

# DID YOU KNOW?

# The FY21 Electronic PAFR Document Has Interactive Features?

**#1. The Table of Contents is LIVE!** "Click" any title and the document will move to that page within the document.

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**Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting**

The Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) has given an Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting to the City of Portsmouth, NH for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2020. The Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting is a prestigious national award recognizing conformance with the highest standards for preparation of the state and local government popular reports.

In order to receive an Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting, a government unit must publish a Popular Annual Financial Report, whose contents conform to program standards of creativity, presentation, understandability, and reader appeal.

An Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting is valid for a period of one year only. This is the City of Portsmouth's fourth PAFR Award. We believe our current report continues to conform to the Popular Annual Financial Reporting requirements, and we are submitting it to GFOA to determine its eligibility for another Award.

**Portsmouth City Council**

**Police Commission**

- Joseph J. DeLuca, Chairman
- Thomas Hart

**Board of Education**

- Kristin Jeffers, Chairperson
- Tara Kennedy, Vice Chairperson
- Nancy Jacqueline Clabourgh, PSC Clerk
- Brian French
- William Lumbry
- Margaret Feabody
- Nicole Van Capp
- Ann M. White

**Fire Commission**

- Jennifer Mosher Matthews, Chairperson
- Richard Gagnetta
- Michael Husbas

**Portsmouth Elected Officials (FY21)**

- Erick Beckstedt, Mayor
- Ann Slatone, Assistant Mayor
- Deagan McEachern
- Frank Whelan
- Cliff Losenbush
- Esther Kennedy
- Patrick Prida
- John Tabone
- Paige Trone

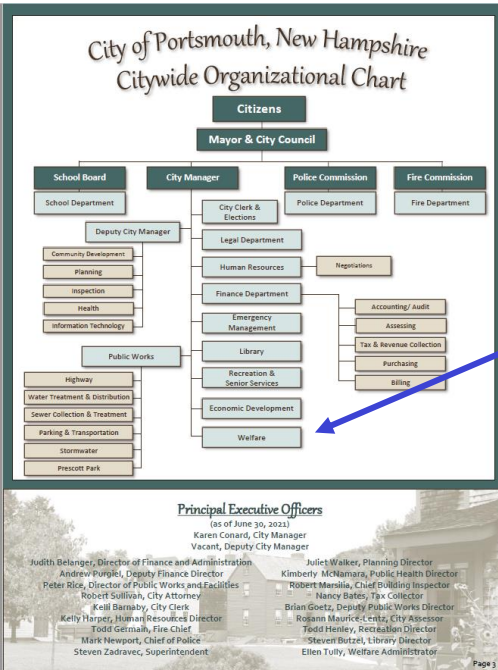
The City Council is the governing body of the City of Portsmouth and as such is the policy-making entity of the City, except where otherwise expressed in the City Charter. The City Council consists of nine (9) councilors elected at large for terms of two (2) years. The candidates for City Council who receive the largest number of votes at any election become Mayor. The City Councilor who receives the next largest number of votes becomes Assistant Mayor. A candidate for City Council must be a duly qualified voter and resident of Portsmouth for at least 60 days immediately prior to election.

The public is invited to attend and encourage to participate in City Council meetings. The meetings are also televised on the Portsmouth Municipal Government Cable Channel 12 and are streamed live on Portsmouth's City YouTube Channel. City Council meetings are held at the City Council Chambers, Municipal Complex, One Junction Avenue, Portsmouth, NH 03801. For information, call the City Clerk 603-434-1797.

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**#2. "Click" the City Council Title to be brought to the City Council Webpage.** The Police & Fire Commissions and School Board Members are also "clickable".

**#3. "Click" a Department Name on the City's Organizational Chart to go to that Department's City Webpage.**



**A Letter from the City Manager**

To the Citizens of Portsmouth,

As part of our continuous effort to keep you informed of the financial status of your City, I am pleased to present to you the 2021 Popular Annual Financial Report (PAFR). On behalf of the Finance Team led by Judge Belanger, I am proud to report that, in spite of all the challenges brought on by the global COVID-19 pandemic that we endured throughout the fiscal year, Portsmouth ended FY21 with a positive bottom line, in a strong financial position, and without laying off staff. This did not happen on its own. It was the result of years of maintaining sound long-term financial practices and making difficult budgeting decisions while preparing the FY21 budget.

Preparing and balancing the annual budget is one thing; dealing with the unique challenges presented by the pandemic while maintaining our residents' quality of life is quite another. While building the FY21 Budget, City Department Heads modified their draft budgets to sustain the City Council's desire to maintain all services provided to the citizens, to reduce expenditures and without laying off staff. In addition, we postponed to the end of FY21 bond issues that were scheduled to go to market in FY20 and delayed a number of capital outlay projects and vehicle and equipment purchases. Together, with a minimal use of fund balance approved by the City Council, the FY21 budget was passed with a tax rate 16 cents lower than the prior year.

In April 2021, Standard & Poor's credit agency affirmed the City's AAA bond rating for the ninth year in a row. In its assessment of the City's finances, Standard & Poor's said, "The AAA rating on the City's General Obligation bonds is underpinned by the City's strong management team that uses long-term financial planning to mitigate risks from one-time economic shocks such as those that occurred at the onset of the pandemic." This should give all citizens confidence and assure them that we can expect that our capital needs will continue to be met through low-interest financing and without impact to the delivery of services on which we all depend.

The most recent bond issuance included refinancing a twenty-year bond, saving taxpayers over \$1 million in interest over the remaining 10 years of the debt - another example of the importance of the AAA bond rating.

This report details what the City accomplished throughout FY21, and tells a very strong and stable financial story of which we can all be very proud, thanks to long-standing financial policies that have served us well. Together with the City Council, City staff and I continue to emphasize "a culture of cost management" among all employees while maintaining the integrity and quality of life in Portsmouth. We remain vigilant, moving forward, making decisions that protect the City's financial position.

The state of the City is strong and is poised to remain so. We were able to withstand the effects of a global pandemic - in large part to the City's long-standing, stable and predictable financial status and also due to the unbelievably professional, loyal, hard-working and dedicated City staff. I am honored to be the steward of this exceptional organization.

Sincerely,  
Karen S. Conard, City Manager

**City FY2021 Accolades**

- Greater Collaborative of Greater Portsmouth: Pandemic Powerhouse
- COLLABORATIVE
- Tree City USA Award & Tree City USA Growth Awards
- Water Fluoridation Quality Award
- National League of Cities (NLC) Community Resiliency Grant
- NLC NATIONAL LEAGUE OF CITIES
- NH State Library Conservation License Plate Grant Award
- THANKS A COMMUNITY
- Media Accolades
  - WORK's Outstanding Restaurants to Enjoy Outdoor Dining, May 2021
  - MSN accolade: "So Most Charming Small Towns in NH", March 2021
  - Portsmouth listed in the top 30 northeast destinations, Dec. 2020
  - Portsmouth ranked as an awesome place to retire, Nov. 2020
  - Portsmouth included EarthInformed.com article: Best Family Vacation in Every State in article on Sept. 2020

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**#4. "Click" a teal underlined link to be taken to a related website or document.**

**Click here to go to the FY21 Electronic PAFR.**

# DID YOU KNOW?

## The FY21 Electronic PAFR Document Has Interactive Features?

#5. "Click" the FY22 Budget Book Photo to be taken to the FY22 Budget Document Online

**Next Year's FY22 Budgets**

All the time of publication of the PAFR for year ending June 30, 2021. Please understand that the PAFR is a preliminary document and is subject to change as the City's budget is finalized. For more information, please visit the City's website.

**General Fund Fiscal Year 2022 Budget**

Operating Budget	21,458,910
General Government	12,553,495
Police	9,816,421
Education	59,493,241
Collective Bargaining	108,000
Transfer to Other Funds	923,486
Total Operating	\$ 98,352,553
Non-Operating	
Debt Service	13,797,890
Rockingham County Tax	5,813,878
Capital Outlay	1,080,000
Supplemental - Skateboard Park	2,200,000
Other Non-Operating	4,280,712
Total Non-Operating	27,172,480
<b>Total Annual Budget</b>	<b>\$125,525,033</b>

The tax rate approved by the Department of Revenue Administration is \$15.03 per \$1,000 of assessed value.

The FY22 Final Budget of \$125,525,033 includes 2 supplemental appropriations: \$2,200,000 to fund the initial phase of the Skateboard Park; \$136,000 for the new Community Campus building maintenance needs.

**Water and Sewer Funds**

Both the Water and Sewer Division user rates have been set based on a two-tier incising rate block structure based on units of water consumed. One unit is equal to 100 cubic feet or 748 gallons of water.

The FY22 water user rates reflect a 3% increase from FY21.

First 10 units of water consumed per month increased from \$4.31 to \$4.40.

Over 10 units per month increased from \$5.20 to \$5.30.

Irrigation rates are based on a three-tier incising rate structure.

- First 10 units of water consumed \$5.30/unit
- 10 to 20 units up to 20 units consumed 10.00/unit
- Above 20 units consumed \$13.34/unit

The FY22 sewer user rates reflect a 4% increase from the FY21 rates.

First 10 units of water consumed per month increased from \$14.23 to \$14.59.

Over 10 units per month increased from \$15.75 to \$16.38 per unit.

**Charter Departments (Police, Fire & School)**

**Police Department**

- 37,767 (10% ↑) Police Department Service Calls in FY21
- 826 Total Number of Arrests in FY21
- 66 DWI Arrests (43.5% ↑)
- 419 (18% ↓) Motor Vehicle Accidents
- 2,003 # Pieces of evidence processed
- 740 Pounds of medication collected at the PPD lobby kiosk.

**Fire Department**

- 2,547 (16% ↑) Fire/Rescue Service Calls in FY21
- 3,331 (3% ↑) Ambulance Service Calls in FY21
- 169 Motor Vehicle Accidents
- 387 Fire and Life Safety Inspections
- 5,757 Hours of Training
- 5,000+ COVID-19 Vaccines Administered at 21 Clinics

**School Department**

24 Educators had 34 students attending high school and 33 college students. Since its inception in 1993, over 200 students have received college mentoring and attended a 2 or 4-year college.

#5 Portsmouth School District rated #5 in Best School Districts in New Hampshire according to Niche ([www.niche.com](http://www.niche.com)).

**Congratulations!**

The following teams reached the championships:

**CHAMPIONSHIP FINALISTS:**

- Boys Alpine Skiing Finalists (Division II)
- Boys Tennis State Finalists (Division II)

**CHAMPIONSHIP WINNERS:**

- Boys Lacrosse (2021 Division II State Champions - 1<sup>st</sup> championship for the program)
- Girls Lacrosse (2021 Division II State Champions - 4<sup>th</sup> consecutive championship)
- Girls Field Hockey (2021 Division II State Champions - 1<sup>st</sup> championship since 1982).

**Portsmouth School Enrollment**

	Elementary School (P, K-5)	Middle School (6-8)	High School (9-12)
# of Schools	3	1	1
Grade Levels	P, K-5	6-8	9-12
Total Enrollment	925	491	1,049

#6. "Click" the Department's Name (Title) at the top of any Department Page to be taken to their City Webpage.

#7. "Click" Any Page Number to return to the PAFR Document's Table of Contents.

**Stay Connected**

Stay connected with the City through your mobile phone, computer or television.

**Download City Apps**

- Portsmouth Click n' Fix - Connect with the Public Works Department, send images and report issues and more!
- ParkMobile - View parking amenities and pay for parking (as well as feed the meter) all from your cell phone. \*\* Residents get a Discount when using the Park Mobile App! \*\*
- ChargePoint Mobile App - Helps find and utilize City ChargePoint EV Charging Stations
- Docklow - Find and reserve available Prescott Park dock spaces online.
- Libby and Hoopla - Library Apps that allow you to download eBooks, audio and magazines.
- Codered Emergency Alert System - Sends out Citywide Emergency alerts including snow parking bans.

**Visit CityofPortsmouth.com to:**

- Pay your Parking Ticket, Water/ Sewer Bill, Property Tax Bill and more;
- Renew your Motor Vehicle Registration;
- Register or Renew your Dog License;
- Utilize City Project Pages to find information and sign up for email notices on individual projects;
- Get a Permit online with ViewPoint Cloud Permits;
- Research property values through the Vision Software system;
- View 3D maps of the City through MapGeo;
- Sign up for the City's e-Newsletter;
- Send questions by email to: [hotline@cityofportsmouth.com](mailto:hotline@cityofportsmouth.com)

**Follow City Departments on Social Media** for up to date information on Citywide happenings (Road closures, recreation programs, Parking Garage statuses, snow bans and more):

- Facebook**
  - City @cityhallportsmouthnh
  - Fire Department @portsmouthfiredepartment
  - Library @pplnh
  - Police Department @portsmouthhpd
  - Recreation Department @portsmouthhrec
  - Schools @portsmouthschools
- Twitter**
  - City of Portsmouth (@MuniPortsmouth)
  - Police Department (@portsmouthhpd)
  - Fire Department (@portsmouthhfd)
  - Park Portsmouth (@ParkPortsmouth)
  - Public Works Department (@PortsmouthDPW)
  - Recreation Department (@PortsmouthRec)
  - Portsmouth Schools (@portsmouthschools)
  - Planning Department (@PlanPortsmouth)
  - Portsmouth Public Library (@PortsmouthLibNH)
  - Portsmouth Combined Sewer Overflow Alert (@PortsmouthCSO)
- Instagram**
  - DPW/SWstormwater: Think Blue Portsmouth NH @thinkblueportsmouthnh
  - Library @Portsmouth-public-library-nh
  - Park Portsmouth @Park\_portsmouthnh

**Did you know . . .**

The City of Portsmouth is Dog Friendly!

- Take your Best Canine Friend to visit one of these off-leash dog park areas: Portsmouth Dog Park, Green Dog Park
- Register for your Dog License Online (2,717 were registered in FY21) Register Your Dog Here
- You can read with a dog at the Portsmouth Public Library? [Click to Read with a Dog at PPL](https://www.portsmouthnh.gov/2021/03/15/read-with-a-dog-at-ppl/)
- The City has 2 Police Canine Teams (drugs/explosives)
  - P1 Steven Blanding and K-g Frankie
  - P1 Aaron Stacy and K-g Awe (drugs/explosives)
- The City also utilizes a grant funded canine, named Nico, who is a member of the KAC team (Internet Crimes Against Children)
- The Stormwater Team has been educating City dog owners on the do's and don'ts of dog waste disposal to help the City's stormwater. [Click to see the video](https://www.portsmouthnh.gov/2021/03/15/educating-dog-owners-on-waste-disposal/)

Also, make sure to bring your Pup to visit one of the many Dog-Friendly businesses downtown!

**You can donate funds to a City Project?**

Go to the City Website <https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/city/pay-my-bill-to-donate> - or scan a QR code below with your mobile phone.

- Portsmouth 400th
- City Cemetery Improvements
- Skateboard Park
- Portsmouth Public Library
- Community Education Scholarships

#8. The PAFR has scannable QR Codes for donation pages and clickable YouTube videos!

Click here to go to the FY21 Electronic PAFR.