

MARK DION (MAYOR)
PIOUS ALI (A/L)
APRIL FOURNIER (A/L)
BENJAMIN GRANT (A/L)



SARAH MICHNIEWICZ (1)
WESLEY PELLETIER (2)
REGINA L. PHILLIPS (3)
ANNA BULLETT (4)
KATE SYKES (5)

SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING - DECEMBER 1, 2025 AT 6:30 PM

The Portland City Council will hold a City Council Meeting in Council Chambers. The Honorable Mark Dion, Mayor, will preside.

To submit written public comment on an agenda item, email publiccomment@portlandmaine.gov. Submissions must be received by 12:00 pm the day before the Council meeting to guarantee their inclusion in the agenda packet. All submissions must include the commenter's name and legal address. To help ensure your comment is submitted for the correct item, please include the order number (see below).

The City Council will conduct this meeting from Council Chambers, located on the second floor of City Hall.

<https://portlandme.portal.civicclerk.com/event/7616/media>

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

ROLL CALL:

6:30 P.M. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS:

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

RECOGNITIONS:

PRESENTATIONS:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

City Council Meeting-November 17, 2025

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Order 88-25/26 Approving the Police Department's Acquisition of an Unmanned Aerial Vehicle in Accordance with 25 M.R.S.A. §4501 - Sponsored by the Health & Human Services and Public Safety Committee, Councilor Anna Bullett, Chair

An Unmanned Aerial System (UAS) — commonly called a drone — for police use is a coordinated set of airborne, ground, and human components operated together to accomplish a variety of approved law-enforcement missions. A UAS typically includes the unmanned aircraft (vehicle), the ground control station and communications link, sensors and payloads, trained operators and observers, and the policies and procedures that govern safe, legal, and effective operation.

The benefits of a UAS include: enhanced search and rescue operations, accident reconstruction, and enhanced officer safety during high risk engagements.

UAS systems have been in use by local, state and federal law enforcement agencies for

more than a decade. With appropriate policies and safeguards, these systems provide an opportunity to help maintain public safety with greater efficiency and effectiveness in accordance with the rights of residents and applicable legal requirements. UAS use by Maine law enforcement agencies is well-regulated by state statute and regulations imposed by the Maine Attorney General's Office. UAS operations are also regulated by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).

The Portland Police Department has drafted a Standard Operating Procedure ("SOP") that will govern the department's use of the UAS. The SOP is fully aligned with, and builds upon, applicable state and federal requirements.

This item was on the City Council Meeting Agenda on November 17, 2025, at which time public comment was taken. It failed to pass for lack of the required number of votes. A motion to postpone the item indefinitely also failed. Five affirmative votes are required for passage or postponement. No additional public comment will be taken.

Order 91-25/26 Accepting and Appropriating \$27,450.00 in Mobility, Access, and Transportation Insecurity Grant Funding from Cumberland County - Sponsored by Danielle P. West, City Manager

This \$27,450 grant from Cumberland County Public Health will be used to support the Mobility, Access and Transportation Insecurity (MATI) Program. The grant will cover staff time to allow for the City of Portland's Social Services Division to act as an information and resource hub for low-income individuals looking to access public transit. The program will further support staff to enroll eligible low income individuals in an impact evaluation program associated with reduced/free transit fare.

This item must be read on two separate days. It received its first reading on November 17. Five affirmative votes are required for passage after public comment.

ORDERS:

Order 94-25/26 Accepting and Appropriating an Anonymous \$6,000 Donation for Those in Need - Sponsored by Danielle P. West, City Manager

This item accepts and appropriates an anonymous donation of \$6,000 from a family in Falmouth, Maine, to be used as a Secret Santa giveaway by the Police Department to those in need.

This donation has been given to and accepted by the City for this purpose since 2020.

This item must be read on two separate days. Staff is requesting that the second reading be waived, which requires seven affirmative votes, so that the funds can be distributed during the holiday season. Staff also requests that this item be passed as an emergency. Seven votes are required for passage as an emergency following public comment.

Order 95-25/26 Order Accepting and Appropriating a \$15,250.50 Maine Bureau of Highway Safety Grant - Sponsored by Danielle P. West, City Manager

This item accepts and appropriates a \$15,520 grant awarded to the Police Department by the Maine Department of Highway Safety. This award will fund pedestrian safety enforcement in the City and provides targeted funds for overtime traffic enforcement

details.

This item must be read on two separate days. This is its first reading.

Order 96-25/26 Amending Order 62-24/25 - Sponsored by Health & Human Services & Public Safety Committee, Councilor Anna Bullett, Chair

On November 13, 2025, the Health & Human Services and Public Safety committee voted unanimously (4-0) to recommend that the full City Council amend Order 62-24/25. If approved, this item would appropriate Opioid Settlement Funds not to exceed \$1.4 million to support opioid remediation programs:

- Syringe Redemption Program
- Day Space
- Housing Support to Unsheltered Individuals
- Community Paramedicine Substance Use Support
- Contingency Management

This item must be read on two separate days. This is its first reading.

AMENDMENTS:

Order 97-25/26 Amendment to Portland City Code Chapter 6 RE: Short Term Rental Unit Registration Requirements - Sponsored by Mark Dion, Mayor

This Order proposes an amendment to Section 6-151(c)(2)(a)(ii) of Chapter 6 of the Portland City Code that would allow the Permitting and Inspections Director to accept alternative documentation to establish the primary residence of the owner of an owner-occupied Short Term Rental (STR) unit when the owner is not eligible for the homestead exemption and has not filed a tax return during the time that they occupied the unit as their Primary Residence.

This item must be read on two separate days. This is its first reading.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

ADJOURNMENT: