

ZOOM INFORMATION:

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

<https://portlandme.portal.civicclerk.com/event/8377/media>

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mayor Dion lead all present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL:

Mayor Dion called the meeting to order at 5:02PM.

Councilors Present: Councilor Fournier, Councilor Grant, Councilor Sykes, Councilor Pelletier, Councilor Bullett, Councilor Phillips, Mayor Dion (Councilor Ali, Councilor Michniewicz absent)

5:00 P.M. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS:

Mayor Dion opened the floor for public comment. The following individuals spoke: James Schaffer (Portland business owner), George Rheault (Hanover St)

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Mayor Dion opened the floor for Council announcements. The following individuals spoke: Councilor Phillips

RECOGNITIONS:

PRESENTATIONS:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

Motion was made by Councilor Sykes and seconded by Councilor Fournier for passage. Passage: 7-0 (Councilors Ali and Michniewicz absent)

City Council Meeting Minutes 03.02.2026

PROCLAMATIONS:

Proclamation 24-25/26 Recognizing Bridgit Sliwak as the 2025 Civilian of the Year for the Portland Maine Police Department - Sponsored by Mark Dion, Mayor

Proclamation 24-25/26 was postponed to an undetermined future date.

Proclamation 25-25/26 Recognizing Garrick Rogers as the 2025 Officer of the Year for the Portland Maine Police Department - Sponsored by Mark Dion, Mayor

Proclamation 25-25/26 was postponed to an undetermined future date.

Proclamation 26-25/26 Recognizing April 6 to April 12, 2026 as National Public Health Week - Sponsored by Mark Dion, Mayor

Councilor Bullet read Proclamation 26-25/26 Recognizing National Public Health Week into the record.

APPOINTMENTS:

Order 147-25/26 Appointing Ethan Maddix as Constable for the Parking Division - Sponsored by Danielle P. West, City Manager

Motion was made by Councilor Sykes and seconded by Councilor Fournier for passage.
Passage: 7-0 (Councilors Ali and Michniewicz absent)
Mayor Dion opened the floor for public comment. The following individuals spoke:
Danielle West (City Manager)

CONSENT ITEMS:

Order 148-25/26 Granting Municipal Officers' Approval of Cherie LLC, dba Cherie. Application for Class I FSE with Outdoor Dining on Public and Private Property at 249 Congress Street - Sponsored by Danielle P. West, City Manager

Order 148-25/26 through Order 150-25/26 were read and passed as consent items: Public comment was taken on orders together.

Motion was made by Councilor Sykes and seconded by Councilor Grant for passage.

Passage: 7-0 (Councilors Ali and Michniewicz absent)

Mayor Dion opened the floor for public comment. The following individuals spoke: No one spoke

Order 149-25/26 Granting Municipal Officers' Approval of The Company of Others LLC, dba The Company of Others. Application for Class XI Restaurant/Lounge with Indoor Entertainment at 67 India Street - Sponsored by Danielle P. West, City Manager

Order 148-25/26 through Order 150-25/26 were read and passed as consent items: Public comment was taken on orders together.

Motion was made by Councilor Sykes and seconded by Councilor Grant for passage.

Passage: 7-0 (Councilors Ali and Michniewicz absent)

Mayor Dion opened the floor for public comment. The following individuals spoke: No one spoke

Order 150-25/26 Granting Municipal Officers' Approval of 15 Exchange LLC, dba Off Track Pizza. Application for Indoor Entertainment at 15 Exchange Street - Sponsored by Danielle P. West, City Manager

Order 148-25/26 through Order 150-25/26 were read and passed as consent items: Public comment was taken on orders together.

Motion was made by Councilor Sykes and seconded by Councilor Grant for passage.

Passage: 7-0 (Councilors Ali and Michniewicz absent)

Mayor Dion opened the floor for public comment. The following individuals spoke: No one spoke

Order 151-25/26 Declaring Sundays on the Boulevard Festival Days in 2026 - Sponsored by Danielle P. West, City Manager

Order 151-25/26 through Order 153-25/26 were read and passed as consent items: Public comment was taken on orders together.

Motion was made by Councilor Grant and seconded by Councilor Sykes for passage.

Passage: 7-0 (Councilors Ali and Michniewicz absent)

Mayor Dion opened the floor for public comment. The following individuals spoke:
George Rheault (Hanover St), Andy Downs (Director of Public Assembly and Facilities),
Councilor Bullet, Councilor Phillips

Order 152-25/26 Declaring May 1, 2026 to April 30, 2027 the Friends of Congress Square Park In the Square Festival - Sponsored by Danielle P West, City Manager

Order 151-25/26 through Order 153-25/26 were read and passed as consent items: Public comment was taken on orders together.

Motion was made by Councilor Grant and seconded by Councilor Sykes for passage.

Passage: 7-0 (Councilors Ali and Michniewicz absent)

Mayor Dion opened the floor for public comment. The following individuals spoke: George Rheault (Hanover St), Andy Downs (Director of Public Assembly and Facilities), Councilor Bullet, Councilor Phillips

Order 153-25/26 Declaring June 13 and 14, 2026 the Resurgam Music and Arts Festival - Sponsored by Danielle P West, City Manager

Order 151-25/26 through Order 153-25/26 were read and passed as consent items: Public comment was taken on orders together.

Motion was made by Councilor Grant and seconded by Councilor Sykes for passage.

Passage: 7-0 (Councilors Ali and Michniewicz absent)

Mayor Dion opened the floor for public comment. The following individuals spoke: George Rheault (Hanover St), Andy Downs (Director of Public Assembly and Facilities), Councilor Bullet, Councilor Phillips

Order 154-25/26 Granting an Easement to Central Maine Power at Stevens Avenue for Utility Pole - Sponsored by Danielle P. West, City Manager

Order 154-25/26 through Order 157-25/26 were read and passed as consent items: Public comment was taken on orders together.

Motion was made by Councilor Phillips and seconded by Councilor Fournier for passage.

Passage: 6-1 (Councilor Pelletier opposed) (Councilors Ali and Michniewicz absent)

Mayor Dion opened the floor for public comment. The following individuals spoke: Councilor Sykes, Councilor Phillips, Mayor Dion, Michael Goldman (Corporation Counsel), Danielle West (City Manager)

Order 155-25/26 Approving Transfer of Forfeiture Assets Under 15 M.R.S. §5824(3) RE: Timothy Edward Hansen - Sponsored by Danielle P. West, City Manager

Order 154-25/26 through Order 157-25/26 were read and passed as consent items: Public comment was taken on orders together.

Motion was made by Councilor Phillips and seconded by Councilor Fournier for passage.

Passage: 6-1 (Councilor Pelletier opposed) (Councilors Ali and Michniewicz absent)

Mayor Dion opened the floor for public comment. The following individuals spoke: Councilor Sykes, Michael Goldman (Corporation Counsel), Mayor Dion, Councilor Phillips, Danielle West (City Manager)

Order 156-25/26 Approving Transfer of Forfeiture Assets Under 15 M.R.S. §5824(3) RE: Justin I. Williams - Sponsored by Danielle P. West, City Manager

Order 154-25/26 through Order 157-25/26 were read and passed as consent items: Public comment was taken on orders together.

Motion was made by Councilor Phillips and seconded by Councilor Fournier for passage.

Passage: 6-1 (Councilor Pelletier opposed) (Councilors Ali and Michniewicz absent)

Mayor Dion opened the floor for public comment. The following individuals spoke: Councilor Sykes, Councilor Phillips, Mayor Dion, Michael Goldman (Corporation Counsel), Danielle West (City Manager)

**Order 157-25/26 Approving Transfer of Forfeiture Assets Under 15 M.R.S. §5824(3)
RE: Charles Aboda - Sponsored by Danielle P. West, City Manager**

Order 154-25/26 through Order 157-25/26 were read and passed as consent items: Public comment was taken on orders together.

Motion was made by Councilor Phillips and seconded by Councilor Fournier for passage. Passage: 6-1 (Councilor Pelletier opposed) (Councilors Ali and Michniewicz absent)

Mayor Dion opened the floor for public comment. The following individuals spoke: Councilor Sykes, Councilor Phillips, Mayor Dion, Michael Goldman (Corporation Counsel), Danielle West (City Manager)

COMMUNICATIONS:

Communication 13-25/26 Adoption of Planning Board Procedural Rules - by Corporation Counsel

As a communication, this item requires no public comment or formal Council action. The following individuals spoke: Kevin Kraft (Director of Planning), Councilor Pelletier, Councilor Phillips

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Order 142-25/26 Approving Agreement Between the Maine Department of Transportation and Portland RE: Baxter Boulevard Pavement Rehabilitation Project - Sponsored by Danielle P. West, City Manager

Motion was made by Councilor Grant and seconded by Councilor Sykes for passage. Passage: 7-0 (Councilors Ali and Michniewicz absent)

Mayor Dion opened the floor for public comment. The following individuals spoke: George Rheault (Hanover St), Danielle West (City Manager), Councilor Bullet, Mike Murray (Director of Public Works)

Order 143-25/26 Approving Agreement Between the Maine Department of Transportation, Portland Area Comprehensive Transportation System, the Greater Portland Council of Governments, and the City of Portland RE: Improvements to High Street - Proposed Improvements to High Street - Sponsored by Danielle P. West, City Manager

Motion was made by Councilor Fournier and seconded by Councilor Phillips for passage. Passage: 7-0 (Councilors Ali and Michniewicz absent)

Mayor Dion opened the floor for public comment. The following individuals spoke: Mike Murray (Director of Public Works)

Order 144-25/26 Approving Agreement Between the Maine Department of Transportation and the City of Portland RE: Improvements to Signal Equipment at the the Interstate 295 Ramps & Veranda Street - Sponsored by Danielle P. West, City Manager

Motion was made by Councilor Fournier and seconded by Councilor Sykes for passage.
Passage: 7-0 (Councilors Ali and Michniewicz absent)
Mayor Dion opened the floor for public comment. The following individuals spoke: Mike Murray (Director of Public Works)

Order 145-25/26 Amendment to Portland City Code Chapter 14 RE: Land Use Code Updates - Sponsored by Joseph Zamboni, Chair, Portland Planning Board

Motion was made by Councilor Sykes and seconded by Councilor Grant for passage.
Passage as amended: 7-0 (Councilors Ali and Michniewicz absent)
Mayor Dion opened the floor for public comment. The following individuals spoke: Kevin Kraft, (Director of Planning), George Rheault (Hanover St), Councilor Sykes, Councilor Pelletier, Councilor Grant, Michael Goldman (Corporation Counsel)
Motion from the floor to amend made by Councilor Sykes and seconded by Councilor Fournier. Amendment passage 7-0 (Councilors Ali and Michniewicz absent)

Order 146-25/26 Amendment to Portland Zoning Map RE: Updates - Sponsored by Joseph Zamboni, Chair, Portland Planning Board

Motion was made by Councilor Fournier and seconded by Councilor Pelletier for passage. Passage: 7-0 (Councilors Ali and Michniewicz absent)
Mayor Dion opened the floor for public comment. The following individuals spoke: Kevin Kraft (Director of Planning), Councilor Sykes

ORDERS:

Order 158-25/26 Accepting and Appropriating a \$500 Donation from Alireza Shahin Khojastehzad to the Shahnaz Mahager Hummingbird Grant Program - Sponsored by Danielle P. West, City Manager

First reading.

Order 159-25/26 Approving Subaward Agreement Between MaineHealth and the City of Portland and Accepting and Appropriating \$23,815.42 for Project DHARMA - Sponsored by Danielle P. West, City Manager

First reading.

Order 160-25/26 - Approving Memorandum of Agreement and Accepting and Appropriating \$300,000 from Trinity Episcopal Church RE: Trinity Park - Sponsored by Danielle P. West, City Manager

First reading.

Order 161-25/26 Appropriating Bond Proceeds and Other Funds for the City's FY2027 Capital Improvement Program - Sponsored by the Finance Committee, April Fournier, Chair

First reading.

Order 162-25/26 Authorizing General Obligation Bonds to Finance a Portion of the City's Fiscal Year FY27 Capital Improvement Program - Sponsored by the Finance Committee, April Fournier, Chair

First reading.

Order 163-25/26 Accepting and Appropriating Federal Aviation Administration grants, state of Maine Grants, State of Maine Matching Grants, and Portland International Jetport Unrestricted Matching Funds - Sponsored by Danielle P. West, City Manager

First reading.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion was made by Councilor Phillips and seconded by Councilor Fournier to adjourn. Passage: 7-0
(Councilors Ali and Michniewicz absent)

Adjourned 6:13PM

A TRUE RECORD

Abbey Lombard, Interim City Clerk