

South Portland City Council  
***Position Paper of the City Clerk***

***Subject:***

**PROCLAMATION #1-16/17 – Proclaiming October 17, 2016 to October 23, 2016 as Free Speech Week. Passage requires majority vote.**

***Position:***

At the request of Tony Vigue, SPC-TV Director, this item is brought forward to proclaim October 17, 2016 to October 23, 2016 as Free Speech Week.

Free Speech Week is a nationwide observance to recognize the importance of Public, Educational and Government Access centers all across the country.

***Requested Action:***

Council Consideration of PROCLAMATION #1-16/17.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Emp. of Salary", is located at the bottom right of the page.



CITY OF SOUTH PORTLAND

Thomas E. Blake  
Mayor

Don Gerrish  
City Manager

Emily Scully  
City Clerk

SALLY J. DAGGETT  
Jensen Baird Gardner & Henry

**IN COUNCIL  
PROCLAMATION #1-16/17**

BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE CITY OF SOUTH PORTLAND THAT

WHEREAS, our Founding Fathers created and adopted the United States Constitution in 1787, thereby setting forth the supreme law of the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, the first ten amendments to the Constitution, written by James Madison to guarantee individual freedoms, were ratified in 1791 and became known collectively as the Bill of Rights; and

WHEREAS, the First Amendment states: "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances"; and

WHEREAS, freedom of speech is a right guaranteed to all Americans; and

WHEREAS, Free Speech Week, a national, annual, non-partisan, commemorative event, takes place during the third full week of October to raise awareness of the importance of free speech and a free press in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Free Speech Week is designed to be an inclusive celebration for all Americans, and as such, a wide variety of organizations, schools and individuals across the country will conduct activities and events devoted to free speech topics to mark the week; and

WHEREAS, Free Speech Week is also an opportunity to share information with the public and the media as a way of furthering the vision of our Founding Fathers;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY PROCLAIMED, that the South Portland City Council does hereby proclaim October 17 through October 23, 2016 as

**National Free Speech Week**

Sealed with the Seal of the City of South Portland on this 17th day of October in the year Two Thousand Sixteen.

District One  
CLAUDE V.Z. MORGAN

District Two  
PATRICIA A. SMITH

District Three  
EBEN ROSE

District Four  
LINDA C. COHEN

District Five  
BRAD FOX

At Large  
MAXINE R. BEECHER

At Large  
THOMAS E. BLAKE