

CITY COUNCIL E-MAILS

Received: December 16, 2021 (after 9:00 a.m.) – December 20, 2021 (before 5:00 p.m.)

December 20, 2021 Council Meeting

**New content:**

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by Jennifer Chapnick ([jennifer.chapnick@gmail.com](mailto:jennifer.chapnick@gmail.com)) on Saturday, December 18, 2021 at 07:13:25

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address: 97 Meredith Way

comments: Hello councilors â€”

I would like add my support and encouragement for the action sports park funding to be approved. I think there is a huge benefit to the youth in our community for this park, and especially during the ongoing Covid pandemic. This park would be a safe, fun, and positive experience for physical and mental health of so many in our community.

Thank you for your consideration,

Jen Chapnick

97 Meredith Way

includeInRecords: on

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Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by Mark Marshall ([markmarshall32185@gmail.com](mailto:markmarshall32185@gmail.com)) on Saturday, December 18, 2021 at 11:12:08

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address: 508 Richards Ave

comments: The self proclaimed Beckstead Five, please stop. You've proclaimed your love of Portsmouth and wanting to preserve and do what's right for the citizens (albeit, it's clear you mean specific citizens rather than ALL citizens). I add my voice to the many others asking you to leave with dignity. Leave these important decisions that will impact taxes and citizens to the new council, or at the very least - please listen to lawyers. Whether it is progress or preservation, Portsmouth can't do either if they're buried under lawsuits and financial woes.

Mark

includeInRecords: on

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Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by Arbour Kat ([katarbour1@gmail.com](mailto:katarbour1@gmail.com)) on Saturday, December 18, 2021 at 11:21:07

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address: 86 Emery Street

comments: Becksted 5 â€” ENOUGH!!

Stop this petty wastefulness now!

Allow the incoming council to do their job without digging the city farther into law suits with developers.

includeInRecords: on

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Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by Kristina Campbell ([clam\\_tamales.0q@icloud.com](mailto:clam_tamales.0q@icloud.com)) on Saturday, December 18, 2021 at 11:42:47

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address: 4 Dunlin Way

comments: Please let our newly elected officials make any decisions that will impact the people of Portsmouth. Let your reign and quietly.

includeInRecords: on

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by Kelly Wright ([kelwright409@gmail.com](mailto:kelwright409@gmail.com)) on Saturday, December 18, 2021 at 11:46:42

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address: 409 lincoln ave

comments: Becksted 5 ran as a Trump republican block and were wholly rejected as a block "as were DJT and his cronies. The mandate of the voters of Portsmouth is to step aside and let the new city council make the decisions for the future. No sweetheart deals as payback to your backers. Despicable.

includeInRecords: on

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Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by KEVIN P SZMYD ([58snow@gmail.com](mailto:58snow@gmail.com)) on Saturday, December 18, 2021 at 13:46:17

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address: 41 Harborview Drive

comments: Very concerned that someone created an anonymous website to rally against "The Beckstead Five." This seems to be an enormous breach of privacy, as I did not sign up for any of these messages, and there is no organization or person clearly sponcering them. If I could recieve information on the source of these messages that would be much appreciated.

includeInRecords: on

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Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by Jessica J Dickey ([jessjanice@gmail.com](mailto:jessjanice@gmail.com)) on Saturday, December 18, 2021 at 16:20:50

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address: 13 Denise St.

comments: Leave gracefully and stop terrorizing Portsmouth.

includeInRecords: on

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Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by Petra Kashin ([petrakashin@gmail.com](mailto:petrakashin@gmail.com)) on Saturday, December 18, 2021 at 17:05:57

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address: 158 Blue Heron Drive

comments: Voters have spoken and do not want the Besksted 5 to make any more decisions for our city. Please end your term with respect and do not make any major decisions or appointments at your last city councilor meeting on Dec 20th. Thank you.

includeInRecords: on

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Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by Brenda Shanley ([bcshanley@hotmail.com](mailto:bcshanley@hotmail.com)) on Sunday, December 19, 2021 at 09:28:49

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address: 73 Taft St

comments: The current City Councilors should not make appointments during this lame duck period. It is highly unethical. Several of the recent appointees are grossly unqualified for their new positions.

includeInRecords: on

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Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by Michele McCarthy ([MicheleMcCarthy818@gmail.com](mailto:MicheleMcCarthy818@gmail.com)) on Sunday, December 19, 2021 at 11:28:11

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address: 10 Denise street

comments: I hope the councilors take a step back and look at the good things they have done. Please go out on a positive note and let any new items to be voted on be done by the new administration.

includeInRecords: on

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by Peter B. Harris ([peterbharris@gmail.com](mailto:peterbharris@gmail.com)) on Sunday, December 19, 2021 at 11:37:53

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address: 46 Manning St

comments: over the weekend many residents received texts from anti Becksted five campaign. i feel our democracy is under assault by the same hacks that supported the false news site ahead of the election.  
i'm appalled, this election was not partisan. yet supporters of this seem to believe it is.  
i'd like to request a complaint be made by the city council to the NH Attorney General. So wrong. .  
includeInRecords: on

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Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by James Hewitt ([samjakemax@aol.com](mailto:samjakemax@aol.com)) on Sunday, December 19, 2021 at 14:06:23

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address: 726 Middle Road

comments: Dear Mayor-Elect McEachern and City Council-Elects

I thought Portsmouth politics had bottomed out last election with the mudslinging Preserve.Portsmouth.com that anonymously and illegally spewed lies and insults against Mayor Becksted and Councilors Kennedy, Huda, Whelan and Trace. I was wrong. Yesterday and today, a new even more despicable website sent text messages to a select group of Portsmouth Democratic voters / contributors with even more lies and slander.

<https://beckstedfive.com/>

On Monday night, December 20, at the City Council meeting, I call on all of you to publicly acknowledge this site, condemn it and declare this kind of vile politics has no place in Portsmouth, now or in the future.

Regards,  
Jim Hewitt

P.S. I checked the box that indicates this post will be in the public record and listed in emails in the Council packet.  
includeInRecords: on

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Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by Jessica Kaiser ([jkaiser@hawthorncreative.com](mailto:jkaiser@hawthorncreative.com)) on Sunday, December 19, 2021 at 14:26:59

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address: 30 Spring Street

comments: I'm a Portsmouth resident, investment property owner, and employer within our community. I'm deeply concerned about the shameless and illegal actions of the Becksted five during their final days in office. These people are corrupt and have been voted out of office for good reason. My friends and neighbors all agree that they aren't wanted on city council or in this community in general. We want them gone, and I would like to hold our community leaders accountable for stopping these people from forcing staff appointments in their final days, that serve their own personal needs, rather than that of the greater community. Please stop them. They are not respected in their roles and their agenda isn't wanted in this town.  
includeInRecords: on

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Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by Ruth Hawkensen ([nhsky01@gmail.com](mailto:nhsky01@gmail.com)) on Sunday, December 19, 2021 at 15:16:34

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address: 315 Salmon Avenue

comments: Please do not allow the nominations which basically support false information re Covid & safety measures and who also support elected officials who support overthrowing the US government. Both are dangerous and unacceptable.  
includeInRecords: on

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by Stephen Parsons ([Parsons\\_se@yahoo.com](mailto:Parsons_se@yahoo.com)) on Sunday, December 19, 2021 at 18:18:35

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address: 160 Essex Ave

comments: I support the full funding of the skate park and field at the former stump dump. I live down the street and have two kids coming into prime age for this fantastic addition to our city. With the up coming rail trail going in adjacent to this property everything feels right to move forward with this project as soon as possible.

includeInRecords: on

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Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by Amy-Mae ([amymaemassage@gmail.com](mailto:amymaemassage@gmail.com)) on Monday, December 20, 2021 at 06:54:31

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address: 47 Taft Road

comments: Thank you for your time and your service to Portsmouth. I will be speaking on tonight in favor of funding the skatepark. I have so much to say and don't want to take up too much of your time Monday evening, so I am writing some important points that I will be leaving out of what I say at the 12/20 council meeting.

Back in 2011, when my son Jesse was 5 and first started skating, I made a video of the Greenleaf Skatepark for my friend who works at the X-Games. I walked around narrating about the obsolete structures, the cracks, and the obvious lack of planning that went into the design due to the lack of flow - which not only makes the park not fun to ride, but also dangerous. The structures are more like obstacles than rideable formations. We thought that the video might land into the right hands and we could get some help with ideas to bring to the city, and possibly someone interested in funding a new park. During this same year I had a meeting with Tammy Joslyn from Operation Blessings. I somehow found out that she felt the same way about Greenleaf's dilapidated state, and was interested in doing something about it. I called the city manager to get some information about the space. This was not received well, and instead of getting a call or email back, he angrily communicated to Tammy that he did not want to speak to me. This response and my reaction to it, lead me to stop trying. At the time I was a working mom of a 5 year old and knew that I didn't have the emotional or mental fortitude to stand up against that kind of mentality. Furthermore, I heard through the grapevine that city officials were against a new skatepark, and that when it had come up in the past, it was always voted down.

Fast forward to 2020, schools are closed and/or remote, kids can't be together indoors for fear of the virus, organized sports are canceled, Rye Airfield closes its doors, and I see a petition going around about a skatepark. At that moment, I realized the time for me to try to get involved again was now.

The pandemic really hit home how desperately we need spaces for unstructured outdoor recreation. When people ask me how Jesse did over the lockdown period, I tell them that socially he did great, thanks to skateboarding and mountain biking. He was still able to be with his people, sharing in an activity and keeping physically fit. However, with nowhere safe, and quite frankly, legal to skate, these kids started getting into trouble.

Without a proper skatepark, it has been difficult for a really large subset of our school children. For a skateboarder to develop his or her skills, they currently have to be willing to put themselves in dangerous predicaments, skating where there are mandates against it, and getting into trouble with police. Recently, an incident occurred with a private citizen of this community swearing, pushing and grabbing kids aged 13-15 over a period of about 3 weeks. They were, by the way, skating outside of the no skateboarding mandated areas. These are kids who, if you previously saw skate at Rye Airfield, would have been in awe of their skill level. These are kids who learned the skatepark etiquette to wait one's turn and be gracious to others utilizing the park. These kids are not hooligans, but with no facility to practice their sport, are treated as such. They love their sport so much that they are willing to put themselves in these precarious and dangerous situations. There are countless other kids who aren't willing to put themselves in those types of situations, but would love to be scootering and/or skateboarding. In a very real sense we are relegating these types of sports to the shadows.

You sense urgency for funding a skatepark for the above reasons, and so many more that you will hear on Monday evening. Letting this project go un-funded or partially funded, is doing a huge disservice to the children of our community who desperately need, and have needed, a public recreational facility such as a skatepark and pump track. Without funding, this project might be allowed to get lost in the shuffle, and to be quite honest, this facility should have been in said shuffle for many years already. There is no better time than now to fund this park. I appreciate you reading this and for taking this project seriously. You are the council who did that. We see you as our heros in this endeavor.

includeInRecords: on

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by Matthew Glenn ([matthglenn@gmail.com](mailto:matthglenn@gmail.com)) on Monday, December 20, 2021 at 09:02:29

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address: 34 Harrison

comments: Dear Mayor and Councilors,

I was disappointed to receive a text message this weekend linking to a website with a really superficial political attack on five of you. The nastiness of national party politics should have no place here in our city council. In your last meeting of this council term, I hope you can act in a way that will build bridges and try to heal some of the divisions.

I'd like to voice support for both the skatepark and the Community Campus acquisition. It's great to see skatepark funding in the proposed CIP for 2023, along with many other worthwhile projects, and I applaud the planning department (including interim planning director) and other city staff for the work they have put into this.

Matthew Glenn

includeInRecords: on

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Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by Brenna Jennings ([brennaj@gmail.com](mailto:brennaj@gmail.com)) on Monday, December 20, 2021 at 09:54:22

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address: 54 Taft Rd

comments: Good morning Council,

I'm writing in favor of moving the skatepark project ahead even if it requires some budgetary manipulation and despite the near guarantee that my husband is going to injure himself there.

I completely understand that for some residents a park like this feels nonessential and maybe even frivolous, but this space has the potential to become a centerpiece of Portsmouth's pedestrian-friendly, recreation-forward future and a draw for skaters, scooters, and cyclists from neighboring communities and states. With new sidewalk and multi-use path projects underway and the acquisition of Community Campus, we have a golden opportunity to develop a truly accessible, world-class resource for our city and beyond.

No need to reply. Thank you all for your time and consideration.

Brenna Jennings (Steve De Trolio co-sign)

includeInRecords: on

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Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by Heather Pettis ([hpettis@neaq.org](mailto:hpettis@neaq.org)) on Monday, December 20, 2021 at 11:17:08

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address: 202 O'Leary Place

comments: We may be unable to join the council meeting tonight so wanted to send an email of support for the Portsmouth Skatepark. I ask that the council vote to approve funding for the Skatepark of Portsmouth NH. This project has tremendous support from city residents, and for good reason. Our kids (and community as a whole) need an outdoor space that is local, safe, and accessible to practice and improve their skills while staying active, outdoors, and building a supportive community. I ask you all to vote to approve this funding.

includeInRecords: on

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Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by Philippe Favet ([philfavet@yahoo.com](mailto:philfavet@yahoo.com)) on Monday, December 20, 2021 at 12:06:41

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address: po box 152C Dennett st

comments: Hello Council Members ! I'm reaching to you to confirm the confirmation of the 2 planing board members voted in at the last council meeting .I support fully your decision.Thank you for dedicated time and hard work during this trouble time.Philippe Favet

includeInRecords: on

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by Kathleen Cavalaro ([kathleencavalaro@gmail.com](mailto:kathleencavalaro@gmail.com)) on Monday, December 20, 2021 at 14:04:28

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address: 110 State St.

comments: Kathleen Cavalaro

December 20, 2021

Dear Esteemed City of Portsmouth,

This is my letter of intent to take over the development of the McIntyre project. If Bill Binnie submits an LOI, please know my plan will be better than Binnie's (and that will be my marketing slogan which has a nice ring to it). Although Binnie is a wealthy man who has much to gain from this project, I am not a wealthy person and have nothing to gain from this project. Although Binnie has offered to help fund this project in the past, I will get the funding through our community, I'm good for it. If Binne did not submit, please disregard this paragraph and I'll come up with a new slogan.

I have no experience in development but I'll get expert help. I'll create the biggest and most successful fundraiser in Portsmouth's history which will make this project cost zero dollars to taxpayers. I'll do all of this work for free but my only "payment" would be to request free parking for life.

Thank you for this opportunity. Looking forward to the process.

Sincerely,  
Kathleen Cavalaro  
includeInRecords: on

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