

PORTSMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
AUGUST 24, 2026
AGENDA

The Portsmouth Town Council meeting will also be live-streamed on the web and by phone dial-in using the Zoom remote meeting service. The Executive Session **will not** be streamed to the public. See below for directions.

6:00 PM – Town Council Chambers, Portsmouth Town Hall, 2200 East Main Road

SITTING AS THE PORTSMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

1. Roll Call

EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. RIGL 42-46-5(a)(5) – Any discussions or considerations related to the acquisition or lease of real property for public purposes wherein advanced public information would be detrimental to the public interest. – Glen Farm Stables concessionaire agreement
2. RIGL 42-46-5(a) (2) – Sessions pertaining to collective bargaining or litigation, or work sessions pertaining to collective bargaining or litigation. – Status reports from Town Solicitors on pending and threatened litigation involving the Town of Portsmouth.
3. RIGL 42-46-5(a) (1) – Personnel: Town Administrator – Any discussions of the job performance, character, or physical or mental health of a person or persons provided that such person or persons affected shall have been notified in advance in writing and advised that they may require that the discussion be held at an open meeting.

ADJOURN

7:00 PM – Town Council Chambers, Portsmouth Town Hall, 2200 East Main Road

EMERGENCY EVACUATION PLAN

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

SITTING AS THE PORTSMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

1. Roll Call

PRESIDENT’S EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

PUBLIC COMMENT

Residents may address the Town Council on matters relevant to the authority and jurisdiction of the Town Council; neither discussed during the meeting nor related to personnel or job performance, during the public comment period; speakers will be called in the order they appear on the public comment sign-in sheet, which will be available up until the meeting start time, and then will be provided to the presiding officer; a speaker may approach the Town Council only once per public comment session; speakers shall state their name and address for the record; each speaker will be limited to three (3) minutes in the public comment period and the period will not exceed fifteen (15) minutes total; we ask that all speakers direct their comments to the presiding officer and that they be respectful and courteous when speaking; the presiding officer shall enforce the rules and maintain order.

PRESENTATIONS/RECOGNITIONS

1. [Proclamation](#) declaring September 2026 as National Service Dog Month

CONSENT AGENDA

Directions to view licensing applications: 1) Click [OpenGov](#), 2) Click Search, 3) Click Records, and then type in the record number listed on the agenda, 4) Click on the highlighted record to view the application.

1. Bills

Payment Voucher [#1559](#) on 6/30/26 in the amount of \$120,324.20 as approved by the Finance Director

Payment Voucher [#1560](#) on 6/30/26 in the amount of \$12,125.17 as approved by the Finance Director

Payment Voucher [#1058](#) on 8/6/26 in the amount of \$85,199.42 as approved by the Finance Director

Payment Voucher [#1061](#) on 8/13/26 in the amount of \$134,190.45 as approved by the Finance Director

2. Committee Minutes:

Board of Canvassers [7/31/2026](#)

Conservation Commission [5/21/2026](#)

Pension and Investment Advisory Committee [3/2/2026](#), [4/27/2026](#), [8/6/2026 \(Draft\)](#)

MINUTES

[8/11/26](#) & Exec.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

1. Curbside and transfer station updates
2. Summer Camp ends Wednesday, August 26th
3. School start August 27 (K thru 9), and August 28 (all students)
4. Statewide Primary Election, Wednesday, September 9th
5. 12th Annual Police Department Awards and Promotional Ceremony
6. Town Hall closed Monday, September 7th in observance of Labor Day

RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

1. Appointments:

Juvenile Hearing Board (2 vacancies) – [D. Schuller](#)

OLD BUSINESS (Discussion/Action)

1. [School](#) bond scenarios. / S. Maceroni, PFM Financial Advisors LLC (10)
2. Monthly Finance Reports: [June 2026](#), [July 2026](#)

NEW BUSINESS (Discussion/Action)

1. [Request](#) permission to create a temporary public display at Town Hall from August 28 to September 3 in recognition of International Overdose Awareness Day on August 31. The display will consist of 219 individual flags, each representing a Rhode Islander lost to an opioid overdose in 2025. / Newport County Prevention Coalition (5)
2. [Request](#) funding from the Opioid Settlement Funds to implement two community education programs relating to kratom awareness and opioid safety for older adults. / Portsmouth Prevention Coalition (5)
3. [Request](#) to establish a Road Paving Reserve Fund. / R. Rainer (5)
4. Vote to direct the Planning Dept, together with our Legal Staff, to "Study and Recommend an Ordinance that would ban Large Battery Storage Systems, commonly referred to as BESS, as well as Data Centers from the Town of Portsmouth". / D. Gleason (10) (No backup)

CORRESPONDENCE

1. [Letter](#) from a middle school student concerned about the traffic and road condition of Jepson Lane. / H. Buckell
2. [Letter](#) of appreciation recognizing the many contributions that helped shape and advance the Town's Wastewater Ordinance to its current state. / T. Drake, Wastewater Manager
3. [Invitation](#) to "Light the way with Day One" celebration of hope, healing, and action on Friday October 2, 2026 at the Providence Marriott Downtown. / Day One
4. [Invitation](#) to "Soaring" a benefit to lift up Newport Mental Health on Thursday, September 24, 2026 at Newport Beach House. / Newport Mental Health

FUTURE MEETINGS

Sept 14 7:00 PM – Town Council Meeting
Sept 28 7:00 PM – Town Council Meeting
Oct 13 7:00 PM – Town Council Meeting (Tuesday)

EXECUTIVE SESSION - (If needed)

ADJOURN

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

OPEN SESSION

ADJOURN

Virtual access is being provided only as a convenience and is not an official "location" where access to the meeting is guaranteed; please note that being physically present at the meeting is the only way to guarantee complete access to the meeting.

To access the meeting through the web, go to the following web link in any browser to run the Zoom app and view the meeting: <https://livestream.portsmouthri.com/towncouncil>

To access the meeting by phone dial-in, please dial **1-888-788-0099**. Once prompted for the meeting ID, please dial **996-8471-9966#**. Once prompted for a participant ID, **dial # again**. You will now be in the meeting. While in the audio conference, **to raise your hand to ask a question, dial *9** and the host will be notified of your interest in asking a question. **Dial *6 to mute and unmute yourself.**

The public is welcome to any meeting of the Town's boards or its committees. If communication assistance (readers/interpreters/captions) is needed or any other accommodation to ensure equal participation, please contact the Town Clerk's Office at 683-2101 at least (3) business days prior to the meeting.

POSTED 8/20/26