

**PORTSMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
OCTOBER 13, 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.

6:30 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)(2) Sessions pertaining to collective bargaining or litigation, or work sessions pertaining to collective bargaining or litigation – DPW

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.

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 #1128](#) on 9/24/26 in the amount of \$1,432,370.23 as approved by the
Finance Director

Payment [Voucher #1129](#) on 9/25/26 in the amount of \$5,852.32 as approved by the
Finance Director

Payment [Voucher #1145](#) on 10/1/26 in the amount of \$62,686.29 as approved by the
Finance Director

2. Committee Minutes:

Board of Canvassers [9/9/26](#)

MINUTES

9/28/26

TAX VOUCHERS

Request approval for [Tax Vouchers](#) #20261013-01 to #20261013-03. / M. Helfand

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

1. Curbside and transfer station updates
2. Early voting begins October 14th
3. Community engagement meetings concerning proposed School bond projects
4. Battle of RI Association grant and fall cleanup
5. Police Department traffic safety grant
6. Police Community Room usage policy
7. Ade Bethune House grand opening October 21st

RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

1. Appointments:
Juvenile Hearing Board (1 vacancy) – [N. Hunt](#)

OLD BUSINESS (Discussion/Action)

1. [Review](#) of Chapter 314 Short-Term Rental of Residential Dwellings Ordinance. / L. Hitchen (10)
[Current ordinance](#), [Side-by-side comparison](#)

NEW BUSINESS (Discussion/Action)

1. PUBLIC HEARING: Discuss question 7 on November 3, 2026, [Portsmouth ballot](#) authorizing changes to the Portsmouth Town Charter, Articles II & VII, to remove party designations from the ballot to make the offices of the Town Council and School Committee non-partisan.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. [Invitation](#) to Military Appreciation Night & Annual Dinner on October 22, 2026, 5:00 pm. / Navy League of the United States, Newport County Council
2. Monthly [RIRRC Report](#). / Rhode Island Resource Recovery Corp.

FUTURE MEETINGS

Oct 26 7:00 PM – Town Council Meeting
Nov 9 7:00 PM – Town Council Meeting
Nov 23 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 10/7/26