

**BRUNSWICK TOWN COUNCIL**

**Agenda**

**August 10, 2021**

**Special Meeting - 6:00 P.M.**

**Council Chambers**

**Town Hall**

**85 Union Street**

**MEETING VIA ELECTRONIC DEVICES**

*THIS MEETING IS BEING CONDUCTED VIA ELECTRONIC DEVICES  
WITH Town Council members PARTICIPATING FROM REMOTE LOCATIONS*

***THERE IS A LIMITED OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO ATTEND THIS MEETING IN PERSON. ON-SITE ATTENDANCE WILL BE LIMITED TO 20 PUBLIC PARTICIPANTS, WHO WILL BE REQUIRED TO WEAR MASKS AND MAINTAIN SOCIAL DISTANCING BY USING THE SEATING PROVIDED. WE STRONGLY ENCOURAGE PARTICIPANTS TO VIEW THE MEETING VIA TV3, LIVESTREAM, OR THE ZOOM PLATFORM.***

THE PUBLIC CAN VIEW OR LISTEN TO THE MEETING ON TV3 (Channel 3 on Comcast) or streaming at <http://tv3hd.brunswickme.org/CablecastPublicSite/watch/1?channel=1>

**Or by Zoom**

Join from a PC, Mac, iPad, iPhone, or Android device: Please click this URL to join.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83657517435?pwd=N3dacFhkT1hBUWVQTlcyV1lvdUhadz09>

Passcode: LcFb0F

Public Comments must be submitted through the Zoom Platform by “Raising your hand” and being acknowledged by the host or by entering questions in the Q&A chat.

**All Votes to be Taken Via Roll Call**

Roll Call of Members/Acknowledgement Notice

Pledge of Allegiance

Adjustments to Agenda

Public Comments/Announcements (for items not on the agenda)

**NEW BUSINESS**

120. The Town Council will consider ratifying the Town Manager’s Emergency COVID-19 Proclamation and Order of August 9, 2021 and extending it until August 16, 2021, and will take any appropriate action. (Town Manager Eldridge)

**ACTION**

**Brunswick Town Council Agenda**  
**August 10, 2021**  
**Council Notes and Suggested Motions**

120. **Notes:** Due to the recent surge in COVID-19 Delta variant cases, Town Manager Eldridge issued an Emergency Proclamation and Order of the Town Manager to require that face coverings be worn within Town Hall, and the “Remote Participation in Public Proceedings” be followed, which allows for any public body as defined in the policy to participate remotely in public proceedings. The Proclamation was put into effect the morning of August 9<sup>th</sup>, and must be ratified and extended until the next Council meeting on August 16, 2021. A copy of the proclamation is attached.

**Suggested Motion:**

Motion to adopt the Emergency Proclamation and Order of the Town Manager and extend the proclamation until August 16, 2021.

# Town of Brunswick, Maine



## *Emergency Proclamation and Order of the Town Manager*

The following proclamation and order are issued pursuant to Chapter 2, Division 4 of the Municipal Code of Ordinances of the Town of Brunswick ("Code of Ordinances").

**WHEREAS**, in the Spring of 2021 the Pandemic caused by the COVID-19 virus appeared to be ending with the advent of vaccines and good vaccination rates, but recently, infection rates, new variants, hospitalizations, and deaths from the COVID-19 have been increasing; and

**WHEREAS**, the risk of COVID-19 transmission from vaccinated individuals to unvaccinated individuals remains unknown; and

**WHEREAS**, in the two weeks between July 14 and July 28, 2021, the rate of COVID-19 infections in the United States have more than doubled; and

**WHEREAS**, the rate of COVID-19 infections in the State of Maine has increased significantly to an average number of 67.1 daily cases as of July 27, 2021, an increase of 203.6 percent since July 1, 2021; and

**WHEREAS**, most of the new infections in the United States and the State of Maine involve the Delta variant, a highly contagious virus strain; and

**WHEREAS**, the Delta variant has increased transmission, increased severity of COVID-19 infections, decreased susceptibility to therapeutic agents, and has evaded natural or vaccine-induced immunity; and

**WHEREAS**, the Delta variant represents 47.6 percent of all sequenced samples collected in July in the State of Maine; and

**WHEREAS**, in response to the Delta variant and the increase in COVID-19 infections, the United States Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) announced on July 27, 2021 that fully vaccinated individuals should wear face coverings in indoor public settings in those areas of the country that are experiencing a substantial or high transmission of COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, Cumberland County is experiencing substantial transmission of COVID-19 as defined by the CDC; and

**WHEREAS**, the Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention recommends that face coverings be worn by fully vaccinated individuals in public indoor settings in Cumberland County; and

**WHEREAS**, Council Chambers, other meeting rooms, and other spaces in Town Hall may not provide sufficient space to distance members of the public, staff, Town Council, or others (i.e. board, commission, or committee members); and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Council has adopted a policy entitled “Remote Participation in Public Proceedings” as authorized in 1 M.R.S. section 403-B; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Manager of Brunswick, Maine, in consultation with the Chairperson of the Town Council, do hereby find that “emergency or urgent issue” exists as defined 1 M.R.S. section 403-B and the Town Council’s recently adopted policy entitled “Remote Participation in Public Proceedings.”

**NOW THEREFORE**, pursuant to the powers vested in me through the statutes of the State of Maine, the Code of Ordinances, and common law authority to protect the public’s health, safety, and welfare in the event of an emergency, I, John S. Eldridge, Town Manager of Brunswick, Maine, after consultation with the Chairperson of the Brunswick Town Council, do hereby find and **PROCLAIM** an emergency exists as defined in section 2-121 of the Code of Ordinances and to respond to this limited emergency hereby **ORDER** that:

1. The Town Council and all members of any public body as defined in the policy entitled “Remote Participation in Public Proceedings” may participate remotely in all public proceedings in accordance with the provisions of that policy.
2. All members of the public, whether vaccinated or unvaccinated shall wear face coverings for entrance to, and at all times within, Town Hall.
3. All employees, and all elected or appointed officials, of the Town of Brunswick, vaccinated or unvaccinated, shall wear face coverings when they are in public spaces within Town Hall.

**FURTHER**, the provisions of this proclamation and order shall remain in effect until they expire or otherwise terminated.

Issued at Brunswick, Maine this 9<sup>th</sup> day of August 2021.

/s/  
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*John S. Eldridge, Town Manager*

/s/  
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*John M. Perreault, Council Chair*