

## CITY OF PORTSMOUTH

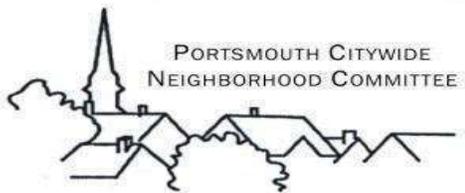


# City Newsletter: Wednesday, October 19, 2022

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING MON OCT 24 AT 7 PM** – In person in Council Chambers and via Zoom.

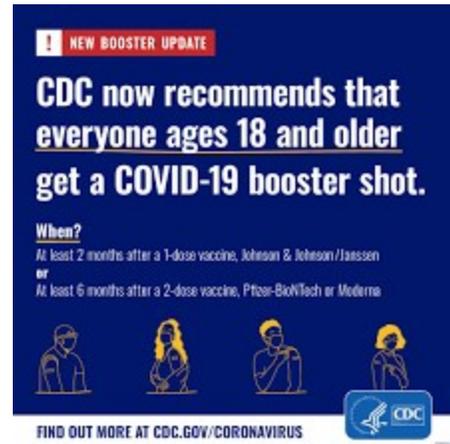
**NOTICE: The Rye Water System “boil water” order does NOT apply to Portsmouth.** For more information go to: <https://ryewaterdistrict.com/>

**HIGH STREET ENTRANCE TO HANOVER GARAGE CLOSED MON OCT 24 & TUES OCT 25** -- Entrance will be closed as a safety measure while the masonry contractor is placing cap stones above the entrance. This work is weather dependent and will be delayed if it rains. **THURS OCT 27 FLEET STREET** will be affected for a few hours for concrete placement. **Noise expected from concrete sawcut and demolition thru Oct 26.** Work takes place between 8 am and 5 pm, Mon-Fri. Subscribe to the weekly emails and submit questions on the [Hanover Garage Project page](#). For the current work schedule, go to [construction schedule](#).



**CITYWIDE NEIGHBORHOOD COMMITTEE WARD 1 FORUM WED OCT 26 at 6:30 pm.** In-person at New Franklin School, 1 Franklin Drive. Go to the [Agenda](#).

**PORTSMOUTH POLICE DEPARTMENT "BEARDS FOR BUCKS" CAMPAIGN RAISES FUNDS FOR ROCKINGHAM COUNTY CHILD ADVOCACY CENTER** -- To learn more and donate to the cause follow [this link](#).



### MOBILE COVID-19 BOOSTER VACCINE CLINICS IN PORTSMOUTH –

**TUES OCT 25, MIDDLE STREET BAPTIST CHURCH, 18 Court Steet, 9 am to 4 pm**

**THURS OCT 27, NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH, 263 Peverly Hill Rd., 9 am to 4 pm.** Free and open to the public. No appointment necessary. The clinic will offer the Pfizer and Moderna booster vaccines and will have limited quantities of the Pfizer and Moderna primary series vaccines. Please remember to bring your photo ID and your vaccination card (if you have one).

### BOOSTERS FOR HOMEBOUND

**INDIVIDUALS** – Call On-Site Medical Services, the company contracted by NH to provide homebound boosters, at 603.826.6500 to make an appointment, or go to <https://www.on-sitemedservices.com/vaccine>

### GO TO FAQs ON THE “FALL COVID-19 BOOSTER VACCINE”

<https://tinyurl.com/4smxnjf7>



**VIRTUAL PUMPKIN DECORATING CONTEST NOW OPEN!** Residents are invited to show off their jack o’lantern masterpieces to win a prize from local businesses. To enter, simply review the contest rules,

decorate a real pumpkin and submit a digital photo of the entry by 12 noon on Sat Oct 22. Online Pumpkin Decorating Voting begins on Mon Oct 24. Finalists will be announced on Fri Oct 28 on the Recreation Department Facebook page. For the contest rules and more information: <https://tinyurl.com/ywjhpwrb>

**PORTSMOUTH REC DEPT FALL FAMILY FUN FEST SAT OCT 29, 11 AM – 2 PM. Free at the Athletic Fields on Campus Drive.**

**PORTSMOUTH HALLOWEEN TRICK OR TREATING HOURS – SUN OCT 30, 4-7 PM**

**OCT 31 HALLOWEEN PARADE STREET CLOSURES AND PARKING BANS** -- Go to [details](#).

**ADVANCE NOTICE: MON OCT 31 -- Due to the Halloween Parade, downtown businesses should place their trash and recycling curbside by 1 pm on October 31, 2022.**

**DEADLINE MON OCT 24 FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION BUSINESS SURVEY** -- The Portsmouth Economic Development Commission (EDC) has launched its 2022 Business Retention and Expansion Survey. The goal is to survey the local business community to better understand the local business environment and learn more about how the EDC can help businesses in the community prosper. The survey should take about 10 minutes to complete. The EDC will share full survey results once they have been tabulated and analyzed. This survey is being administered by the University of New Hampshire Survey Center on behalf of the Portsmouth EDC. The Survey Center will keep your responses confidential. To participate, go to: <https://tinyurl.com/ysed4ky5>  
Questions? Contact Sean Clancy, Assistant City Manager for Economic Development ([sclancy@cityofportsmouth.com](mailto:sclancy@cityofportsmouth.com)). Technical difficulties accessing the survey? Contact Sean McKinley ([sean.mckinley@unh.edu](mailto:sean.mckinley@unh.edu)) at the UNH Survey Center.

**SEACOAST MANUFACTURERS' ROUNDTABLE WED NOV 9, 11:30 am – 1 pm at Great Bay Community College, 320 Corporate Dr., Portsmouth.** A collaborative effort between Great Bay Community College, City of Portsmouth, and the Chamber Collaborative of Greater Portsmouth, the Roundtable brings the local manufacturing community together to discuss and work on solutions to challenges facing the industry. Representatives from local and state government along with education and workforce leaders will participate in the roundtable alongside industry representatives. Free and includes lunch. Go to registration: <https://tinyurl.com/bdeyhbpz>



**NH ELECTION TUES NOV 8 – NEW VOTER REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS NOV 1** -- New Portsmouth voters may register in advance, during regular business hours at the City Clerk's Office in City Hall (1 Junkins Avenue) through Nov 1. On that day, the City Clerk will be available to register new voters until 4:30 pm. The Board of Registrars will also offer special hours for voter registration that evening, in the City Hall Lobby, from 6 to 7:30 pm. Same-day voter registration is also accepted at the polls on Election Day, November 8.

**Polling hours** for the NH Election on Tues Nov 8 are from 8 am to 7 pm. **Absentee ballots** for the NH Election are now available. Qualified registered voters may apply to receive an absentee ballot in person in the City Clerk's Office in City Hall or online, go to: <https://tinyurl.com/bdhdckxx>  
Once completed, Absentee Ballots must be received by the City Clerk's Office at City Hall by 5 pm on Mon Nov 7, the day before the election.

**Sample ballots** by Ward:

<https://tinyurl.com/3veh62f6>

For additional information on voting, Absentee Ballot qualifications and polling place locations, go to: <https://tinyurl.com/3veh62f6> **Or contact the City Clerk's Office at (603) 610-7208 or via e-mail at [cityclerk@cityofportsmouth.com](mailto:cityclerk@cityofportsmouth.com).**

**NH SAVES BUTTONUP ENERGY CONSERVATION WORKSHOP AT PORTSMOUTH PUBLIC LIBRARY NOV 3, 6:30 PM** -- The Rye Energy Committee and the Portsmouth Energy Advisory Committee (PEAC) are hosting this free workshop for area residents. The workshop is a 1.5 hour presentation for NH residents wishing to use energy more efficiently, conserve energy and save money on their heating and cooling bills. **In person in the Levenson Room** and via Zoom. Register in advance for the Zoom option at

<https://tinyurl.com/479kb4v7>



**REMINDER: CODE RED SNOW PARKING BAN SYSTEM WILL BE DISCONTINUED THIS MONTH – SIGN UP FOR SMART 911** – If you receive snow parking ban notices by text, email or voicemail and want to continue to receive these and other alerts, please sign up for Smart911. Your registration on CodeRED cannot be transferred, you must subscribe to Smart911 instead. Go to: <https://tinyurl.com/2t9hn22f>



**WORK WITH THE CITY OF PORTSMOUTH!**  
**Latest opening is: Administrative Clerk- Tax Department.** Go to: <https://tinyurl.com/a86hrshp>

**ARCHIVES TASK FORCE SEEKS VOLUNTEERS** -- The City Council voted unanimously to establish a Blue Ribbon Task Force to Study the Establishment of a Private/Public partnership to Properly Archive Historical Documents relating to the City of Portsmouth. They are now accepting applications from those who want to volunteer for the Committee. For more information on the Committee's purpose and a link to the Boards, Commissions, Committees application form, go to: <https://tinyurl.com/3rxkkbms>

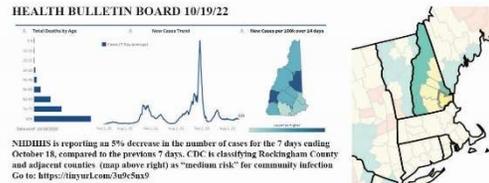
**ROAD WORK UPDATES:**

- **WOODBURY AVE. & GOSLING RD. INTERSECTION LANE CLOSURE FOR THE NEXT MONTH – One of the two left-hand turn lanes from Woodbury to Gosling.**
- **STATE & UNION FINAL PAVING NEXT WEEK. UNION & PINEHURST SIDEWALK WORK STARTS NEXT WEEK**

**STATE ST. SIDEWALKS PROJECT THRU OCT** -- Construction from Columbia Street to 683 State Street (near Summer St). Work includes roadway repaving and sidewalk replacement using both brick and concrete. **Work hours are Mon-Fri, 7 am to 5 pm with no parking in the marked work zone.** Those who park on the street should move their cars by 7 am or risk being towed. Sidewalk removal and replacement work is expected to take 6 weeks.

**SAGAMORE AVE SEWER EXTENSION CLIFF RD. & WALKER BUNGALOW** -- During construction travel on the streets will be limited, intermittently, to a single lane of alternating one-way travel Mon-Fri between 7 am and 6 pm. Go to the [Sagamore Ave. Project page](#) for more information.

**PEIRCE ISLAND TRAIL FENCE WORK CONTINUES** -- Work on the waterfront fence adjacent to the treatment plant) continues. Construction personnel and equipment in the area.



**COVID-19 Booster Doses**  
 The best way to protect yourself from COVID-19, including Omicron is to get vaccinated and boosted.  
**Who?** Everyone ages 18 and over should get a booster.  
**When?** At least 3 months after your second dose or booster shot or 2 months after a third dose.

**MOBILE COVID-19 BOOSTER VACCINE CLINICS IN PORTSMOUTH**  
**TUES OCT 25, MIDDLE STREET BAPTIST CHURCH, 18 Court Street, 9 am to 4 pm**  
**THURS OCT 27, NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH, 263 Peverly Hill Rd., 9 am to 4 pm.**  
 Free and open to the public. No appointment necessary. The clinic will offer the Pfizer and Moderna booster vaccines and will have limited quantities of the Pfizer and Moderna primary series vaccines. Please remember to bring your photo ID and your vaccination card (if you have one).

**COVID-19 BOOSTERS: MORE SITES AVAILABLE!** Find the new booster by going to the interactive map at [vaccines.gov](https://vaccines.gov)

**NH DHHS ELIGIBILITY FOR MONKEYPOX VACCINE** The New Hampshire DHHS defines monkeypox vaccine eligibility criteria to make it easier for people at risk for monkeypox to be vaccinated, and to make it easier for healthcare providers to vaccinate patients they believe are at risk. Those now recommended to get the 2-dose vaccine series include:  
 • Any person who identifies as gay, bisexual, queer, or is a man who has sex with men (MSM) and believes they are at risk for monkeypox virus infection.  
 • A person of any gender or sexual orientation whom a medical provider thinks is at increased risk for monkeypox virus infection.  
 • Persons who report in the prior 14 days a known exposure to the monkeypox virus.  
 • Vaccination locations can be found on the website, or contact your healthcare provider. Anyone experiencing monkeypox symptoms, should isolate and call their healthcare provider or call (603) 271-4496.

**NH DHHS AND CDC RECOMMEND EVERYONE OVER 6 RECEIVE FALL COVID-19 BOOSTER VACCINES** – The CDC has approved the FDA EUA for a modified “bivalent” booster: Pfizer vaccine for age 5+ and one from Moderna for 6+ that combine protection against the original strain PLUS protections against Omicron BA.4/BA.5 now circulating. The new CDC vaccination recommendations (below) say anyone who has received the primary series should receive the new booster vaccine, regardless of any additional booster or COVID-19 infections. Go to **UPDATED booster FAQs:** <https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/city-manager/vaccination-faq>

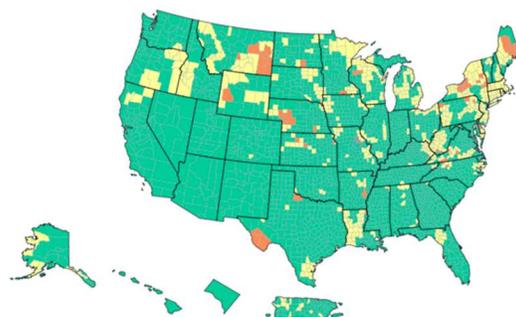
**COVID-19 Vaccination for People NOT Moderately-Severely Immunocompromised**

Age Group	Primary Series	Booster
18-64	2 doses	1 booster
65+	2 doses	2 boosters

**COVID-19 Vaccination for People Who ARE Moderately-Severely Immunocompromised**

Age Group	Primary Series	Booster
18-64	3 doses	2 boosters
65+	3 doses	3 boosters

**REGIONAL HEALTH BULLETIN BOARD** – Go to a larger PDF: <https://tinyurl.com/bdfnwnw9>



**TRAVELING? KNOW BEFORE YOU GO WITH CDC TOOL FOR ASSESSING COMMUNITY RISK (ROCKINGHAM COUNTY NOW LISTED AS “MEDIUM”) -- CDC recommends using its online COVID-19 tracker:**  
<https://tinyurl.com/57p5j3ba>  
 based on hospital beds being used, hospital admissions, and the total number of new COVID-19 cases in an area.

## COVID-19 BOOSTER SITES! Find locations offering the new booster by going to the interactive map at vaccines.gov

NH DHHS advises that everyone over 12 who completed the primary series vaccination 3 months ago or more should receive the new bivalent boosters. By receiving the booster (and this year's flu vaccine) you may help blunt the expected winter surge and demand on healthcare providers. The boosters are based on clinical research with the BA.1 bivalent vaccine, conducted in humans and were found to provide increased protection against severe disease and broader protection against existing and anticipated variants.

**PORTSMOUTH ARTS & NONPROFITS COMMITTEE SEEKING VOLUNTEERS FOR NEW CULTURAL PLAN SUBCOMMITTEE** – Go to details and link to application form:

<https://tinyurl.com/yk2tcz7w>

### Frequently Asked Questions:

**Q: I'm not a Portsmouth resident, can I apply to be a part of the Cultural Plan committee?**

A: Yes. When completing the application, where you're asked how long you've been a resident, please detail your connections to the city's arts & cultural community, i.e. business owner, work with arts/cultural nonprofit, etc.

**Q: How long will the group meet to complete the Cultural Plan?**

A: The committee will begin meeting this fall and complete the work by December 31, 2023.

**Q: How often will the group meet?**

A: The main Cultural Plan Committee will meet monthly, and possibly shift to more frequent meetings as needed.



## DEADLINE NOV 1 FOR "MEMORIES" FOR PORTSMOUTH NH 400 COMMEMORATIVE BOOK

-- Short essays of 400 words or less are welcome. Anyone who wants to participate in the Commemorative Project should submit a story of 400 words or less, as a Word document or link, in an email to [Stories.PNH400@gmail.com](mailto:Stories.PNH400@gmail.com). Submissions will be reviewed for accuracy and edited for length and content.

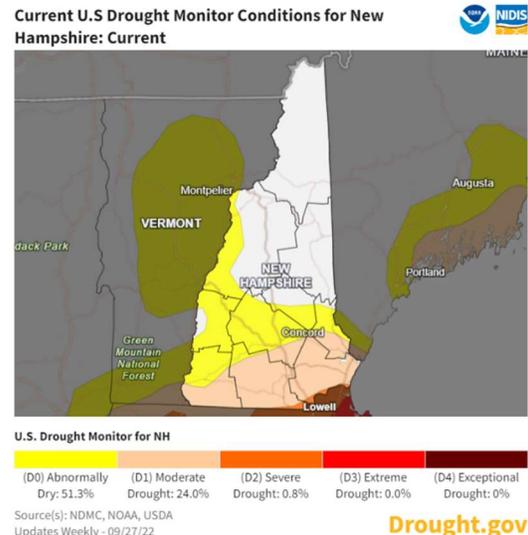
**PORTSMOUTH NH 400 ANNOUNCES TWO INTERNATIONAL GROUP AS BEACON LEVEL SPONSOR** -- Beacon Sponsor commitment of \$10,000 enables operational and logistical planning to advance for the PNH400 signature events including the June 3, 2023 Parade, August 6, 2023 Little Italy

Carnival and August 15, 2023 Community Dinner. The idea behind the Beacon Sponsor level is to motivate community members to become ambassadors to build programs, events and projects that will ensure the City's legacy and ignite its potential. "Two International Group is a pillar of this community," said Valerie Rochon, PNH400 Managing Director. "Renee and Dan Plummer are champions of Greater Portsmouth as a magnet for world-class, cutting-edge industries and the people who make this a great place to live. Truly, Two International Group is a Beacon, lighting the way for others to follow."

## 2022 SEACOAST HALF-MARATHON BENEFITS PORTSMOUTH NH 400, VIRTUAL HALF MARATHON OPENS OCT 22! IN-PERSON RACE IS OCT 30

-- Go to [Registration](#). Deadline for in-person is Oct 25. Deadline for virtual is Oct 29.

Go to [the latest news on plans for the Portsmouth NH 400th anniversary](#). Follow @PortsmouthNH400 on social media.



## PORTSMOUTH WATER SUPPLY UPDATE

-- As of September 21, the U.S. Drought Monitor for the state of New Hampshire is now reporting "moderate drought" conditions

<https://www.drought.gov/states/new-hampshire> around the Seacoast region of New Hampshire. The **City of Portsmouth and Pease Drinking Water Systems ask water customers to be as efficient as possible when using our precious water resources. NOTE: Portsmouth Water System customers in RYE must comply with that town's watering restrictions.** City Water operations staff continue to track and update conditions. For additional information visit: <https://tinyurl.com/2p88pcu4>

## HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION DAY SAT NOV 12, 8 AM-12

**NOON** -- At the Public Works facility at 680 Peverly Hill Road. Residents of Portsmouth, Greenland and Newington are encouraged to bring household chemicals for safe disposal between 8 am and 12 noon. Proof of residency is required. Household hazardous waste collection helps safely dispose of items that can harm residents' health, the environment and drinking water supplies. Go to [details on what is accepted and what is not](#).

## CURBSIDE YARD WASTE/LEAVES PICKUP

Bagged leaves and other yard waste is collected by DPW through Nov 30 on the same day as your normal Solid Waste/trash. **PLEASE NOTE:** Use only paper or plastic biodegradable bags. If you opt to use the plastic bio-degradable bags, the bags must be factory-labeled "biodegradable." Yard waste bags, when placed curbside, shall not weigh more than 50 pounds each. **PLEASE DO NOT dispose of leaves or clippings in or near storm drains, drainage channels (where water drains rain or melting snow), wetlands or water bodies!** Check out what "Blue" has to say about yard waste: <https://tinyurl.com/25rww8r>

## OCTOBER IS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

**AWARENESS MONTH** – HAVEN, our local safe space and victims' advocate reminds us that one in every 3 women and one in 4 men is abused in their lifetimes. HAVEN is NH's largest crisis center working to prevent sexual assault, domestic violence and stalking, and to support and empower women, men, youth and families to heal from abuse and rebuild their lives. HAVEN advocates are available for free and confidential support 24-hours a day at **1-603-994-SAFE (7233)**.

**SUICIDE PREVENTION HOTLINE LOCAL CONTACTS -- Recent tragedies in Portsmouth prompt the City to remind everyone:** If you need help, **please call or text the Suicide Hotline Number AT 1-833.710.6477 or reach out to nh988.com**. PLEASE NOTE that the new federal 988 system routes callers to the crisis center closest to their area code, not their physical location. So, if your phone is not an area code 603 number you should call the New Hampshire crisis center directly for immediate help.

## WEEKLY FREE LUNCH REMINDERS:

- **Middle Street Baptist Church** – Seacoast Community Lunch brown bag lunches from the parking lot (18 Court St.), 12 noon to 1 pm on Wednesdays. For more information call 603-436-2337 or email [lunch@middle.st](mailto:lunch@middle.st)

- **St. John's Church** -- Common Table bag lunch pickup in the St. John's parking lot (100 Chapel St.) Thurs, 12 noon to 1 pm.

**GATHER COMMUNITY MARKET, FRIDAYS, 10 am – 1 pm** – A FREE food market for all. No paperwork. No ID. No one is ever turned away. Located at the NH National Guard building, 801 McGee Drive in Portsmouth.

## STATE AID CREDIT ON ELECTRIC BILLS --

The NH Legislature has approved allocating \$35 million to NH residents earning from 60% to 75% of the state's median income (\$75,000 to \$93,000 per year for a family of four). Those who are eligible and apply will get \$200 credits on their electric bills and \$450 for heating assistance. Residents with incomes below that threshold already are also eligible for other funds. You must apply through one of these Community Action Program agency to receive the assistance. **Rockingham County**

- Derry ([603 965-3029](tel:6039653029)): (Derry toll free [1-855-295-4105](tel:18552954105))
- Salem ([603 893-9172](tel:6038939172)) (Salem toll free [1-800-939-9172](tel:18009399172))
- Portsmouth ([603 436-3896](tel:6034363896)) (Portsmouth toll free [1-800-639-3896](tel:18006393896))
- Seabrook ([603 474-3507](tel:6034743507)) (Seabrook toll free [1-800-979-3507](tel:18009793507))
- Raymond ([603 895-2303](tel:6038952303)) (Raymond toll free [1-800-974-2303](tel:18009742303))

## ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIPS AND PAYMENT

**HELP** – On **Aug 1**, New Hampshire electric supply rates increased to more than double last August's supply rate. This significant rate increase is due to record-high natural gas prices and the global economy. Natural gas is the primary fuel for generating electricity in the region. **Help is available for customers who need it.** Regardless of financial need, customers are eligible for various payment programs and are urged to call Eversource at 844-273-7760 or visit [Eversource.com/billhelp](https://www.eversource.com/billhelp) to find the right plan for them. To learn about the many energy saving programs available, visit [Eversource.com](https://www.eversource.com).



**HOMEOWNER ASSISTANCE** -- In addition to the NH Emergency Rental Assistance Program, there is a program for NH homeowners who are struggling to

pay their mortgage, property taxes and other home expenses, and utilities. For more information, go to: <https://homehelpnh.org/homeowners>

### **EMERGENCY RENTAL & UTILITIES**

**ASSISTANCE** – The [NH Emergency Rental Assistance Program](#) (NHERAP) provides funds to renters who cannot pay their rent and utilities during the pandemic. The program works with tenants and landlords. Program changes as of October 1, 2021:

- Households may qualify for assistance for past-due and future rent and utility payments for a period not to exceed 18 months.
- At least one person in the household must have qualified for unemployment benefits, had their income reduced, had significant costs, or had other financial hardship during the pandemic. Certain income requirements must be met.

### **WHAT THE PROGRAM COVERS**

- Past-due rent including reasonable late and legal fees.
- Three months of future rent payments if needed for housing stability.
- Utilities, such as electricity, home heating costs, water, sewer, trash.
- Other housing-related costs such as internet and relocation expenses (including rental application fees, utility hook-up fees, and security deposits).
- Households may qualify for utility assistance even if they do not receive or need rental assistance.

For more information on how to apply for emergency funds available to renters in NH, click here: <https://www.capnh.org/covid19> The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) has also launched a tool (click here: <https://tinyurl.com/4hawaxf4>) that allows renters and landlords to find rental assistance programs in their area. Applications are handled through NH Community Action Partnership (CAP).

### **PORTSMOUTH STANDS WITH UKRAINE**

**There are many recognized relief agencies responding to the humanitarian crisis in Ukraine. You might consider one of these:**

<https://tinyurl.com/2mtsejuh>

### **CITY HALL FACEBOOK PAGE:**

**Like and follow us to get news as it's posted:**

<https://www.facebook.com/CityHallPortsmouthNH>

**Want to know more about what's happening in the City?** Click on the link below to sign up for the City Newsletter and/or individual email lists for projects. <https://tinyurl.com/y2p67par>