

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/8381/media>

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mayor Dion led all present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL:

Mayor Dion called the meeting to order at 5:00PM.

Councilors Present: Councilors Fournier, Councilor Grant, Councilor Michniewicz, Councilor Bullett, Mayor Dion (Councilors Sykes, Ali, Pelletier and Phillips absent) (Councilor Pelletier joined at 5:13)

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

Mayor Dion opened the floor for public comment. The following individuals spoke: Joey Brunell (Pine St), Christina Winter (Chenery St), Celine (East Deering resident), Clara Thompson (West End resident), Portland Resident (Congress St), Steven Scharf (Brackett St), Portland resident, Natalie (Portland resident), Tom Blackburn (Bayside resident)

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Mayor Dion opened the floor for Council announcements. The following individuals spoke: No one spoke.

RECOGNITIONS:

PRESENTATIONS:

ANNUAL MEETING:

SPECIAL MEETING:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

Motion was made by Councilor Fournier and seconded by Councilor Michniewicz for passage. Passage: 6-0 (Councilors Sykes, Ali, and Phillips absent)

City Council Meeting Minutes 05.04.2026

PROCLAMATIONS:

Proclamation 23-25/26 Recognizing South Portland Resident Juliet Shane for Her Work to Significantly Improve Tracking of Arrivals and Departures at the Portland International Jetport - Sponsored by Mark Dion, Mayor

Councilor Grant read Proclamation Recognizing South Portland Resident Juliet Shane for Her Work to Significantly Improve Tracking of Arrivals and Departures at the Portland International Jetport into the record.

Proclamation 35-25/26 Recognizing Paul Bradbury for Receiving the 2026 AAAE Chair's Award - Sponsored by Mark Dion, Mayor

Mayor Dion read Proclamation Recognizing Paul Bradbury for Receiving the 2026 AAAE Chair's award into the record.

Proclamation 36-25/26 Recognizing May 2026 as Jewish American Heritage Month - Sponsored by Mark Dion, Mayor

Item taken out of order immediately following Proclamation 23-25-26

Councilor Bullett read Proclamation Recognizing May 2026 as Jewish American Heritage Month into the record.

CONSENT ITEMS:

Order 206-25/26 Granting Municipal Officers' Approval of 1st Step INC, dba Keg and Kraken. Application for Class I FSE at 653 Congress Street - Sponsored by Danielle P. West, City Manager

Order 206-25/26 through Order 208-25/26 were read and passed as consent items: Public comment was taken on orders together.

Motion was made by Councilor Bullett and seconded by Councilor Michniewicz for passage. Passage: 6-0 (Councilors Sykes, Ali, and Phillips absent)

Mayor Dion opened the floor for public comment. The following individuals spoke: Councilor Bullett

Order 207-25/26 Granting Municipal Officers' Approval of The Velvet Dog LLC, dba The Velvet Dog. Application for Class I FSE at 24 Preble Street Unit 1 - Sponsored by Danielle P. West, City Manager

Order 206-25/26 through Order 208-25/26 were read and passed as consent items: Public comment was taken on orders together.

Motion was made by Councilor Bullett and seconded by Councilor Michniewicz for passage. Passage: 6-0 (Councilors Sykes, Ali, and Phillips absent)

Mayor Dion opened the floor for public comment. The following individuals spoke: Councilor Bullett

Order 208-25/26 Granting Municipal Officers' Approval of Cocktail Mary LLC, dba Cocktail Mary. Application for Class A Lounge at 30 Market Street 2nd Floor - Sponsored by Danielle P. West, City Manager

Order 206-25/26 through Order 208-25/26 were read and passed as consent items: Public comment was taken on orders together.

Motion was made by Councilor Bullett and seconded by Councilor Michniewicz for passage. Passage: 6-0 (Councilors Sykes, Ali, and Phillips absent)

Mayor Dion opened the floor for public comment. The following individuals spoke: Councilor Bullett

BUDGET ITEMS:

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

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

Motion was made by Councilor Pelletier and seconded by Councilor Fournier for passage. Passage: 6-0 (Councilors Sykes, Ali, and Phillips absent)

Mayor Dion opened the floor for public comment. The following individuals spoke: Ryan Scallon (PPS Superintendent), Councilor Fournier

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

Motion was made by Councilor Fournier and seconded by Councilor Pelletier for passage. Passage: 6-0 (Councilors Sykes, Ali, and Phillips absent)

Mayor Dion opened the floor for public comment. The following individuals spoke: Ryan Scallon (PPS Superintendent), Councilor Fournier

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

Motion was made by Councilor Fournier and seconded by Councilor Michniewicz for passage. Passage: 6-0 (Councilors Sykes, Ali, and Phillips absent)

Mayor Dion opened the floor for public comment. The following individuals spoke: Ryan Scallon (PPS Superintendent), Councilor Fournier

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

Motion was made by Councilor Fournier and seconded by Councilor Michniewicz for passage. Passage: 6-0 (Councilors Sykes, Ali, and Phillips absent)

Mayor Dion opened the floor for public comment. The following individuals spoke: Ryan Scallon (PPS Superintendent), Councilor Fournier

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

Motion was made by Councilor Fournier and seconded by Councilor Michniewicz for passage. Passage: 6-0 (Councilors Sykes, Ali, and Phillips absent)

Mayor Dion opened the floor for public comment. The following individuals spoke: Ryan Scallon (PPS Superintendent), Councilor Fournier

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

Motion was made by Councilor Fournier and seconded by Councilor Michniewicz for passage. Passage: 6-0 (Councilors Sykes, Ali, and Phillips absent)

Mayor Dion opened the floor for public comment. The following individuals spoke: Ryan Scallon (PPS Superintendent), Councilor Fournier

Order 202A-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

Motion was made by Councilor Fournier and seconded by Councilor Michniewicz for passage. Passage: 6-0 (Councilors Sykes, Ali, and Phillips absent)

Mayor Dion opened the floor for public comment. The following individuals spoke: Ryan Scallon (PPS Superintendent), Councilor Fournier

THE CITY COUNCIL WILL HOLD A FIRST READ ON THE FISCAL YEAR 2027 MUNICIPAL BUDGET AT THIS COUNCIL MEETING (MAY 18, 2026) AND WILL ACCEPT PUBLIC COMMENT. THE SECOND READ AND PUBLIC HEARING ON THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET WILL BE HELD ON JUNE 1, 2026 AT 5:00 PM.

Order 209-25/26 Approving Fiscal Year 2027 Administrative Fees for Fire, Parking, Planning & Urban Development, Parks, Recreation & Facilities, and Public Works - Sponsored by Finance Committee, April Fournier, Chair

First reading.

Order 209-25/26 through Order 221-25/26 were read into the record together. Public Comment was taken on all orders together.

Mayor Dion opened the floor for public comment. The following individuals spoke: Portland Resident

Order 210-25/26 Authorizing the City Manager To Enter into Certain Agreements To Implement the Fiscal Year 2027 Human Resources and Certain Fringe Benefits Budgets - Sponsored by Finance Committee, April Fournier, Chair

First reading.

Order 209-25/26 through Order 221-25/26 were read into the record together. Public Comment was taken on all orders together.

Mayor Dion opened the floor for public comment. The following individuals spoke: Portland Resident

Order 211-25/26 Approving the Fiscal Year 2027 Self-insured Liability Program - Sponsored by Finance Committee, April Fournier, Chair

Motion made by Councilor Fournier and seconded by Councilor Grant to postpone to the June 1, 2026, City Council meeting. Passage: 6-0 (Councilors Sykes, Ali and Phillips absent)

Order 212-25/26 Authorizing the Director of Parks, Recreation & Facilities to Set Fees and Enter Rental Agreements for City Facilities - Sponsored by Finance Committee, April Fournier, Chair

Motion made by Councilor Fournier and seconded by Councilor Grant to postpone to the June 1, 2026, City Council meeting. Passage: 6-0 (Councilors Sykes, Ali and Phillips absent)

Order 213-25/26 Authorizing the City Manager to Enter into Certain Agreements to Implement Fiscal Year 2027 Health & Human Services Budget - Sponsored by Finance Committee, April Fournier, Chair

Motion made by Councilor Fournier and seconded by Councilor Grant to postpone to the June 1, 2026, City Council meeting. Passage: 6-0 (Councilors Sykes, Ali and Phillips absent)

Order 214-25/26 Authorizing the City Manager to Accept Scholarship and Trust Donations and Bequests and Enter into Trust Agreements - Sponsored by Finance Committee, April Fournier, Chair

Motion made by Councilor Fournier and seconded by Councilor Grant to postpone to the June 1, 2026, City Council meeting. Passage: 6-0 (Councilors Sykes, Ali and Phillips absent)

Order 215-25/26 Authorizing the Director of Parks, Recreation & Facilities to Accept Donations up to \$10,000 for Parks, Recreation & Facilities Department Programs and City Funds - Sponsored by Finance Committee, April Fournier, Chair

Motion made by Councilor Fournier and seconded by Councilor Grant to postpone to the June 1, 2026, City Council meeting. Passage: 6-0 (Councilors Sykes, Ali and Phillips absent)

Order 216-25/26 Authorizing Corporation Counsel to Undertake Civil Actions to Collect Delinquent Personal Property Taxes - Sponsored by Finance Committee, April Fournier, Chair

Motion made by Councilor Fournier and seconded by Councilor Grant to postpone to the June 1, 2026, City Council meeting. Passage: 6-0 (Councilors Sykes, Ali and Phillips absent)

Order 217-25/26 Authorizing Non-Union Wage Adjustment - Sponsored by Finance Committee, April Fournier, Chair

First reading.

Order 218-25/26 Designating Fiscal Year 2027 Funds for Specific Island Services - Sponsored by Finance Committee, April Fournier, Chair

First reading.

Order 219-25/26 Appropriating \$4,000,000 in Fund Balance - Sponsored by Finance Committee, April Fournier, Chair

First reading.

Order 220-25/26 Amendment to Portland City Code Chapters 2, 6, 10, 12, 24, 25, and 28 Re: Various Fee and Other Changes for Fiscal Year 2027 - Sponsored by Finance Committee, April Fournier, Chair

First reading.

Order 221-25/26 Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Appropriation Resolve - Sponsored by Finance Committee, April Fournier, Chair

First reading.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Order 202B-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

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

Passage: 6-0 (Councilors Sykes, Ali, and Phillips absent)

Mayor Dion opened the floor for public comment. The following individuals spoke: Mike Murray (Director of Public Works), Steven Scharf (Brackett St), Councilor Grant

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

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

Passage: 6-0 (Councilors Sykes, Ali, and Phillips absent)

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

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

Motion was made by Councilor Michniewicz and seconded by Councilor Bullett for passage. Passage: 6-0 (Councilors Sykes, Ali, and Phillips absent)

Mayor Dion opened the floor for public comment. The following individuals spoke: Danielle West (City Manager)

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

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

Passage: 6-0 (Councilors Sykes, Ali, and Phillips absent)

Mayor Dion opened the floor for public comment. The following individuals spoke: Danielle West (City Manager)

ORDERS:

Order 222-25/26 Setting The Time For Opening and Closing the Polls on June 9, 2026 RE: State and Municipal Elections - Sponsored by Abbey Lombard, City Clerk

Motion was made by Councilor Fournier and seconded by Councilor Michniewicz for passage. Passage: 6-0 (Councilors Sykes, Ali, and Phillips absent)
Mayor Dion opened the floor for public comment. The following individuals spoke: No one spoke.

Order 223-25/26 Amending Order 161-25/26 To Ratify Fournier Amendment Three Re: Dougherty Field Lighting - Sponsored by the Finance Committee, April Fournier, Chair

Motion made by Councilor Fournier and seconded by Councilor Bullett to postpone to the June 1, 2026, City Council meeting. Passage: 6-0 (Councilors Sykes, Ali and Phillips absent)

Order 224-25/26 Amending Order 182-25/26 RE: Clarifying Retroactive Application of Dispersal Requirements for Large Theaters and Performance Halls - Sponsored by Wesley Pelletier, City Councilor

First Reading.

AMENDMENTS:

Order 225-25/26 Amendment to Portland City Code Chapter 28 RE: Tow Rates - Sponsored by the Sustainability and Transportation Committee, Councilor Regina Phillips, Chair

First reading.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion was made by Councilor Fournier and seconded by Councilor Michniewicz to adjourn. Passage: 6-0 (Councilors Sykes, Ali, and Phillips absent)
Adjourned 6:06PM

A TRUE RECORD

Abbey Lombard, City Clerk