

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)

CITY COUNCIL MEETING - MAY 4, 2026

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/8380/media>

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

ROLL CALL:

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

RECOGNITIONS:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

City Council Meeting Minutes 04.27.2026

PROCLAMATIONS:

Proclamation 29-25/26 Recognizing May 5, 2026 as Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Relatives Day - Sponsored by Mark Dion, Mayor

Proclamation 30-25/26 Recognizing May 8, 2026 as Provider Appreciation Day - Sponsored by Regina Phillips, City Councilor

Proclamation 31-25/26 Recognizing May 10 to May 16, 2026 as National Police Week - Sponsored by Mark Dion, Mayor

Proclamation 32-25/26 Recognizing May 11 to May 17, 2026 as National Salvation Army Week - Sponsored by Mark Dion, Mayor

Proclamation 33-25/26 Recognizing May 17 to May 23, 2026 as Arbor Week - Sponsored by Mark Dion, Mayor

Proclamation 34-25/26 Recognizing May 17 to May 23, 2026 as National Public Works Week - Sponsored by Mark Dion, Mayor

CONSENT ITEMS:

Order 190-25/26 Declaring June 6, 2026 the Shipyard Old Port Half Marathon and 5k Festival - Sponsored by Danielle P. West, City Manager

The Shipyard Old Port Half Marathon and 5k is a for-profit event that benefits nonprofit partners, including A Running Passion and various school groups. This will be the 15th year the race has been held in the City.

The 2026 races will have an estimated 4,500 runners participating. The race courses will be the same as it was in 2025. Race organizers work with businesses throughout the Old Port and the waterfront to inform them about expected impacts and to develop contingency plans.

Five affirmative votes are required for passage of the consent calendar after public comment.

Order 191-25/26 Declaring June 20, 2026 the Pride Portland! Parade and Festival - Sponsored by Danielle P. West, City Manager

Pride Portland would like to host their Parade & Festival again in Portland. The event will take place this year on June 20th 2026. There will be a parade down Congress Street, High Street and Park Avenue followed by a festival at Deering Oaks Park. The parade will start at 1:30 pm and the festival will start at 1:30 pm and last until 7 pm. The festival will consist of music, speakers, food trucks, non food vendors and a beer garden.

Five affirmative votes are required for passage of the consent calendar after public comment.

Order 192-25/26 Declaring September 5, 2026 the Water Lantern Festival - Sponsored by Danielle P. West, City Manager

The Water Lantern Festival is an annual ticketed for-profit event held in Deering Oaks Park to promote peace, community, hope, and connection.

An estimated 2000 people are anticipated to attend this year's Water Lantern Festival. The event consists of music from the stage, food trucks, artisans, and games in the festival area. Participants decorate small, eco-friendly lanterns with personal messages honoring loved ones, setting future intentions, or simply offering a message of hope. Just after sunset, these paper lanterns are released into the pond of Deering Oaks. Lanterns will be collected from the pond by staff at the conclusion of the event.

Five affirmative votes are required for passage of the consent calendar after public comment.

Order 193-25/26 Granting Municipal Officers' Approval of Pine & Neal LLC, dba Supper Club Cocktail Lounge. Application for Outdoor Dining on Public Property at 441 Congress Street - Sponsored by Danielle P. West, City Manager

Application was filed on 4/7/26. This is an existing establishment adding outdoor dining.

Five affirmative votes are required for passage of items on the consent calendar after public comment.

Order 194-25/26 Granting Municipal Officers' Approval of Woof Play Eat LLC, dba Woof Play Eat. Application for Indoor Entertainment at 49 Northport Drive - Sponsored by Danielle P. West, City Manager

Application was filed on 4/13/26. This is an existing establishment adding Indoor Entertainment.

Five affirmative votes are required for passage of items on the consent calendar after public comment.

Order 195-25/26 Approving License Agreement For Farmers' Market In Monument Square Between The City Of Portland And Downtown Improvement District, Inc. - Sponsored by Danielle P. West, City Manager

This order approves a one-year license agreement for a farmers' market to be operated by Downtown Improvement District, Inc. (Portland Downtown) in Monument Square. Portland Downtown hopes that the market will help it continue its efforts to bring additional life to Monument Square and offer additional access to fresh produce for downtown residents and workers.

Five affirmative votes are required for passage of the consent calendar after public comment.

BUDGET ITEMS:

THE CITY COUNCIL WILL HOLD A FIRST READ ON THE FISCAL YEAR 2027 SCHOOL BUDGET AT THIS COUNCIL MEETING (MAY 4, 2026) AND WILL ACCEPT PUBLIC COMMENT. THE SECOND READ AND A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE SCHOOL BUDGET WILL BE HELD ON MAY 18, 2026 AT 5:00 PM.

The City Council Finance Committee voted on April 28, 2026 to recommend passage of FY27 School Board Recommended Budget as presented by Superintendent Scallon in the amount of \$167,001,038. Passed (3-0).

Order 196-25/26 Approving State/Local EPS Funding Allocation for Public Education from Kindergarten to Grade 12 for Portland Public Schools for Fiscal Year 2027 - Sponsored by Finance Committee, April Fournier, Chair

The following School Budget Orders are required by 20A M.R.S. §15690 in order to comply with what is known as LD1, a set of state laws passed to control increases in property taxes.

This order provides \$107,162,020 as the amount determined by state law to be the minimum amount the City must appropriate in order to receive the full amount of state funding under the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act.

This order requires the city to raise \$93,793,557 as the city's contribution to the total cost of funding public education from K12 as described in the EPS law. The City's tax levy based on the budget submitted by the Portland Board of Public Education for the total for

school budget programs of \$158,248,564 will be \$133,092,313.

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

Order 197-25/26 Approving Non-State Funded School Construction Debt Service for Portland Schools for Fiscal Year 2027 - Sponsored by Finance Committee, April Fournier, Chair

Nonstate funded debt service is the amount of money needed for the annual payments on the City's long-term debt for major capital school construction projects and portions of school construction projects that are not approved for state funding. The bonding of this long-term debt was previously approved by the voters or the City Council.

This order appropriates \$394,759 for the annual payments on debt service previously approved by the voters or the City Council for non-state (local only) funded school construction projects. The state no longer includes minor capital projects in this calculation. The \$394,759 is in addition to the funds appropriated as the EPS required local share (amount of the City's contribution to the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12).

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

Order 198-25/26 Raising and Appropriating Additional Local Funds for Portland Schools for Fiscal Year 2027 - Sponsored by Finance Committee, April Fournier, Chair

This order appropriates \$39,298,756 in additional city funds over and above the regional Essential Programs and Services amount and the nonstate funded debt service amount.

This exceeds the EPS funding model by \$39,298,756 and is needed to cover the School Department's costs that the state's funding model does not recognize or recognize fully, including costs to maintain class size; Special Education costs; Regular Instruction costs; Facilities Maintenance costs to address deferred maintenance; technology costs; transportation costs; professional development costs; debt service for pension obligation; and debt service capital renovation costs.

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

Order 199-25/26 Approving Total School Operating Budget For Portland Schools for Fiscal Year 2027 - Sponsored by Finance Committee, April Fournier, Chair

This order is required by 20A M.R.S.A. §15690(4)(A). It sets the School Budget required by state law.

This will be sent to the voters for approval at a citywide Referendum Election on June 9, 2026. \$135,441,246 of the \$167,001,038 would come from property taxes.

This order does not provide money unless the other General Fund budget orders are passed.

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

Order 200-25/26 Appropriating and Raising Funds for Adult Education for Fiscal Year 2027 as required by the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-a M.R.S §8603-a(1) - Sponsored by Finance Committee, April Fournier, Chair

This order raises the sum of \$3,381,449 for Adult Education for Fiscal Year 2026-2027 and \$2,348,933 as the local share with authorization to expend any additional, incidental, or miscellaneous receipts in the interest and for the well-being of the adult education program.

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

Order 201-25/26 To Raise and Appropriate Local Funds for Food Service in the Portland Public Schools for Fiscal Year 2027 - Sponsored by Finance Committee, April Fournier, Chair

This order raises and appropriates \$0 for the Food Service Program for Fiscal Year 2026-2027. The Portland School Department is authorized to expend any un-expended balances and additional, incidental or miscellaneous receipts in the interest and for the well-being of the food service program.

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

Order 202-25/26 Authorizing the Disposition of Any Additional State Subsidy Received for Portland Schools in Fiscal Year 2027 - Sponsored by Finance Committee, April Fournier, Chair

Disposition of Any Additional State Subsidy Received: In the event that Portland Public Schools receives more state education subsidy than the amount included in its budget, the City authorizes the Portland Board of Education to use all or part of the additional state subsidy to increase expenditures for school purposes in cost center categories approved by the Portland Board of Education, subject only to approval by the City Council.

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Order 180-25/26 Amendment to Portland City Code Chapter 2 RE: Immigration Enforcement - Sponsored by Councilors Pious Ali & Regina Phillips

This order amends Chapter 2 of the Portland City Code to clarify that City employees and officials are generally prohibited from assisting federal agencies in immigration enforcement operations, subject to exceptions when such assistance is required by law. This order also amends, but leaves in place, current provisions in Chapter 2 that prohibit employees from making inquiries into a person's citizenship or immigration status, except when required by law or when such inquiry is required in order to direct them to services related to their immigration status.

This item must be read on two separate days. It received its first reading on April 13 and its second reading on April 27, at which point it was postponed to May 4. Five affirmative votes are required for passage after public comment.

ORDERS:

Order 202-25/26 Approving Cooperative Agreement Between the City of Portland and the Maine Department of Transportation RE: Improvements to Brighton Avenue - Sponsored by Danielle P. West, City Manager

This project will improve approximately 0.5 miles of Brighton Avenue sidewalks, crosswalks, and bus stops from William Street to Craigie Street. The City's recommendation is to reconstruct sidewalks to ADA compliance on both sides of Brighton Ave while also upgrading the crosswalks and the bus stops.

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

Order 203-25/26 Approving Cooperative Agreement Between the City of Portland and the Maine Department of Transportation RE: Improvements to Forest Avenue - Sponsored by Danielle P. West, City Manager

This project will improve approximately 0.5 miles of Forest Avenue sidewalks, crosswalks, and bus stops from Morrill Street to Walton Street. The City's recommendation is to reconstruct sidewalks to ADA compliance on both sides of Forest Ave while also upgrading the crosswalks and the bus stops.

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

Order 204-25/26 Accepting and Appropriating a \$200 Anonymous Donation to the Portland Police Department for Victim Services - Sponsored by Danielle P. West, City Manager

This is an anonymous donation in the amount of \$200.00 to support Crime Victim Services within the Police Department. Specifically, these funds will be used to enhance the comfort and well-being of crime victims and their families while they are receiving services by providing items such as coffee and other comfort-related amenities that can make a difficult experience more manageable.

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

Order 205-25/26 Approving the Golf Cart Lease Agreement with Country Club Enterprises LLC - Sponsored by Danielle P. West, City Manager

This order approves a Lease Agreement between the City of Portland Country Club Enterprises, LLC to lease 80 Electric Golf Carts, 6 Electric 500 carryall utility carts, 1 gas 501 carryall utility cart, 1 gas 500 carryall cart, and 1 diesel 1500 carryall cart at the City's Riverside Golf Course. This Lease will be effective for a five-year term commencing with the 2026 season and expiring on December 31, 2030, at an annual rate of \$129,342.06.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

ADJOURNMENT: