



The City of the Open Door



THE CITY OF PORTSMOUTH was settled in 1623 and Incorporated on July 6, 1849. The City was founded on a Mayor form of government. The first Mayor was Abner Greenleaf, elected in 1850. For nearly 98 years, the City continued to operate under this form of government. In January of 1948, a City Council-Manager form of government was inaugurated. The first City Manager was Edward Peterson, appointed on January 1, 1948. In 2020, the City of Portsmouth appointed its first female City Manager, Karen S. Conard. City Manager Conard serves as the City's 9th Manager in its 75 years.

THE OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK was established in 1880, and is one of the oldest public servant professions, dating back before biblical times. The first Clerk was D.J. Vaughan who served the City of Portsmouth from 1880 to 1884. The City Clerk is the pillar of our local government. Not only serving as the preserver of City Records, Vital Records, and the keeper of our City Seal but is the core organizer of our Council, and Chief Executive Election Officer. Kelli L. Barnaby is our current City Clerk, approaching 35 years of service to the City and is the longest serving City Clerk in Portsmouth.



ABSENTEE BALLOT INFORMATION

Absentee Ballot Applications will be made available in August.

Absentee Ballot Applications will be accessible on the City Clerk's Voter Information page by the QR Code



Or by visiting the City Clerk's office.

Our office hours:

Monday 8:00am–6:00pm

Tuesday–Thursday 8:00am–4:30pm

Friday 8:00am–1:00pm

Your voice matters

CITY OF PORTSMOUTH

RESIDENTS GUIDE TO ALL THINGS ELECTION



Office Hours

Monday 8:00am–6:00pm

Tuesday–Thursday 8:00am–4:30pm

Friday 8:00am–1:00pm

P: (603) 610-7208 P: (603) 610-7245

E: klbarnaby@cityofportsmouth.com



WHAT IS A MUNICIPAL ELECTION?

Biennially, in the odd number of years, the City of Portsmouth holds a Municipal Election to elect its governing bodies such as:

- City Council | School Board
- Fire Commission | Police Commission
- Board of Registrars & Ward Officials

ELECTION INFORMATION

The City Council is elected AT-LARGE. Whereas the candidate receiving the highest number of votes will be elected as Mayor of Portsmouth.

The candidate receiving the second highest number of votes will be elected as Assistant Mayor of Portsmouth. Followed by 7 Councilors

NEXT MUNICIPAL ELECTION
November 7, 2023



VOTER REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS

- ⇒ 18 Years of Age, *or will be 18 prior to election date.*
- ⇒ Photo ID
- ⇒ Proof of Residency (*Portsmouth Physical Address*)
- ⇒ Must be a U.S. Citizen/Naturalized Citizen



LAST DAY TO REGISTER

Last day to register to vote prior to Municipal Election will be
October 28, 2023
12:00 pm–2:00 pm
Room 211
Board of Registrars

POLLING HOURS

The polling hours will be set by the City Council at the September 18, 2023 City Council meeting.



PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY INFORMATION

Voters be aware...

Date of the Presidential Primary Election
TBD
By the *Office of the Secretary of State*



Voters must declare party affiliation when casting their ballot.

- Changes to party affiliation must be done in-person at the Office of the City Clerk.



Deadline for party affiliation changes to be released once Presidential Primary date has been established by the Office of the Secretary of State.

Did you know...

That undeclared voters are permitted to vote in the Presidential Primary but must declare party affiliation at polling location.

In the State of New Hampshire there are 3 Political Parties:

- Undeclared
- Democrat
- Republican

ATTENTION undeclared voters must visit the switchback table after casting their ballot to revert back to undeclared status.

