CITY OF PORTSMOUTH

City Manager's Advisory Monday, September 21, 2020

Portsmouth Mask Ordinance now in effect. For the full ordinance, click here. https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/sites/default/files/2020-09/Ordinance%20-%20Face%20Coverings%20Chapter%203%20Article%2011%20-%20FINAL%2009-14-2020.pdf

Governor Sununu's "Safer At Home" guidelines continue until October 1, 2020.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING TUES SEP 22 at 7 pm via Zoom – Continuation of the September 14 agenda. For the Agenda and Zoom registration, click here.
http://files.cityofportsmouth.com/agendas/2020/citycouncil/cc092220ag.pdf

CLIPPER STRONG FUND MINI-GRANTS -- The Clipper Strong Fund Committee announces a new initiative designed to assist Portsmouth small businesses who "might otherwise fall through the cracks" as they struggle with the continuing impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. **The new effort is a mini-grant program that will award grants of up to $500 to businesses in need of short-term relief to cover such expenses as utility bills, rent, PPE or other expenses.** To qualify to apply for a Clipper Strong Fund mini-grant, the applicant must be:

1. An independent business with 10 or fewer employees (whether full- or part-time).
2. A Portsmouth business in existence for at least 6 months prior to March 13, 2020 (the date of Governor Sununu's COVID-19 Emergency Order).
3. Able to define the intended use of the grant of up to a maximum of $500. Eligible uses include: COVID-19 safety modifications for employees or the public, inventory or new equipment required to reopen under the COVID-19 guidelines, rent, utilities, employee benefits or marketing materials (including printed or online media for public information). Successful applicants will be expected to prove the need with invoices or written estimates.

Applications for the Clipper Strong Fund mini-grants are now available online
https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/sites/default/files/2020-09/Clipper%20Strong%20Fund%20Application%202020.09.08.pdf
Completed applications must be submitted by email to clipperstrong@gmail.com by 11:59 pm on October 1, 2020.

The Clipper Strong Fund is still accepting donations (https://www.clipperstrong.org) Donations in the form of a check may be mailed to the Clipper Strong Fund c/o Coastal Economic Development Corporation, 4 Merrill Industrial Drive, Suite 201, Hampton NH 03842. Small businesses who would like **to receive a free Clipper Strong Fund Care Package** (containing disposable face masks, signage asking customers to wear masks and a touchless thermometer) should **send an email with the name of the business, location, phone and email contact to** hotline@cityofportsmouth.com

PRESCOTT PARK MASTER PLAN IMPLEMENTATION PRESENTATION & PUBLIC COMMENT ZOOM OFFICE HOURS -- Click here
http://files.cityofportsmouth.com/files/prescottpark/20200914_PRESCOTT%20PUBLIC%20MEETING1.pdf for the presentation on the preliminary project engineering work conducted by Weston & Sampson and next phase of implementing the Prescott Park Master Plan. Residents are invited to comment on the presentation and ask additional questions via online "office hours" with members of the Prescott Park Master Plan Implementation Committee and Weston & Sampson. Office hours include:

Wed, Sep 23, 12 noon. To register: https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/prescottpark/events/prescott-park-master-plan-implementation-open-office-hours
Thurs, Sep 24, 8:30 am. To register: https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/prescottpark/events/prescott-park-master-plan-implementation-open-office-hours-0
Wed, Sep 30, 6 pm. To register: https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/prescottpark/events/prescott-park-master-plan-implementation-open-office-hours-1

The dates and hours for those discussions are posted on the City website calendar and on this page.
https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/prescottpark/prescott-park-master-plan-implementation-committee

HYDRANT AND WATER MAIN FLUSHING STARTS TONIGHT, 7-11 pm -- Monday through Thursday for the next six weeks. The flushing operation covers both public and private hydrants in Portsmouth, New Castle, Rye, Greenland and Newington. Crews open select fire hydrants, releasing water with enough velocity to carry sediment out of the pipes. Residents are advised that when the Water Division trucks with flashing lights are working in a neighborhood, they should refrain from washing laundry to avoid any potential discoloration of clothing. While flushing can result in discolorations to tap water, the water remains safe to drink. When flushing is finished, water customers should run cold water to clear any discolored water in their plumbing systems. If the discoloration persists, customers should contact the Water Division though the Click 'n Fix system to ensure prompt response.
https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/publicworks/portsmouth-click-n-fix

WATER RESTRICTIONS NOW IN EFFECT – The DPW Water Division is restricting Water customers to use for watering lawns and gardens only on odd-numbered days, between midnight and 10 am. There should be no outdoor watering on even-numbered days. For more information:
https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/publicworks/press-releases/portsmouth-dpw-water-division-imposes-watering-restrictions

WARD 3 CITYWIDE NEIGHBORHOOD COMMITTEE FORUM WED SEP 30 at 6 pm via Zoom – The Committee has gathered a panel of Portsmouth City officials to discuss projects and issues specific to the Ward 3 neighborhood. The Zoom meeting is open to residents of Ward 3 as well as to the public at large. Advance registration is required. For the Agenda and Zoom registration link, go to.
http://files.cityofportsmouth.com/agendas/2020/misc/cnc093020not.pdf

DOWNTOWN WORKFORCE PARKING PROGRAM AVAILABLE YEAR-ROUND -- Qualified employees of downtown Portsmouth businesses can park in the Foundry Place Garage for only $3 per parking session, rather than the per-hour parking rate. By joining the Downtown Workforce Parking Program, they purchase stickers to affix to their parking receipts. Each employee is eligible to buy up to 20 parking stickers per month. To participate, the employee of a Downtown Portsmouth business must show a photo ID and current proof of paycheck issued by a downtown business and submit the application form in person at the Foundry Parking Garage office.
https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/sites/default/files/2020-09/Downtown%20320%20App11.15.19%20%281%29.pdf For more information, call 603.766.2630 or visit the Parking Services Offices located right at the Foundry Garage at 100 Foundry Place.

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION DAY, SAT OCT 3, from 8 am to 12 noon at the DPW Recycling Center, 680 Peverly Hill Road – Household hazardous waste collection helps safely dispose of items that can harm residents' health, the environment and drinking water supplies. Collection Day is organized as a no-touch, drive-through service. Residents remain in their vehicles and pull through the Public Works garage, where staff will remove disposable items from car trunks. All City staff will be wearing masks and will be practicing physical distancing. Residents will be asked verbally about their town of residence for survey purposes, in compliance with EPA requirements. Proof of residency in Portsmouth, Newington or Greenland is required. For more information on what items are accepted and which are not, visit:
https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/publicworks/solid-waste-recycling/household-hazardous-waste-day

DPW PROJECTS THIS WEEK:

MARKET STREET MILLING FOR PAVING ON WED, SEP 23 – Two-way traffic on one side of the media. Flaggers in place.

SOUTH STREET PAVING – Prep work continues for paving the section of South Street between Junkins Ave. and Marcy Street. No parking allowed in this section between 7 am and 5 pm. Residents with on-street parking should park in the lower lot at City Hall.

ISLINGTON STREET DETOUR BETWEEN BARLETT & CASS STREETS -- Traffic flow will be reduced to one lane of one-way westbound traffic between Cass Street and Bartlett Street. Eastbound traffic on Islington will be detoured onto Jewell Court and around the work zone via Brewery Lane and Cass Street. Flaggers and/or police details will be present to help direct traffic. Drivers should expect minor delays. Parking restrictions will be in place at all times along the detour until the winter shutdown between mid-December and next April and will resume until the project is completed in June 2021. For more information on the project, including a map of the detour route, https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/publicworks/islington-street-corridor-reconstruction-project

- **BANFIELD ROAD CONSTRUCTION –** Between Heritage Ave and Ocean Rd. Alternating one-way traffic and flaggers in place.
- **KEARSARGE & MARKET STREET BRIDGES** – Traffic reduced to one lane, police detail and flaggers in place. Work to upgrade the traffic signals at the downtown intersections with Maplewood also continues.
- **For the latest on individual projects, click here and then on the Projects tab.** https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/publicworks

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 has extended his Emergency Order until October 1, 2020. https://www.governor.nh.gov/sites/g/files/ehbemt336/files/documents/emergency-order-66.pdf The State has also made extensive changes to the COVID guidelines over the last few weeks 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

For more information, visit City's page on COVID-19