

ROYAL CHARTER

JANUARY, FEBRUARY, MARCH 2020

CHANGES IN LEADERSHIP

The Town held a SPECIAL ELECTION on November 5th. Councilman Eugene R. Tewalt was elected Mayor. His term will expire December 31, 2020. The election leaves a vacancy on Town Council. Council anticipates filling this vacancy in the near future.

Former Town Manager Joseph E. Waltz resigned November 8th. To fill the Town Manager position, Council appointed Matthew A. Tederick as Interim Town Manager. Mr. Tederick had been the Interim Mayor since May 2019. He resigned as Interim Mayor November 7th. Council is pursuing the assistance of an Executive Search Firm to appoint a permanent Town Manager.

AWARENESS PEDESTRIANS AND MOTORISTS



We encourage pedestrians and motorists to be aware of each other at all times. New **Pedestrian Signals** have been installed on South Street at Hill Street and Acton Street. The sign flashes when the button is pushed to alert drivers a pedestrian is crossing. Virginia State Law (§46.2) states the following.:

- When crossing highways, pedestrians shall not carelessly or maliciously interfere with the orderly passage of vehicles.
- No pedestrian shall enter or cross an intersection in disregard of approaching traffic
- At pedestrian control signals: **WALK**—Pedestrians facing the signal may proceed across the highway in the direction of the signal and shall be given the right-of-way by the drivers of all vehicles. **DON'T WALK**—No pedestrian shall start to cross highway in the direction of the signal, but any pedestrian who has partially completed crossing on the WALK signal shall proceed to a sidewalk or safety island and remain there while the DON'T WALK is showing.
- No pedestrian shall step into a street open to traffic at any point between intersections where his/her presence would be obscured from the vision of drivers, by other vehicles or obstructions at the curb or side.
- At intersections or crosswalks where traffic is being regulated by law enforcement officers or traffic control devices, the driver shall yield according to the direction of the law enforcement officer or device
- The drivers of vehicles entering, crossing or turning at intersections shall change their course, slow down or stop if necessary to permit pedestrians to cross such intersection safely and expeditiously.
- Pedestrians crossing streets at intersections always have the right-of-way over vehicles making turns onto that street.

Please contact the Police Department with any questions/concerns (540)635-2111.

TOWN SCHOLARSHIPS

Council will be awarding two \$500.00 each scholarships to two graduating high school seniors who live within the Town Limits and is pursuing continued undergraduate or trade education at an accredited university, community college or trade school. Application information may be found on the Town's website after January 1 or by contacting the Town Manager's Office at (540)635-8007 or tpresley@frontroyalva.com. Awards will be made by Council in a Council Meeting in April 2020.

HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

CHRISTMASEVE TRASH FRI DEC 27	DEC 24
----- CHRISTMAS DAY TRASH THU DEC 26	DEC 25
NEW YEARS DAY TRASH THU JAN 2	JAN 1
M LUTHER KING TRASH WED JAN 22 — DRIVE-THRU CLOSED JAN 18	JAN 20
PRESIDENTS DAY TRASH WED FEB 19 — DRIVE-THRU CLOSED FEB 15	FEB 17

ESTIMATION OF UTILITY BILLS

If the weather makes it difficult for the Town's Meter Readers to read water and electric meters, utility bills will be estimated. Water estimates are usually based on the prior month's consumption and electric is based on the same month the prior year. It is a case-by-case basis if a customer has not been at the property long enough for either estimate.



Items that do not fit in your trash can must be called into the Public Works Department to schedule a bulk collection at (540) 635-7819, Monday–Friday, 7:00am–3:30pm,

SNOW REMOVAL

During snow events, the Town's priority is to provide emergency vehicle access; therefore, arterial roads (Royal Ave, Commerce Ave, South St and Shenandoah Ave) will be cleared first. To clear the roads effectively and efficiently we ask citizens to please assist the Town by:

- Parking off the street if possible
- Refraining from driving
- Removing snow/ice from sidewalks adjacent to your property. Town Code (142-4.1) allows commercial properties 24 hours after ice has formed or snow has ceased to fall.
- Waiting until after plows have finished clearing your street to complete your driveway and mailbox shoveling. Trucks are not

able to pick up plows for every driveway or mailbox and it is possible your driveway or mailbox could, unintentionally, get blocked back in with snow.

- Refraining from pushing snow in the street as this causes slick areas in the road when the snow begins to melt and re-freeze.

Snow events can be frustrating for you and your family and the Town takes every effort to clear the streets as quickly and efficiently as possible. As with any situation, if you have an emergency please call 9-1-1.

Boards/Commissions

Council is always looking for those who are interested in serving the community by serving on a council-appointed board or commission. Requirements and applications are available on Town's website or by contacting the Clerk of Council jberry@frontroyalva.com.

- Planning Commission
- Board of Architectural Review
- Board of Zoning Appeals
- Urban Forestry Advisory Commission



www.frontroyalva.com

PROJECTS

- New **water lines** are currently being installed on Steele St, Highview St., Scott St. Work continues through January 31.
- The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) for the **Downtown Revitalization** includes improvements to facades, streetscape, parking, alleys, and signage as well as building a pavilion and public restrooms. Improvements could begin as early as Spring 2020. More Information at Planning/Zoning Office (540)635-4236.

The opportunity to give the **GIFT OF UTILITIES** is available all year long. You can provide assistance to someone by crediting their utility bill with your monetary gift. You may remain anonymous. Contact the Finance Department for more information (540) 635-7799. The Visitor Center also has an array of gifts for that hard-to-buy person. They are open every day from 9:00am–5:00pm excluding Thanksgiving, Christmas Day and New Years Day.



The Town has been awarded a **Water Fluoridation Quality Award** from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Community Water Fluoridation is the adjustment of fluoride in drinking water to a level that is effective for preventing tooth decay. The Town's water system had the recommended level for oral health for 12 consecutive months in 2018.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

- **Jan 8, 15, 29—Christmas Tree Collection**
- **Jan 29—Yard Waste Collection Ends for season**
- **Mar 1—Business License Renewals**
- **Mar 25—Yard Waste Collection begins**



Pride in Performance = Excellence

If you would like to recognize an employee for exceptional customer service please contact the Town Manager at Tederick@frontroyalva.com or visit the Town's website at www.frontroyalva.com for an application.