

**PORTSMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 14, 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. Presentation of the Portsmouth Award – [Kevin Blount](#), [Edward Ferreira](#)

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 #1076](#) on 8/20/26 in the amount of \$85,954.51 as approved by the Finance Director

Payment [Voucher #1083](#) on 8/27/26 in the amount of \$73,373.62 as approved by the Finance Director

Payment [Voucher #1084](#) on 8/31/26 in the amount of \$388,440.00 as approved by the Finance Director

Payment [Voucher #1101](#) on 9/03/26 in the amount of \$328,024.78 as approved by the Finance Director

2. Committee Minutes:

Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee [8/27/26](#)

Melville Park Committee [8/5/26](#)

Parks & Recreation Committee [7/2/2026](#)

Pension and Investment Advisory Committee [8/26/26](#)

Prudence Island Planning Commission [7/16/2026](#)

Solid Waste/Recycle Committee [8/13/26](#)

MINUTES

[8/24/26](#) & Exec.

TAX VOUCHERS

Request approval for [Tax Vouchers](#) #20260914-01 to #20260914-05. / M. Helfand

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

1. Transfer Station and Curbside sales update
2. 4th Annual Bike and Stroll Event
3. RI League of Cities and Towns Annual Meeting
4. Police Department Award Ceremony

RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

1. Appointments:

a. Design Review Board (2 vacancies) – [D. Toohey](#)

b. Prudence Island Planning Commission (ReAppt.) – [J. Spadaro](#)

OLD BUSINESS (Discussion/Action)

1. [Letter](#) from a middle school student concerned about the traffic and road condition of Jepson Lane. / J. Payero (5)
2. Update about the Bike & Stroll in Island Park on 9/19/26. / J. Vitkevich (5) (No backup)
3. Update on the progress of the by-laws discussion for the Parks & Recreation Committee. / D. Fiorillo, Chair (10) [Original](#), [Revised](#)
4. Discussion of what steps we should take to move forward on our investments while we wait for the Pension Advisory Committee to meet. / M. McDowell (10) (No backup)
5. [Update](#) and vote on changes to the LMI resolution of January 27, 2026. / D. Gleason (10)

NEW BUSINESS (Discussion/Action)

1. [Summary](#) & recommendations of the 2025 Experience Study for the employees' pension plan. /

- J. Sterbank & J. Turk, Nyhart (10)
2. Preliminary discussion regarding the anticipated budget surplus. / M. McDowell (10) (No backup)
 3. [Request](#) approval of the Safe Streets For All Subrecipient Agreement. / L. Hitchen (5)

CORRESPONDENCE

1. [Thank you](#) letter for the generous support made to Newport Mental Health. / D. Gladstein, President and CEO
2. [Resolution](#) requesting the RI General Assembly relieve cities and towns of the unfunded mandate to prepare emergency action plans for privately owned dams, and to end the penalizing of municipalities for owner noncompliance. / Gloucester Town Council
3. [Plea](#) to save Rhode Island from the LMI Housing Act that does not protect the rural character of rural RI towns. / F. DiGregorio
4. [Resolution](#) requesting the RI General Assembly and the Executive Office of Housing recognize the unique challenges facing the town of Little Compton in the development of affordable housing and to provide support to address these obstacles. / Little Compton Town Council
5. [Thank you](#) for the generous support of Meals on Wheels. / M. Grady, Executive Director
6. [Quarterly](#) Financial Report for the period ending July 31, 2026. / Portsmouth Water and Fire District
7. [Letter](#) of appreciation for Ellen Toner and the community she has created. / The Women (and men) of Portsmouth Recreation Mahjong
8. [Monthly](#) RIRRC Report. / Rhode Island Resource Recovery Corp.
9. [Repeat](#) Public Notice – Drinking Water Warning, boil water advisory. / Prudence Island Water District
10. [Update](#) on the completed construction of the revised site layout for the Old Mill Lane LNG Facility. / The Narragansett Electric Company d/b/a Rhode Island Energy

FUTURE MEETINGS

Sept 28 7:00 PM – Town Council Meeting
Oct 13 7:00 PM – Town Council Meeting (Tuesday)
Oct 26 7:00 PM – Town Council Meeting

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 9/9/26