase of an advertisement in Discover Prince William's 2016-2017 Visitors Guide in the amount of \$2,880.
- Approved the Town Council's 2016 meeting schedule.

Comprehensive Plan Update – Next Steps

The Town is in the process of updating its Comprehensive Plan. In November, several public meetings were held to discuss survey results and future of Occoquan. There will be additional opportunities for public input on the process during the first week of December:

Tuesday, December 1, 2015, 8 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.
Wednesday, December 2, 2015, 7 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

All meetings are held at Town Hall and are open to the public. For more information on the process, please visit www.occoquanva.gov.

Santa Comes to Occoquan

The Business Guild of Occoquan will welcome Santa Clause to Town on Saturday, December 5. Santa will arrive by boat at Mamie Davis Park at 12:00 p.m. Once he arrives he will be escorted by the OWL Volunteer Fire Department to Town Hall to visit with children. Bring your camera! For more information, contact the Business Guild of Occoquan at (703) 201-8499.

Town Blessing and Holiday Party

The Town invites the public to attend the annual Town Blessing and Holiday Party on Sunday, December 6. The evening will begin with a sermon at Historic Ebenezer Baptist Church, located on the corner of Commerce and Washington Streets, at 5:30 p.m. It will be immediately followed by a Town Blessing at Mamie Davis Park on Mill Street and a Town Holiday Party at Madigan's Waterfront Restaurant. Free and open to the public. RSVP to Town Hall at 703-491-1918 Ext 2.

December 2015

Town Meetings and Events

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

December 1: Town Council Meeting
7:00 p.m., Regular Meeting

December 1: Comprehensive Plan Update, Public Meeting, 8:00 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

December 2: Comprehensive Plan Update, Public Meeting, 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

December 5: Santa arrives, Mamie Davis Park, followed by Santa at Town Hall.
12:00 p.m.

December 6: Town Blessing and Holiday Party
5:30 p.m., Ebenezer Baptist Church

December 8: Planning Commission Meeting, 6:45 p.m.

December 8: Architectural Review Board Meeting, 7:30 p.m.

December 12: WinterFest, Occoquan's Old and Historic District, 4:00-7:00 p.m.

Fireworks, 7:00– 8:00 p.m., view from Town.

December 24 and 25: Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, Town Hall Closed

January 1: New Years Day, Town Hall Closed

WinterFest – December 12, 2015

Occoquan River Communities (ORC) presents WinterFest 2015 on Saturday, December 12, 2015! A full day of events are planned throughout the region beginning with the return of Santa's Lake Ridge Parade at 11 a.m., a holiday arts market at Tackett's Mill, Second Saturday Art Walk at the Workhouse Art Center, evening of shopping and dining in Historic Occoquan, and ending with a fireworks show at approximately 7 p.m. sponsored by Prince William Marina and viewable from the Town.

From 4 to 7 p.m., Historic Occoquan will be hosting fire pits and marshmallow roasting, strolling carolers and musicians, an OWL fire truck with Santa, and historic demonstrations. Come out for an evening of shopping and dining where stores will be open late, and you'll enjoy a family-friendly holiday atmosphere. For more information, visit www.occoquanva.gov.