SOUTH PORTLAND CITY COUNCIL
POSITION PAPER OF THE CITY CLERK

SUBJECT:

ORDER #71-18/19 – Public hearing on consolidating voting places for a December 11, 2018 special election and calling for a Special Election on Tuesday, December 11, 2018 to fill the vacant District Five City Council seat. Passage requires a majority vote.

POSITION:

At the September 18, 2018 City Council meeting, the Council accepted the resignation of Councilor Adrian Dowling and discussed a tentative schedule for holding a special election on December 11, 2018 to fill the unexpired term of the City Council District Five seat which expires December 2020. This public hearing is to consolidate the City’s polling locations to a central location at the South Portland Community Center, 21 Nelson Road, which has served as the location for past consolidated and special elections. The attached order sets the place, time and date of the special election, the period for nomination papers, and the period for absentee voting. The City Clerk shall serve as the Warden at the consolidated polling place.

REQUESTED ACTION:

Public hearing and action on ORDER #71-18/19.

[Signature]
WHEREAS, there is a vacancy in the office of District Five City Councilor;

WHEREAS, Section 217 of the City Charter provides that if a vacancy occurs less than 6 months prior to the next regular City election, the City Council may “by vote deem it to be in the best interests of the city to fill such vacancy,” and if the Council so votes, the vacancy may be filled at a special election held within 60 days of that vote;

WHEREAS, when a vacancy in office is to be filled by special election, State law allows the City Council to (a) designate a shorter time period for the availability of nomination papers, but not less than 10 days before the filing deadline, and (b) designate a shorter time period for the final date for filing nomination papers, but not less than the 14th day before election day;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED, as follows:

1. A special election to fill the vacancy in the office of District Five City Councilor is hereby scheduled for Tuesday, December 11, 2018;

2. The one central location for voting in the December 11, 2018 Special Election will be at the South Portland Community Center, 21 Nelson Road, South Portland;

3. For the December 11, 2018 Special Election, the polls shall open at 7:00 A.M. and close at 8:00 P.M.;

4. Nomination petitions shall be available from the City Clerk starting on Wednesday, October 17, 2018;
5. Completed nomination petitions shall be filed with the City Clerk no later than 4:30 p.m. on **Friday, November 2, 2018**;

6. The written consent of the candidate(s) accepting the nomination; agreeing not to withdraw; and agreeing, if elected, to qualify, shall be filed with the City Clerk no later than 4:30 p.m. on **Friday, November 2, 2018**;

7. Absentee ballots will be available in the City Clerk’s Office starting on Friday, **November 9, 2018**; and

8. The date of the special election and related deadlines shall be posted on the City’s website and distributed by the City Clerk to local representatives of the media.

Fiscal Note: Approximately $4,500

Date: October 16, 2018
Notice of Election
City of South Portland Special Election
Tuesday, December 11, 2018

Municipality  City of South Portland, Maine  
Voting District 1, 2, 3/4 & 5

Voting Place Name South Portland Community Center 
Voting Place Location 21 Nelson Road

Polls Open at 7:00 A.M. 
Polls Close at 8:00 P.M.

Absentee Ballot Processing:

Processed by: ☐ Municipal Clerk (Centrally)

Date/Time of Processing:
☐ During Election Day (12/11/18) Processing Time(s): 9:00am, 2:00pm, 6:00pm

Municipal Offices to be Voted On:
City Councilor, District 5

A True Copy
Attested ____________________________ Date ____________________

(Signature of Municipal Clerk)

* Clerk has read and will comply with the Uniform Guidelines for Securing Ballots and Other Materials.

Clerk initials