



NEW PORTLANDER

INFORMATION IS THE CURRENCY OF DEMOCRACY — THOMAS JEFFERSON



PUBLICATION VOLUME 17 NUMBER 11 Visit the Town of New Portland's web page at newportlandmaine.org

JUNE 1, 2011

E-mail for town business: nwprtlnd@tds.net | The Town of New Portland is an equal opportunity employer and service provider.

TOWN OFFICE HOURS

The Town Office hours are as follows:

Town Manager: Stacie Rundlett 628-4441

Tax collecting, registrations, hunting & fishing licenses

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 11:00 am - 5:00 pm
Thursday 2:00 pm - 7:00 pm
First Saturday of each month 8:00 am - noon
(except Holiday weekends)

Town Clerk: Becky Taylor

Vital statistics & dog licensing

Monday 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm
Thursdays 3:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Deputy Town Clerk: Marilyn Gorman

Monday 12:00 pm - 3:00 pm

CEO:

First and third Tuesday 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm

Assessor's Agent:

Every other Monday 10:00 am - 2:00 pm
or call to schedule a meeting

Remember...

- **Selectmen's Meeting**
1st Tuesday of each month at 6:30 pm &
3rd Monday of each month at 6:30 pm
- **New Portland Fire Department Meeting**
2nd & 4th Tuesday of each month at 6:30 pm
- **NP Community Library Hours:**
Mon, Wed, Thurs 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm
Saturday 10:00 am - noon
- **Library Board of Trustees Meeting**
2nd Tuesday of the month at 6:00 pm
- **Planning Board Meeting**
1st Wednesday of the month at 6:30 pm
- **New Portland Water District**
2nd Wednesday of each month at 7:00 pm
- **School Board Meeting**
1st Wednesday of each month at 6:00 pm
- **Wire Bridge Thrift Shop** open every Saturday
- **Firemen's Auxiliary**
2nd Wednesday of each month at 6:30 pm

New Portlander deadline is June 25 by 4:00 pm.

Any articles, submissions, information for publication should be received by:

Dallas Landry • PO Box 34, North New Portland, ME 04961
phone 628-4201 • email: bigd@tdstelme.net

If there are any questions or needs regarding the receiving of the *New Portlander*, those inquiries should be directed to the Town Manager.

Selectmen's Minutes

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes - April 18, 2011

Selectmen Present: Doug Archer, Andrea Reichert, Wayne Rundlett;
Present: Stacie Rundlett, Brian Rundlett, Robert Whitten

Meeting called to order 6:40 pm.

Selectmen reviewed minutes from meetings April 5, 2011. Doug motioned to accept the minutes as written. Andrea seconded and all were in favor. Mr. Whitten asked if all the meeting minutes have now been reviewed and accepted to date. The board confirmed that they were and offered a written copy of meeting April 5, 2011 to him as well.

No department heads were present.

The Selectmen reviewed and signed warrants #12 (payroll) \$7,545.11 and #13 (accounts payable) \$26,668.94.

Stacie presented to the board a draft version of a job description for the Assessor's Agent position for them to review. There was a discussion on options for the job description. The Board gave Stacie a few changes to make to the description for requirements.

Stacie also presented to the board a draft version of an ad to publish for the Assessor's Agent position. The Board discussed options for the ad and agreed to put in *New Portlander*, on the website and in *The Irregular* and *Morning Sentinel* with a deadline to receive applications by for this position of May 12, 2011 at 7:00 pm.

Stacie presented to the board a draft version of warrant for special town meeting scheduled for May 16, 2011. The board reviewed the warrant and articles on it. There was a lengthy discussion regarding an article to repeal Article 7 that was passed at the 2011 Town Meeting and replace it with an article more specific. The board felt that it is important to honor the intent of the article that was passed, but they were concerned about how this article's wording would affect their authority to expend funds designated in special accounts. Mr. Whitten, member of the Concerned Citizens Committee that presented this article to the board, discussed his thoughts on the actual intent of the article. It was clarified that this change would not involve expenditures of surplus, as it is a State law that money from surplus cannot be spent without authorization from a town vote.

There was a discussion regarding the fire department's need of a truck to haul water.

There was a discussion on the status of the Comprehensive Plan.

Doug motioned and Andrea seconded; all were in favor to authorize Stacie to sign a Release of Bond for Gilbert Taylor.

The board reviewed and signed an abatement request for Brian Emery in the amount of \$397.25

Stacie presented to the board a draft version of a Notice of Tax Sale by sealed bid. The board authorized Stacie to publish this notice with the bids to be opened at 6:15 pm on May 16, 2011.

There was a brief discussion regarding the lawn that was damaged on the outskirts of the parking lot of the Town Office and Community Library. The board decided to table the matter until the May 3 Selectmen's Meeting to allow time for all board members to view the damages.

Andrea discussed that someone needed to contact the printer to insure that it was printed in a more timely fashion so that the *New Portlander* could be mailed and delivered before the first of any given month. There was a brief discussion of the protocol Stacie was to follow, and Andrea was to contact Dallas regarding this issue.

Robert Whitten presented questions to the board regarding the status of the Municipal Advisory Committee, the Comprehensive Plan and the possibility of the board changing from a three member to a five member. The board informed Mr. Whitten that currently there were only two MAC members and to their knowledge no one else has contacted the town clerk or any other town official about their interest in being on this committee. They discussed with Mr. Whitten that they have not moved forward with trying to change from a three member board to a five member board, as there was more research to be done. Andrea briefed Mr. Whitten that she had started reviewing the recommendations from the various State agencies that were made to bring the Comprehensive Plan compliant to State standards, but it was a work in progress. Mr. Whitten also discussed with the board his concerns of the roadwork that has been done in the past on the Middle Road and the aesthetics of the road. There was a discussion regarding his concerns and the right of way of the Middle Road. Mr. Whitten stated that the right of way was only 50 feet. He was concerned about the ditching that has been done or that might be done in a particular area of the road and felt the Town would be liable if any ditch work done by the Town caused any stonewalls to be disturbed. The board felt this issue should be discussed more with Gary present.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.

These minutes are just a summary from the meeting and were approved at the May 3, selectmen's meeting as written.

smr

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes - May 3, 2011

Selectmen Present: Doug Archer, Andrea Reichert, Wayne Rundlett. Present: Stacie Rundlett, Brian Rundlett, Kip Poulin, Gary Agren, Laura Dunham, Alfred Bolduc, Mary Butler, Bert Dyer, Ed Boyer, Duane Ricker, Howard Dunham

Meeting called to order 6:33 pm.

Selectmen reviewed minutes from meetings April 18, 2011. Andrea motioned to accept the minutes as written, Wayne seconded and all were in favor.

Kip discussed with the Board of Selectmen the options for selling the 1988 White Mack truck. Andrea motioned to put the Mack truck out to bid with a minimum bid of \$5,000. Wayne seconded and all were in favor. It was decided to put an ad in *The Irregular*, on the town's website and in the June *New Portlander*. The Board of Selectmen discussed with Kip options for water trucks. He will continue to look until a good option becomes available.

Gary discussed with the board his concerns about a fence close to the road on the Middle Road. He reviewed State statutes with the board concerning fences and right of ways on the road. There was a brief discussion and the board asked that Stacie contact the landowner to remove this fence. Gary discussed a request

from Tom Dodd to set a culvert in his driveway. Gary said he would not recommend doing this. There was a brief discussion and the Board of Selectmen agreed with this recommendation. Gary said he would notify Tom of this decision. The board briefed Gary about the concerns from Robert Whitten, brought to the board at the last meeting. There was a brief discussion about the ditching and the aesthetics of the Middle Road. Stacie shared with the board her findings on the right of way for town roads, being that they are listed as four-rod roads. It was decided that Gary and Stacie would communicate about the locations of his roadwork. He briefed the board of some grading that would be taking place with the warmer weather. Duane Ricker questioned a ditch being put in on New Portland Hill Road. There was a discussion about the costs of doing that.

Bert discussed with the Board of Selectmen a request for abatement for Virginia LaNoce. After a brief discussion Andrea motioned to abate the 2010 Real Estate taxes in the amount of \$2,817.50. Doug seconded and all were in favor. Bert and Stacie discussed with the Board of Selectmen a possible proposal from Clyde Dyer to submit a proposal for contracting the town's assessing instead of submitting an application as an employee. The board was willing to entertain a proposal with details of the work that would be done. Bert briefed the Board of Selectmen his status for the assessing work. Doug offered his assistance.

Becky brought to the Board of Selectmen, Warrant and Notice of Election Calling Maine School Administrative District No. 74. Budget Validation Referendum.

Payroll Warrants #14, and #15 (\$493.40/\$5,232.26) and Accounts Payable Warrant #16 (\$4,892.66) were reviewed and signed.

The proposed articles for the Special Town Meeting Warrant were reviewed and discussed. The board asked Stacie to change some of the wording on Article #4.

There was a brief discussion about the drainage of driveway near the library and options to fix. The board voted to find someone to fix the lawn areas so they could be mowed and possibly next year addressing the issues of fixing the drainage problem at next year's budget time. The Board of Selectmen asked Stacie to ask Charles Costello and Jay Luce to submit proposals for the lawn work that needs to be done before any work is done.

The selectmen asked Stacie about the status of the town signs being repaired. Stacie stated she would get in contact with Alex Dunham who was in charge of getting the materials to do the repairs. Andrea also brought up the town sign out front of the property and that it needs to be either placed in a different location or reinstalled with better material. She wanted the other board members to think about options to be discussed at another time.

There was also a discussion about the generator that was donated to the town two years ago. Since it needs a lot of work in order for it to operate properly, it was proposed that the town sell it by sealed bids when the 1988 Mack Truck goes out to bid. The selectmen asked Stacie to contact Somerset County to make sure they were authorized to do this since the generator was donated to the town.

Meeting adjourned 8:05 pm.

These minutes are just a summary from the meeting and were approved at the May 16 Selectmen's meeting as written.

smr

AGENDA: Selectmen's Meeting June 7, 2011, 6:30 pm.

Roster: Selectmen: Douglas Archer, Wayne Rundlett, Andrea Reichert

Town Manager: Stacie Rundlett

Call the meeting to order

1. Review minutes from previous meeting
2. Department Heads; Kip Poulin, Gary Agren, Becky Taylor, Bert Dyer
 - a. Kip Poulin to discuss truck options for Fire Department to purchase
 - b. To see how the Board of Selectmen wish to proceed with these options for the Fire Department
3. Manager Items
 - a. Payroll and A/P Warrants to be signed
 - b. To see how the Board of Selectmen will authorize changes to the website
4. Items by the Board of Selectmen
5. Items by the Public

Meeting Adjourned

Submitted: Stacie Rundlett

Town Manager

The Town of New Portland is inviting bids on the following:

- One 1988 Mack R688ST Truck, VIN# 1M2N187Y6JW025167. White in color. Mack 350 9 speed manual transmission. Current mileage is 0930. Front two seats only. The minimum bid for this vehicle will start at \$5,000.
- One 2003 Onan Generator, Model# 47GGFE with 43 hours of operation. The minimum bid for this machine will start at \$5,000.

Both the 1988 Mack and the 2003 Generator can be seen at the New Portland Fire Station, around the back side of the building. If you have questions please call Stacie at (207) 628-4441 ext. #1 during regular office hours, which are Monday through Wednesday 11:00 am to 5:00 pm and Thursday 2:00 pm to 7:00 pm.

Each bid may be for one item only; any person wishing to bid on both items must submit a separate bid for each one. The Board of Selectmen must receive all bids no later than 5:00 pm on July 14, 2011. Late bids will not be opened or considered.

Each bid must include the bidder's name, mailing address and phone number and must be accompanied by a deposit in the form of a certified check or money order, in an amount equal to or greater than 10% of the bid price. Each successful bidder's deposit will be credited to the total purchase price for that item. Deposits will be returned to the unsuccessful bidders. Any bid which does not contain the proper deposit will be rejected. All sales will be as is where is.

In the event that a successful bidder fails, for any reason, to complete the purchase in the time stated, the bid acceptance is void and the bidder's deposit shall be forfeited to the Town. The Board of Selectmen may thereafter negotiate a sale of the property with any or all-unsuccessful bidders.

Send sealed bids to PO Box 629, New Portland, ME 04961. Mark clearly on outside of envelope "Mack Truck Bid" or "Generator Bid". Bids must be received by July 14, 2011 at 5:00 pm. Bids will be opened and read at the July 18, 2011 at the selectmen's

meeting to be held at the Fire Station in the Community Room at 6:30 pm. The selectmen reserve the right to accept or reject any and all bids.

Stacie Rundlett, Town Manager

Notice

The Planning Board will be hosting an informational meeting only on Wind Energy Facility Ordinances on June 15, 2011 at 6:30 pm at the Community Room at the fire station and the public is invited to attend.

Submitted: Stacie Rundlett

Friends of the Highland Mountains

The Friends of the Highland Mountains will be holding their June 12 meeting at 2:00 pm at the New Portland Community Library on Route. 146 (River Road, adjacent to the town office). This meeting is open to the public and participation is welcome. We will be discussing the Highland Wind project, the Lexington/Concord wind project, as well as other proposed industrial-scale wind developments in our area. Refreshments will be provided. Please join us!

For more information, email, or call 628-2070 or 628-2014.

Submitted: Karen Bessey Pease

New Portland Community Library

Hooray for Spring!!! New Portland Community Library's Annual Plant, Book, and Bake Sale is scheduled June 4 from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm, rain or shine, with lots of seedlings and plants from local gardens, food treats, and books, books, books. Donations of plants, books and baked goods are most welcomed. You may drop plants or books off at the library on June 1, 2, or 3 from 2:00 to 4:00 pm or the day of the sale. Please bring your baked goods early on the day of the sale or call Pete Bearor to make other arrangements. 628-3061

This year we have expanded the Annual Sale to include Mountain Mama, who will have lots of her wonderful herbal products available for purchase and Lynne Harwood, with her beautiful art cards and her knowledge about honeybees. And as an added treat, Will Bonsall will be speaking from 10:00 – 11:00 am about his Scatterseed Project, which provides the increasingly rare heirloom variety seeds to savers around the world. Also, at 11:30 am Mr. Bonsall will teach a class in seedsaving for the home gardener. There will be a Children's Program from 10:00-11:00 am, with the sharing of a gardening story for the little ones, who will then get to dig in the dirt and do some planting, too. Not to be missed on June 4th!

We are excited to announce NPCL's new librarian. In addition to her teaching career, Shelby Newell of New Portland took over the role at the first of May. Many of you are already familiar with Shelby through our school system and her great Children's Programs she has been presenting once a month at the library. She has served as a library board member, too. She has been eager to learn all about the library's advanced internet connections from the Maine State Library staff. Our library has been run by our ever faithful Kathy and a dedicated staff of volunteers since January, and Shelby is really picking up quickly on all the little bits of knowledge each has to share with her. What a wonderful addition Shelby is to our community library. Stop by and give her a hearty congrats, won't you?

On a related note, the library is sad to announce that Kathy Garland, our dedicated staff, is moving on to a new job closer to home. She has really made a positive impact on our library and community, and we will miss her dearly. If you want to say good-bye to Kathy, drop a note at the library, and we'll pass it along to her.

Kathy's presence gave us the benefit of keeping the library open to the public longer than the normal hours, so now we will be back to our posted library hours of 4:00-6:00 pm Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and 10:00 am - noon Saturday. In order to cover all the hours we are open, we are looking for a fresh group of volunteers to add to the tried and true diehards. We could certainly use you just two hours a month, if you could share that with your community. Of course, if you can spare more hours that would be even better, since we dream of expanding our library hours some day! Please contact Kay Michka at 628-2014, if you are interested.

The Knitwits will continue meeting the second and fourth Thursdays this summer from 10:00 am -12:00 pm at the library. The dates are June 9 and 23, July 14 and 28, August 11 and 25. Everyone is always welcome. If you don't knit, bring your own project to work on and join in on the wit.

The SPRING ART SHOW has been deemed a real hit with the vibrant, dancing florals of Sue Hellewell, the provocative found-object sculptures by Wally Warren and the amazing sculptures of Rama Crystal Brown. Don't miss it! It will be up until June 26, when it will be replaced by an intriguing showing of art by family members which will be called "Relatedness." More about that next month!

We have added the following books to our collection for you to enjoy: James Patterson's *When the Wind Blows*, *One of Ours* by Willa Cather, *The Spier* by Richard North Patterson, *Quiet Courage: Stories of the Unselfish Dedication of Maine Veterans* by Maine author Don Colson, and *Libby's Loons* by Maine author Nancy Prince. Thank you for the ones that were donated.

Submitted by Pete Bearor, Lolly Phoenix, Kay Michka

Recreation Committee

Recreation Committee did not meet Wednesday the 18, but will meet May 25, 2011 on the agenda is a discussion of the playground equipment. We need to prepare the area for the equipment. We need to haul in gravel, then dig holes to secure the equipment. There will be a need for a discussion about the type of fence that will be needed around the equipment.

We will be discussing the Fall Festival to held in October. We want to have a scare crow contest, pumpkin carving and much more. If you have any ideas you would like us to consider, please call one of us or come to the meeting in June. Hope to see you at the June meeting.

Notes by Judi Wills, Jessi Campbell, Cindy Atwood, Stacie Rundlett and Colby Atwood.

Submitted: Judi Wills

Citizens Corner

I would like to say a big thank you to Andrea Reichert for taking the time in her busy schedule to try and find answers to all my questions concerning the numerous mistakes that were made with our property tax bill this year. This resulted in Mark's name being incorrectly printed for 2010 delinquent taxes.

The town manager stated that I was mailed three bills, and I have never received any of those bills. The bills should have originated at the same post office, as my post office box is in the New Portland Post Office for the last twenty years.

Why the town manager didn't use the map lot and property number when escrow money was paid electronically by the bank, having nothing to do paperwork-wise with the actual property owner or any town account number, as the bank gives a list to the town for property it is paying for by the name, amount, and map lot property number as it has always been done, and there has never been a problem before?

Why the town, after incorrectly crediting my name and money paid to a piece of property I no longer own, would then accept more money on the same piece of property by the actual current owners after it had already been paid for, even though the amounts didn't match?

Why it finally boiled down to my bank not writing the town's account number, that it didn't have and never has had, on a lump sum check for all escrowed New Portland property owners, when the bank clearly gives all information it is required which is name, amount, map lot and property number, as I was under the impression that when any money is paid by someone on a tax bill for a piece of property that any and all the town clerk's would match the amount paid, and the map lot and property number for correct payment on the correct piece of property?

Thank you, Andrea, for trying your best to answer all these confusing and difficult questions. Your knowledge and understanding is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Tiffany Smith and Mark McLaughlin
178 New Portland Hill Road
MAP LOT / PROPERTY 319-22B

I would also like to thank the town manager for the apology in the *New Portlander*. It is appreciated.

Announcements

The Striker Soccer Club has resumed fund raising activities to prepare for the coming fall season. If you followed the middle school soccer season last fall, you know that the kids' hard work and determination paid off with an undefeated season. The bottle drive and other fundraisers that we had last spring provided us with the money we needed to hire professional instruction from All Pro Sports in Waterville for two weeks of intense preseason training. We are kicking off the fund raising with a bottle drive on June 4 from around 8:00 am to 1:00 pm. If you have bottles you have been saving up that you would like to donate, please call Tyler or myself and we will be sure to pick them up. Secondly, on June 18 we are having a cow pie bingo contest at the Carrabec High School. Squares cost \$20 and if the cow deposits on your square you could win up to \$400. You will also win \$50 if your square is a neighbor to the winning square. If you have any questions or would like to purchase a square, again you can contact Tyler or myself at 628-5411 or 491-0477. The cow will be turned out onto the field at 11:00 am if you would like to come join in the fun, but if not, you do not need to be present to win. Thank you for your past and future support and we look forward to another great fall season.

Submitted: Andrea Reichart

Support Needed

The recreation committee would like to ask local businesses and citizens to consider a \$50.00 donation, to purchase a 4 'x 8' section of fence. This fence would go around the playground in East New Portland, near the fire station. A plaque with your name or business name would be displayed on your section of fence.

The committee will be working on this project and are in hopes to have the fence in place by the end of July. We have lots of work to do still to get to that point. We will be purchasing this from a local business.

Please send your donation with the name you would like on the plaque to: Recreation Committee c/o, New Portland Town Office, 901 River Road, New Portland, Maine, 04961

Submitted: Judi Wills



M W B Q R G W P K P R W T I F
 V P C H B W N E A E W E U F P
 E I H V R S H I N R E D T I P
 Q A W E E J L N H S T Y A Z M
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 E V O L F H H P A X Q S J B P
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 M R H R A Q O M Y L B T F R K

BOWLING
 BREAKFAST
 DAD
 DINNER
 FISHING
 GIFTS
 JUNE
 KIDS
 LOVE
 PARTY
 TEE SHIRT
 YARDWORK



Gifts for Father's Day

Neckties are an old standby and lead the list of Father's Day gifts. A good place to buy dad a tie or a shirt might be one of 9,189 men's clothing stores around the country.

Other items high on the list of Father's Day gifts include those items you may find in dad's toolbox such as hammers, wrenches and screwdrivers. You could buy some of these items for dad at one of the nation's 14,864 hardware stores or 5,795 home centers.

Other traditional gifts for dad such as fishing rods and golf clubs make for a happy Father's Day for the 22,410 sporting goods stores in America.

More than 68 million Americans participated at a barbecue in the last year — it's probably safe to assume many of these barbecues took place on Father's Day.

NEW PORTLAND MAINE 04961
 POSTAL PATRON

The New Portlander
 Established July 1994



BULK RATE
 US POSTAGE
PAID
 New Portland, ME
 Permit No. 1



NEW PORTLANDER CALENDAR
JUNE 2011



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4 Town Office Open 8:00 am - Noon Annual Plant, Book & Bake Sale NPCL 9 am - 1 pm Striker Soccer Club Bottle Drive 8am - 1pm
5	6	7 Selectmen's Meeting 6:30 pm	8	9	10	11
12 Friends of the Highland Mountains 2:00 pm	13	14	15 Planning Board Wind Energy Meeting 6:30 pm Fire Station Community Room	16 Knitwits 10:00 am NPCL	17	18 Striker Soccer Club Cow Pie Bingo Contest Carrabec High School 11:00 am
19 FATHER'S DAY	20 Selectmen's Meeting 6:30 pm Activity Night: Recipe Swap NPCL 6:30 - 7:00	21	22	23 Knitwits 10:00 am NPCL	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		