



BOARD of POLICE COMMISSIONERS

of the

City of Portsmouth, N.H.



Commission Buzz Scherr ... Commissioner Francesca Fernald ... Commissioner Gary Dozier

“Providing Citizen Oversight of Your Police Department”

October 20, 2026

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. ACCEPTANCE OF THE SEPTEMBER 15, 2026 MINUTES

(Anticipated action: A motion will be made to accept the meeting minutes from the September 15, 2026 regular Police Commission meeting.)

IV. SUSPEND THE AGENDA

(Anticipated action: A motion will be made to suspend the agenda to move to items #1 Officer Recognition and #2 Skydio Presentation under the Chief's Report).

V. PUBLIC COMMENT

Individual comment is limited to five minutes. Speakers are asked to state their name and address before addressing their topic.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

A. POLICE COMMISSION

1. Facilities Update
 - a. Municipal Building Blue Ribbon Committee Update
 - i. Plan Approval & Next Steps
 - b. Dispatch Remediation Update

B. CHIEF OF POLICE

1. Officer Recognition
 - Detective Erik Widerstrom - Paul Lindsay Detective Award
 - Detective Matthew Fredrickson - Letter of Commendation
 - Officer Ian Efstathiou - Letter of Recognition
2. Skydio Presentation
 - Drone as First Responder (DFR) Program
3. Geraldine Webber Funding Request: Rifle Suppressors
 - a. Action Item: To approve the expenditure of \$30,000 from the Geraldine Webber Fund for the Portsmouth Police Department to purchase suppressors for newly acquired department rifles.

- Purpose: These safety devices reduce muzzle discharge volume to protect officer hearing from permanent damage and improve critical communication and situational awareness during tactical deployments.

(A motion will be made to accept the expenditure of \$30,000 from the Geraldine Webber Fund for the Portsmouth Police Department to purchase rifle suppressors as safety equipment to protect officer hearing and improve tactical communication, and forward to the City Council for their action.)

4. Grants

a. FY26 Byrne Discretionary Community Projects Grant

Acceptance of a \$1,000,000 FY26 Byrne Discretionary Community Projects grant from the Office of Justice Programs to fund the NH Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) COPS and Enhanced Capacity Program – aimed at strengthening affiliate agencies’ investigative and forensic capacities - and forward to the City Council for their action. *(A motion will be made to accept the terms of the FY26 Byrne Discretionary Community Projects grant for the NH ICAC Task Force as presented in the amount of \$1,000,000 and forward to the City Council for their action.)*

b. FY26 COPS Technology and Equipment Program Grant

Acceptance of a \$1,031,000 FY26 COPS Technology and Equipment Program grant from the Office of Community Oriented Policing Service (COPS) - to acquire advanced law enforcement equipment, technologies, and interoperable communications that prevent crime and expand community policing - and forward to the City Council for their action. *(A motion will be made to accept the terms of the FY26 COPS Technology and Equipment Program grant for the Portsmouth Police Department’s IT and Security needs as presented in the amount of \$1,031,000 and forward to the City Council for their action.)*

5. Crime Analyst Report & Monthly Traffic Stats

6. Financial Report

- a. Grant Applications Update
- b. Strategic Plan Draft

VII. MISCELLANEOUS/OTHER BUSINESS

VIII. NEXT REGULAR MEETING

Tuesday, November 17, 2026. Please check the municipal meetings calendar on the city’s website for any important meeting updates.

NOTICE to members of the public who are hearing impaired: Applies only to in-person meetings in Council Chambers - If you wish to attend a meeting and need assistance, please contact City Human Resources at 431-2000 ext. 7270 prior to the scheduled meeting. Thank You.

*Respectfully Submitted by Jacqueline Burnett, Executive Assistant
Commissioner Francesca Fernald, Clerk of the Commission*