

## CITY OF PORTSMOUTH



# City Manager's Advisory

## Thursday, January 7, 2021

**TONIGHT JAN 7 CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION ON FY22 BUDGET, 6:30 pm via Zoom. For Agenda and Zoom registration, click here:**

<http://files.cityofportsmouth.com/agendas/2021/citycouncil/cc010721wsag.pdf>

**TODAY: DEADLINE JAN 7 FOR PRESCOTT PARK SEASONAL DOCK SPACE APPLICATIONS – Click here for the application package.** <https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/sites/default/files/2020-11/2021%20Seasonal%20Dock%20Application%20Package.pdf>

### ASSISTANCE RESOURCES

**For Resources and Assistance with housing, food, heat, etc. click here.**

<https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/city/covid-19-resources>

- **Portsmouth Regional Hospital Suicide Lifeline** – If you or someone you know is at risk for suicide, please call our crisis-suicide prevention hotline at (603) 433-5270, option 1. If you are calling from outside of New Hampshire, please call (800) 273-TALK (8255).
- **Crisis Text Line** provides free, 24/7, confidential support via text message to people in crisis when they dial 741741.
- **Help Paying Energy Bills** – Eversource offers a COVID-19 Payment Program that gives customers up to 12 months to pay past-due balances, without down payments, fees or interest. Once enrolled the account is protected from service disconnection for the duration of the payment plan. For more information call 1-800-662-7764 or visit <https://www.eversource.com/content/nh>
- **Help Paying for Heat** -- Fuel assistance is available from Rockingham County Fuel Assistance program. For information, click here. <https://www.snhs.org/programs/energy-programs/low-income-home-energy>

**STIMULUS BILL UPDATE** -- Assistance is on the way:

- \$300 weekly additional unemployment benefit now being paid to NH recipients, starting with the week-ending January 2, 2021. For more information from the NH Division of Employment Security, click here. <https://www.nhes.nh.gov/>
- \$200 million in emergency housing assistance. More information will be available soon from the Community Action Partnership of NH.
- Employee Retention Tax Credit now available, covering losses by Quarter, not only Annual: <https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=7686f9ab-fb80-489f-9236-b71d4f018c4d>
- NH Small Business Development Center resources and the highlights in the new relief bill, <https://www.nhsbdc.org/covid-19-assistance>. And to sign up for eblasts from the SBA on new PPP grants and other assistance, click here. [https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/USSBA/subscriber/new?topic\\_id=USSBA\\_106](https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/USSBA/subscriber/new?topic_id=USSBA_106)

**GOVERNOR SUNUNU'S EMERGENCY ORDER AND STATEWIDE MASK MANDATE EXTENDED THROUGH JANUARY 22, 2021** <https://www.governor.nh.gov/sites/g/files/ehbemt336/files/documents/2020-25.pdf>

**PORTSMOUTH MASK ORDINANCE EXTENDED THROUGH JUNE 30, 2021.**

**For answers to Portsmouth Mask Ordinance Frequently Asked Questions, click here.**

<https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/sites/default/files/2020-10/MaskOrdinanceFAQ%202020.10.05.pdf>

For the complete NH DHHS Vaccination Plan Summary, [click here](#).

**COVID-19 VACCINE ADMINISTRATION IN NEW HAMPSHIRE** – As of January 5, NH had received 53,675 doses of vaccine and had vaccinated 30,000 people. For the vaccine tracker, by state, click here:

<https://www.bloomberg.com/graphics/covid-vaccine-tracker-global-distribution/>

The timeline for widespread access to a COVID-19 vaccine is expected to be approximately 6-12 months, according to health officials. As vaccine production increases over time, updated information on when people can expect to receive the vaccine is posted at <https://www.nh.gov/covid19/resources-guidance/vaccination-planning.htm>

Seacoast health care networks are asking that residents be patient as they wait to learn COVID-19 vaccine distribution information. Please do not call health care offices, fire or police departments, emergency medical services or local officials until you are individually directed to do so by the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services, regional public health networks or your health care office.

**For DHHS VACCINE FAQs, click here:** <https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/dphs/cdcs/covid19/documents/vaccination-planning-faq.pdf>

**PORTSMOUTH VACCINE FAQs from the Mayor's Blue Ribbon Committee on Health and City Health Department, click here.** <https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/city-manager/vaccination-faqs>

**For Testing FAQs click here.** <https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/city/testing-faqs>

**For COVID-19 & Mask Facts click here.** <https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/city/covid-19-mask-facts>

**For Ventilation FAQs click here.** <https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/city/ventilation-faqs>

**For Daily Life During the Pandemic FAQs, click here.** <https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/city/daily-life-during-covid-19-frequently-asked-questions>

**PRECAUTIONS CONTINUE: STATEWIDE AND PORTSMOUTH MASK MANDATE.** Avoid crowded, confined spaces. Watch your distance (maintain 6-feet or more). Wash your hands.

**For DHHS COVID-19 FAQs, click here:** <https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/dphs/cdcs/covid19/documents/covid-19-faq.pdf>

**CHAMBER CHAT LIVE, FRI JAN 8 at 1 pm via Zoom: "Vaccinations: Who, What, When, Where, How?" For the free registration, click here.**

<https://portsmouthchamber.chambermaster.com/eventregistration/register/52211>

**Join Valerie Rochon, president and chief collaborator at the Greater Portsmouth Chamber Collaborative as she welcomes:**

- **NH Department of Health & Human Services Deputy Director Patricia Tilley** to share information on the various vaccines, how they work, side effects, and how the vaccinations will roll out. Who is in which tier and how will we be notified?
- **Michael Schidlovsky and Alison Connelly, Business and Community Relations for Convenient MD,** to discuss the vaccine distribution. What will the process be to schedule and receive the vaccinations?

**MCINTYRE SURVEY DEADLINE EXTENDED TO JAN 15 --** The McIntyre Subcommittee with the project developer Redgate Kane and Portsmouth Listens (with assistance from the Boston-based urban design firm The Principle Group) are hosting "McIntyre 101" Study Circles starting this week. Study circle group assignments were sent out to Facilitators and Participants on Jan 1. Study circles will meet for two, 2-hour sessions the weeks of Jan 4 and Jan 11. In addition, **the City wants input from everyone, starting with this online survey**

<https://principlegroup.typeform.com/to/M3g1gkIG>

**open now through January 15, 2021 at midnight.**

- For the Portsmouth Listens McIntyre Study Circle Discussion Guide, click here. <https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/sites/default/files/2021-01/PL%20McIntyre%20Discussion%20Guide%20Final.pdf>

- For further information about the study circles, please email [mcintyre@principle.us](mailto:mcintyre@principle.us)
- For all of the background and documents on the McIntyre Project, click here: <https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/mcintyre-project>

**CURRENT OPENINGS ON CITY BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS --** The City is seeking volunteers to fill the following vacancies:

- 1 Regular Member to the Building Code Board of Appeals (Pending submission of renewal application)
- 1 Alternate Member to the Building Code Board of Appeals – The vacancy to be filled would need to be (1) electrical engineer or master electrician
- 1 Regular Member to the Conservation Commission
- 2 Alternate Members to the Conservation Commission
- 1 Regular Members to the Peirce Island Committee
- 1 Alternate Member to the Planning Board
- The Sustainable Practices Blue Ribbon Committee is also welcoming new members

Apply now! For more information on the City Boards and Commissions, visit

<https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/cityclerk/boards-commissions-information>. Applications are available in the Office of the City Clerk or download here:

<http://files.cityofportsmouth.com/cityclerk/BoardsandCommissionsApplication.pdf> Questions? Please contact the Office of the City Clerk at 610-7208.

**HANOVER GARAGE MONTHLY ACCOUNT PAYMENT NOW ONLINE --** The DPW Parking Division reminds monthly account holders to look for the new electronic invoice in their email. If you have not yet received an invoice by email, contact the Parking Clerk's office at 766-7000 to verify or provide a correct email address.

**TIP TIP #2 –** On takeout deliveries, don't confuse the delivery charge listed on your bill with the tip — that fee doesn't go to the driver or the restaurant.

**RESTAURANTS OPEN AND CLOSED –** The best source of information about restaurant dining hours and takeout is the restaurant itself. This Chamber Collaborative page is a good place to start, but be sure to call or check the restaurant website. <https://portsmouthcollaborative.org/list/category/restaurant-reopened-dining-on-site-994> The list of restaurants that have announced they are hibernating for the winter includes: at the end of this week: Cava Tapas and Wine Bar and Raleigh Wine Bar; already closed: Row 34, Jumpin' Jay's Fish Cafe, The Franklin, Moxy, Rudi's Portsmouth, Martingale Wharf, Blue Moon Evolution, Poco's Bow Street Cantina and Cisco Brewers.

**SEACOAST SAFE PARTICIPATING BUSINESSES –** Click here and then on the 'list' button for the growing list of businesses who have taken the Seacoast Safe pledge to do everything in their power to keep their customers and employees safe. <https://www.visitseacoastnh.com/visitor-information/>

## **FOOD ASSISTANCE**

**St. John's Community Lunch, Wednesdays Noon to 1 pm.** Guests enjoy a brown bag lunch to go, thanks to partnerships with local restaurants and friends. At the Middle Street Baptist Church (18 Court Street) parking lot (behind the building, in an easy drive-through loop). No reservations needed. Questions? Please contact [lunch@middle.st](mailto:lunch@middle.st) or 603-436-2337.

**Salvation Army Hot Meals –** The Salvation Army at their new location at 115 Heritage Ave. offers free dinner and breakfast service for anyone who needs a hot meal. During the pandemic, they are putting packaged hot meals out front for dinner M-F from 5-6 pm. Some eat them there outside or in their cars, but they can also be taken home to warm up again. Breakfast is from 7-8 am, 6 days a week.

**Gather Food Pantry:** Gather provides food to hundreds of local families, and the need is even greater this year.. Food distribution, online grocery shopping for people who don't want to enter the shop, meal delivery for Seniors, Meals 4 Kids, Community Fridays 9am-1pm open at Community Campus (open to anyone). Call for info 603-436-0641.

**Operation Blessing:** Drive up Food Pantry Wed-Fri 10am-4pm. Call for more info 603-430-8561.

**SIGN UP FOR WINTER PARKING BAN NOTICES AND OTHER CITY ALERTS** – The City sends out email and text alerts via the CodeRed notification system. During snowstorms these notices alert residents to such things as trash pickup rescheduling and when the public garages are full, as well as announcing parking bans. **These alerts are announced in several different ways:**

- **CodeRED:** anyone can sign up to receive automatic email and text alerts, click here. <https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/publicworks/parkportsmouth/snowrelatedimpacts>
- **Snow Phone:** call 766-7669 (SNO-SNOW) to hear recorded messages.
- **Channel 22:** snow parking bans are posted as bulletins
- **CityofPortsmouth.com:** a yellow (planned) or red (in effect) banner appears at the top of City website pages when snow parking ban events occur.
- **Twitter:** follow @PortsmouthDPW
- **Public Works Department:** call 427-1530 or report a snow clearing issue use the Click 'n Fix system. <https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/publicworks/portsmouth-click-n-fix>
- **During parking bans, residents should take advantage of spaces in City parking lots and reduced rates in the garages** when the parking ban is in effect! Flat fee parking: \$3 at Foundry Place and \$5 at the Hanover garage, good from 4 pm Dec 16 until 2 hours after. Regular rates apply for additional time parked beyond the lifting of the ban.

**APPLY TO JOIN CITIZEN RESPONSE TASK FORCE/MAYOR'S BLUE RIBBON COMMITTEE ON REOPENING PORTSMOUTH 2021** -- The City Council voted on Dec 14 to continue the duties of the Citizen Response Task Force (CRTF), reconfigured as a Mayor's Blue Ribbon Task Force to Reopen Portsmouth 2021. The members of the CRTF who are health professionals will also remain, and also serve on an additional Mayor's Blue Ribbon Committee instead of as the CRTF Health Subcommittee, to assist the City Health Department. There are 5 openings on the main committee, in: Health, Restaurants, Retail, Arts/Nonprofit, and At-Large. Portsmouth residents who are interested in serving on the Reopen Portsmouth 2021 Blue Ribbon Committee should complete this application <https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/sites/default/files/2020-12/BlueRibbonReopenPortsmouth%20APPLICATION.pdf> and submit it to the City Clerk by email: [klbarnaby@cityofportsmouth.com](mailto:klbarnaby@cityofportsmouth.com)

**PICTURING PORTSMOUTH** -- City staff are seeking residents' help in illustrating what life is like in the City of Portsmouth. As staff prepare documents and presentations including the Budget and Annual Report, they like to include photographs of residents taking advantage of the programs, projects, services and "amenities" – both natural and manmade – throughout the City. To participate in this effort, for the "bragging rights" of seeing their images used as illustrations in City publications, webpages and other materials, residents should submit digital, high-resolution (1M or larger) images to the email, [CapturePortsmouth@gmail.com](mailto:CapturePortsmouth@gmail.com). Please include the photographer's name, what/who is in the photo, location and when (approximately) the photo was taken. Send only appropriate photos for use in City publications/presentations. By submitting images, the photographer grants the City permission to use them, without compensation, in City documents and/or presentations. For suggestions: <https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/city/press-releases/city-seeks-residents-images-portsmouth-use-city-publications>

#### **SEACOAST CHAMBER ALLIANCE**

- **WEBSITE** – The new VisitSeacoastNH.com website offers up-to-the-minute resources for businesses and visitors. <https://www.visitseacoastnh.com/>
- **POSTERS** – The Alliance has developed a set of posters that businesses and organizations can download for free and print/post to inform their publics. Click here: <https://www.visitseacoastnh.com/business-support/>

**NH STATE COUNCIL ON THE ARTS CAMPAIGN FOR PERFORMING ARTS ORGANIZATIONS** – The NHSCA has worked with the Governor's reopening task force to develop graphics for a public information campaign

that performing arts organizations across the state can use to remind their audiences that “We Will Be Back.” For the free materials, click here. [https://www.dropbox.com/sh/sh6t9oh3zoybw3w/AAAyF8\\_SNapEaW-ellWP3Qeza?dl=0](https://www.dropbox.com/sh/sh6t9oh3zoybw3w/AAAyF8_SNapEaW-ellWP3Qeza?dl=0)

**PAY YOUR CITY BILLS ONLINE** -- With COVID-19 precautions still in place, **the City urges taxpayers to make their tax bill payments online, where they will receive an instant confirmation and receipt.**

<https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/city/pay-my-bill>

### **FLU SEASON AHEAD! FLU SHOTS NOW AVAILABLE**

Public health officials are urging people to get flu shots this year to avoid complications from COVID-19 or extra burdens on the healthcare system. Flu shots are available in the Portsmouth at:

- Prompt Care at Pease (WD Hospital Portsmouth Outpatient): 73 Corporate Dr. 603.610.8051. Flu shots available. Walk in or make an appointment.
- ClearChoice MD: 750 Lafayette Rd. 603.427.8539. Flu shots available. Walk in, but preregistration will save time.
- Rite-Aids: Flu shots available. Walk in.
- CVS: 674 Islington St .603.431.0234. Flu shots available. They prefer appointments, due to small waiting area.

All of the above said that flu shots are covered at no cost with most insurances and Medicare.

### **WANT TO VOLUNTEER TO HELP WITH VACCINATION CLINICS?**

A corps of qualified vaccinators and non-vaccinators for coordinating the process will be needed as the vaccination effort ramps up. The City Health Department asks residents who are interested in volunteering to visit the NH Responds website: <https://nhresponds.org/> and fill out the online registration form:

<https://nhresponds.org/agreement.php> **Volunteers should make sure they check off the "Seacoast COVID Team" in the "COVID-19 Teams" drop-down list in the Organization section of the form to volunteer for Greater Portsmouth efforts.**

**TESTING--** The New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services provides this list as a service to the community. The Department does not endorse any particular entity for COVID-19 testing services.

<https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/dphs/cdcs/covid19/documents/covid-testing-options.pdf>

**For all the COVID-related resources, [click here.](#)**

**Governor Sununu’s Emergency Order extended to January 22, 2021.**

<https://www.governor.nh.gov/sites/g/files/ehbemt336/files/documents/2020-25.pdf>

The State has also made changes to the COVID guidelines to minimize redundancy in each industry sector. **Those guidelines that applied to all industry sectors have been removed from separate sector pages and now live only in the Universal Guidelines (UG) pages.** In some cases (e.g. outdoor attractions, arts, music education, funerals, and more) the sector pages have been eliminated entirely and you’ll find a note at the end of the UG specific to those sectors. Click here for the details: <https://www.covidguidance.nh.gov/>

**For answers to other questions about the City’s response to COVID-19, please email: [hotline@cityofportsmouth.com](mailto:hotline@cityofportsmouth.com)**

**For more information, visit** City’s page on COVID-19: <https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/city/covid-19-information>