



NEW PORTLANDER

INFORMATION IS THE CURRENCY OF DEMOCRACY — THOMAS JEFFERSON



PUBLICATION VOLUME 18 NUMBER 9

Visit the Town of New Portland's web page at newportlandmaine.org

MARCH 1, 2012

E-mail for town business: info@newportlandmaine.org | The Town of New Portland is an equal opportunity employer and service provider.

TOWN OFFICE HOURS PHONE: 628-4441

The Town Office hours are as follows:

Town Manager: Stacie Rundlett, Ext. 1

Deputy Town Manager: Alicia Wills, Ext. 0

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, Ext. 3

Vital statistics & dog licensing

Monday 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Thursdays 3:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Deputy Town Clerk: Marilyn Gorman, Ext. 3

Monday 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm

CEO: Robert Dunphy, Ext. 5

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

Assessor's Agent: Terri Lamontagne, Ext. 2

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

Fire Department: Chief Kip Poulin, Ext. 5

Remember...

- **Selectmen's Meeting**
1st Tuesday & 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
- **Knitwits & Happy Hookers (NPCL)**
2nd & 4th Thursday of each month at 10:00 am

New Portlander deadline is March 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.



Voting will be Friday, March 2, 2012
from 9:00 am – 7:00 pm at the
Community Room.

Annual Town Meeting is at 9:00 am on
March 3, 2012 at the Community Room.

Selectmen

MINUTES FOR THE SELECTMEN'S MEETING FOR JANUARY 16, 2012

Selectmen present: Doug Archer, Andrea Reichert, Wayne Rundlett;
Present: Stacie Rundlett, Alicia Wills, Karen Pease, Bob Whitten

Meeting called to order at 6:35 pm.

Alicia told the selectmen she would email them a copy of the previous meeting minutes to be reviewed and approved.

A/P and payroll warrants were reviewed and signed.

Andrea made a motion to approve a payment arrangement made for delinquent taxes. Doug seconded and all were in favor. Andrea asked that we make contact with this person to let him know that if he cannot make his payment to call in as soon as possible to let the town office know.

Selectmen reviewed the tentative 2012 budget.

Andrea made a motion to adjourn at 8:12 pm; Doug seconded and all were in favor.

THESE MINUTES ARE JUST A DRAFT SUMMARY AND WERE APPROVED AT THE FEBRUARY 7 SELECTMEN'S MEETING AS WRITTEN. ADW

MINUTES FOR THE SELECTMEN'S MEETING FOR FEBRUARY 7, 2012

Selectmen Present: Doug Archer, Andrea Reichert, Wayne Rundlett;
Present: Stacie Rundlett, Alicia Wills, Ed Boyer, Duane Ricker, Gary Agren, Kip Poulin, Brian Rundlett

Andrea called the meeting to order at 6:40 pm.

Kip spoke to the selectmen about the bid going in for New Portland Fire to take on Embden calls. Kip said that Anson's bid was going to stay the same and that Solon was keeping their bid to cover one third (1/3) of Embden. Andrea asked Kip if the \$33,000 bid was for covering 100% of Embden. Kip said yes it is for 100% of Embden if Embden's selectmen are to accept their bid. There was more discussion on this. Kip updated the selectmen that the tanker is done, all the GPS systems have been installed in the green fire trucks, and three of the trucks have had cameras installed, and they are working on the other three now.

There was a discussion on appointed positions. The selectmen decided to have the CEO/LPI position up for advertisement. Those terms are three year terms.

Gary asked the board about the road commissioner's appointment whereas it was also up. The selectmen stated that they are satisfied with Gary's work and would like to re-appoint Gary. Gary was inquiring about the changes for his tentative 2012 budget. There was a brief discussion on this.

The selectmen reviewed the minutes from the previous meeting. Doug made a motion to approve the minutes; Wayne seconded and all were in favor.

Payroll and A/P warrants were reviewed and signed. Abatements were reviewed and signed. There was a brief discussion about some of the abatements.

There was a discussion about the easement on the town turn around on the Safford Road, and some concerns were mentioned. The selectmen agreed that they would look into the situation and that it would be on the agenda at the next selectmen's meeting.

Stacie said she would email a draft copy of the town report to the selectmen before sending it to the printers. There were some questions on where to place the dedications on the town report.

Andrea made a motion to adjourn for executive session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A § 405(6) (A) for discussion of a personnel issue at 7:30 pm, and all were in favor. Andrea motioned to come out of executive session at 7:50 pm.

Andrea made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 pm; Doug seconded and all were in favor.

THESE MINUTES ARE JUST A DRAFT SUMMARY AND WERE APPROVED AT THE FEBRUARY 20 SELECTMEN'S MEETING AS WRITTEN. ADW

Submitted: Alicia Wills

Town Clerk

Fellow Citizens,

My past three years as Town Clerk have been very interesting to say the least. I have done tailgate marriage certificates, as well as marriage licenses in the parking lot of the town office (on the day of the wedding). I have had people meet me at home to pick up or return forms, as a convenience for the few hours a week the clerk's office is open. I have also delivered absentee ballots to a few seniors who feared the traveling would be a little tricky. I must say I have had a great time doing it all.

The front office has been a great help to me, collecting fees, receipting and taking information for any kind of transaction in my absence for which anyone may have asked, trying to make it more convenient for our citizens. This transaction would be taken care of, usually through the mail during regular business hours. They have taken dog licensing fees and vital record information just to name a few things. I thank the front office for their time and effort.

The State of Maine has made a couple of major changes in the way some vital records are processed. All new death certificates are done electronically; the undertakers now file them with the state and also issues them to the family at the time of death. For clerks who rely on these fees as part of their salary, this is a cut in wages. At this time the State of Maine is also working on birth certificates

(and has been for about two years now) and this too will soon be done electronically. The fees for vital records have gone up in the last year, but as with anything the State does, they now take a percentage of that fee. Certificates are still available through the office if needed, but this process really cuts back the numbers.

Voting, the State has made major changes in this process as well. I do want to say when I started out three years ago we had lots of issues at the voting polls. Over the last three years, as of the last election, only two names were not on the voting list! Of that, I am very proud! This is another electronic process the State of Maine has come up with; every voter has to be entered in the computer system.

I like to say thank you to the citizens of New Portland for their support during the three years I have served as their town clerk. Again, I have greatly enjoyed what I have done. And a very special thank you to Marilyn Gorman for all she has done in helping me. If anyone in the community needs research or history on the community, she is the "go to person." Thank you, Marilyn.

Respectfully...

Submitted: Becky Taylor, Town Clerk

New Portland Water District

The annual meeting of the New Portland Water District will be held March 14 at 7:00 pm at the New Portland Community Library, 899 River Road, New Portland, Maine 04961. One trustee will be elected for a three (3) year term.

The regular monthly meeting will follow immediately after the adjournment of the annual meeting. There will be an election of officers.

The public is welcome. Thank you.

Submitted: Marilyn Gorman

New Portland Community Library

In Memoriam – The Library Board would like to pay tribute to one of our founding members who died last month. Gardiner Young was our first treasurer, and as such put this organization on a sound financial footing. He was instrumental in getting non-profit status, completing a colossal amount of paperwork and cutting through red tape with ease. He also served as secretary and for many years was both secretary and treasurer. He was a man of vision, realizing before most of us, that we really had to give up the idea of saving our old building and look toward a brand new structure. Gardiner was our only Founding Father, and his contribution to this library cannot be measured, but our early years were guided by his good sense and great advice.

Friends of the Library — Activity Night will be March 21 at 6:30 pm. at the library. Join us for a Spring Event. The event has not been finalized yet, but we may paint a floor cloth, create a spring arrangement, participate in a Native American drumming, or something else that might strike your fancy. We will announce the event soon via posters at the post office, Facebook, and on the town sign. Come join your neighbors, enjoy conversation, food, and spring.

100 Club Winners for January – Ruth Arrington, Greg and Pat Drummond, Shelby Newell, Jim and Jane Heichel, Jennifer McNanny, Lolly Phoenix, Michelle Abbott, Avery Boucher, New Portland Lions Club, Bonnie Atwood, Sally Jo Sherrill

The Knitwits and Happy Hookers meet the second and fourth Thursdays starting at 10:00 am. See you March 8 and March 22.

Fine Arts – The conversations flow with interest at our artist receptions, and this last one was no exception. Nowetah and Tom had lots to explain about the prints and artifacts they have loaned for exhibition to our library until the beginning of April. And Julianne Reed's oil pastels are a fine fit to the stories. Keep a lookout for a FREE screening of Ben Levine's award-winning movie about helping the Passamaquoddy reclaim their language called "The Language of America." Google it to see how powerful a piece it is. Date to be announced and Ben will be here to answer questions. It promises to be a unique opportunity for us to tap into something quite amazing.

Book Club – The New Portland Community Library Book Club has chosen its spring lineup. The March 8 discussion will be *Sula* by Toni Morrison. April 12 is Community Poetry Night (bring your own or someone else's,) May 10 is *Ceremony* by Leslie Marmon Silko, and June 14 is *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* by Rebecca Skloot. We meet at the library at 6:30 pm. Our numbers are growing. We would be pleased to have you join us, too.

Librarian's Corner – Eighteen people attended our cookie decorating and Valentine event on February 12. We had a great time frosting cookies and decorating them with all sorts of sprinkles, candy hearts, and glitter gel. Our next event will be a Dr. Seuss Celebration on Saturday, March 3, from 9:00 am – 10:00 am. Join us for a "Super Silly Seuss" of a good time!

The library has several new books, movies, and audio books. We have added a few books on self-sufficiency so if you're interested in learning more about growing your own food, canning vegetables, or raising animals, you'll want to stop by and check out these new resources. Some new DVDs in our circulation are: *Breaking Dawn Part 1*, *What's Your Number?* and *Entourage Season 7*.

For the months of March and April, each time you visit the library drop your name in the box. At the end of the month, we'll draw a name. If your name is chosen, you'll win a gift certificate to a local business.

Patron of the month is Abigail Engel. Congratulations, Abigail. You may be the fastest reader in town!

Submitted: Joan Moes, Pete Bearor, Lolly Phoenix, Kay Michka, Shelby Newell

Recreation Committee

RECREATION MEETING: FEBRUARY 15, 2012

Members present: Cindy Atwood, Colby Atwood, Jess Campbell, Stacie Rundlett and Judi Wills

Discussion was held about the plans of the committee for the present and future.

Playground still has a few work areas to be finished: ditching needs to be done in the spring to allow run off water so the sand will not be washed away; signs need to be put up to make citizens know the hours the playground can be used and that children must be accompanied by an adult while at the playground. There is a need to complete a stand to hold a plaque with the names of people who donated to the playground and to have a bench for parents to use while children are playing.

There is work that needs be reviewed for the skating rink. The liner has holes made by ice skates.

The committee feels the playground has been used and will continue to be a positive project for the town.

Other discussion took place regarding a "community clean up day" for the Wire Bridge area. Jessi will contact the Carrabec High School about the students' community day and see if we could get some help at the Wire Bridge area and then to set up a date for the citizens to have a clean up day. We are in hopes to have picnic tables made and trash cans at the beach area of the Wire Bridge. Discussion was held about trash pickup, members will contact the services now serving our town.

Next Recreation Committee meeting will be March 21, 2012 at 6:30 pm at the Community Room. We will then be discussing future activities in town with dates. Meeting closed at 7:30 pm. Respectfully...

Submitted: Judi Wills

Wire Bridge Sno-Travelors

The February meeting was called to order with seven members present.

The secretary's and treasurer's reports were read and accepted.

Trail Master Report: Lewis reported the trails will not be groomed again until we get more snow. Lewis also stated he was pleased with how the "Adopt a Trail Program" was working. A trail inspector had ridden ITS 84 and said the trail was well marked and in great condition. The club wants to thank all members who have helped with adopting and maintaining a section of trail.

Final changes have been made to the trail map and Barry Turcotte is working on printing out a copy for the club members to see. We will need to start thinking about local businesses that might be interested in advertising on the map.

Social Director: Janine had two quotes on prices for t-shirts for the club to sell. Lewis said he knew of another place and that he would call and get prices from them and then report back to the club at the March meeting.

Due to the lack of snow, Janine has decided not to try to plan any club rides.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 pm.

Our next meeting will be March 17.

Submitted: Joyce Knowles

Candidates (in alphabetical order)

Requesting your support:

I would like to be your town clerk and am asking for your vote and support. I bring to the office a lot of experience that will help me step into the job. I have been a candidate for Maine's House of Representatives which has allowed me to learn about Maine's election laws, to work with many town clerks in House District 88 and with Maine's Secretary of State office. My four years in the Attorney General's Office Consumer Protection Division have given me a working knowledge to many state departments and a rapport with the people who work there. I make this promise to the town that if elected, I will write a column in the *New Portland* to keep the town up to date on that month's activity. As your town clerk, I look forward to meeting everyone and achieving a mutual first name basis with you.

Submitted: John Bertl

Asking for your support:

Hi, my name is Donna Stout and I am running for town clerk. My husband, a retired school teacher and I moved here two years ago, and we are thrilled to live in such a beautiful area. I worked in Madison as a customer service leader at Hannaford and before that I ran my own cleaning business. I have been a receptionist and secretary of a major business in Saugus, Massachusetts. I have strong organizing and computer skills, but better than that, I am friendly and easy to talk to. Good social skills should be a requirement for the town clerk position. I hope you will consider me for the job. I can only promise you that I will do my best.

Submitted: Donna Strout

I would like to take the time to thank all of my fellow citizens for their encouragement and support with my running for the Town Clerk position. I am dedicated to my work for the town and deeply enjoy being affiliated with the town. I plan to run the clerk's office 23 hours a week because I feel that ALL town office business should be run during town office hours. I will do my best to meet and exceed all needs for the Town Clerk's office, and I look forward to conducting more business with all of New Portland's residents. Respectfully...

Submitted: Alicia Wills

Announcement

For the past five months I have been meeting with various New Portland residents, as well as talking at several Town Meetings, regarding the invisible dangers of installing any new so-called "Smart" Meters in our community. The American Academy of Environmental Medicine (founded in 1965) has recently posted, on Jan. 19, an urgent paper on a Smart Meter MORATORIUM. Here is their full report:

"The Board of the American Academy of Environmental Medicine opposes the installation of wireless "smart meters" in homes and schools based on a scientific assessment of the current medical literature (references available on request). Chronic exposure to wireless radiofrequency radiation is a preventable environmental hazard that is sufficiently well documented to warrant immediate preventative public health action.

"As representatives of physician specialists in the field of environmental medicine, we have an obligation to urge

precaution when sufficient scientific and medical evidence suggests health risks which can potentially affect large populations. The literature raises serious concern regarding the levels of radio frequency (RF – 3 KHz – 300 GHz) or extremely low frequency (ELF – 0- 300 Hz) exposures produced by "smart meters" to warrant an immediate and complete moratorium on their use and deployment until further study can be performed. The board of the American Board of Environmental Medicine wishes to point out that existing FCC guidelines for RF safety that have been used to justify installation of "smart meters" only look at thermal tissue damage and are obsolete, since many modern studies show metabolic and genomic damage from RF and ELF exposures below the level of intensity which heats tissues. The FCC guidelines are therefore inadequate for use in establishing public health standards. More modern literature shows medically and biologically significant effects of RF and ELF at lower energy densities. These effects accumulate over time, which is an important consideration given the chronic nature of exposure from "smart meters." The current medical literature raises credible questions about genetic and cellular effects, hormonal effects, male fertility, blood/brain barrier damage and increased risk of certain types of cancers from RF or ELF levels similar to those emitted from "smart meters." Children are placed at particular risk for altered brain development, and impaired learning and behavior. Further EMF/RF adds synergistic effects to the damage observed from a range of toxic chemicals. Given the widespread, chronic and essentially inescapable ELF/RF exposure of everyone living near a "smart meter," the Board of the American Academy of Environmental Medicine finds it unacceptable from a public health standpoint to implement this technology until these serious medical concerns are resolved. We consider a moratorium on installation of wireless "smart meters" to be an issue of the highest importance.

"The Board of the American Academy of Environmental Medicine also wishes to note that the US NIEHS National Toxicology Program in 1999 cited radiofrequency radiation as a potential carcinogen. Existing safety limits for pulsed RF were termed "not protective of public health" by the Radiofrequency Interagency Working Group (a federal interagency working group including the FDA, FCC, OSHA, the EPA and others). Emissions given off by "smart meters" have been classified by the World Health Organization International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) as a Possible Human Carcinogen.

"Hence, we call for: An immediate moratorium on "smart meter" installation until these serious public health issues are resolved. Continuing with their installation would be extremely irresponsible. Modify the revised proposed decision to include hearings on health impact in the second proceedings, along with cost evaluation and community wide opt-out. Provide immediate relief to those requesting it and restore the analog meters."

*Members of the Board
American Academy of Environmental Medicine*

<http://aaemonline.org/images/CaliforniaPublicUtilitiesCommission.pdf.org>

Submitted: Dr. Perlingieri

Community Churches

The New Portland and North New Portland Community Churches are at a crossroads. As many of you know, Scott Planting, the minister that both churches shared with a larger Presbyterian congregation in Farmington, retired in 2010 after 35 years of ministry here. Replacing him is only one of the challenges facing our churches. The churches have been experiencing the same financial and population decline that the community as a whole has been experiencing. The population is aging. The people who live here are drawn away in many directions for many reasons. We have lost industry, services and our local school.

The churches are part of the community and have always been available to the community. They make every effort to serve in many ways, large and small, and have always enjoyed the support of the community whether it was fixing a roof, rewiring the sanctuary, baking for bake sales or helping at, and enjoying, the church suppers.

The church is in transition and more than ever needs the community's help and participation.

With dwindling numbers of parishioners and dwindling dollars some difficult decisions may have to be made. We are working hard to restructure some of the ways we do business and worship. Our historic church buildings are a presence in our little towns. We want to continue to maintain them and use them. It is very likely that our next minister will not be full time which will put more of the burden of community service and general operations of the church on an ever aging congregation. And when those congregation members are no longer with us, who will fill their ample (and busy) shoes?

The congregations are now in the process of trying to determine what they are called to do next. You can help with that process by answering a few questions: What do you see as the role of the church in the community? How can the church be more relevant to the community? How can the church become a more attractive place to spend a Sunday morning... or any time at all? Please give these questions some consideration. Write your comments and suggestions and give them to any congregation member you might know, or mail them to:

New Portland and North New Portland
Community Churches
PO Box 116
New Portland, ME 04961

Your help and support are always greatly appreciated.

*Submitted: Nan Berry; New Portland Community Church,
North New Portland Community Church*

Western Mountains Church

"I have been involved with kids and church since I was a kid in church," replies Annette Stanley during a recent interview as the Director of the Children's Ministry at the Western Mountains Baptist Church in New Portland. Stanley manages a nursery and four children's classes every Sunday morning. There are Sunday school classes for children up to 3rd grade and another Sunday School class for 4th, 5th and 6th graders. Classes meet at 9:00 am and then again half way through the 10:00 am worship service. Stanley not only has a great appreciation for children and learning, she also appreciates the support she receives from parents, teenagers and other committed volunteers who help with teaching and co-teaching on a rotating basis.

"Sunday School gives children a strong foundation of Bible basics. We teach and talk about who God is, what God is like, how we should treat each other, and how we should act. Kids develop their own community and have their own friends, separate from the adult," explains Stanley. The children play games, do crafts, and hear Bible stories. Several times throughout the year the children are taught music for special performances."

Reflecting on her own experience as a child in church, Stanley adds, "I loved Sunday school; it was the place where I felt I belonged. Sunday school is a child-centered opportunity that can develop life-long relationships with peers and with adults." Today, as a wife and mother of five, Mrs. Stanley, from Strong, continues to enjoy strong relationships with some of her own Sunday school teachers and classmates.

Children and parents are offered flexibility and the time they need to explore what works best for them and their child during church. Parents are always welcomed to stay with their children during classes, or, children can stay in the adult service if that is more comfortable for parent and child. Stanley emphasizes, "My goal is for church to be a positive place for kids and parents, and I am willing to do whatever it takes to make their time at church a pleasant experience."

One of the enthusiastic students, Ethan Cockerham, age 9, of Freeman Township, eagerly explains, "Sunday School is where we begin. Christian kids come to Sunday school to do fun activities, color and read the Bible."

To learn more about the Children's Ministry of the Western Mountains Baptist Church call the church at 265-2557, or stop by the church at 929 Carrabassett Road any Sunday morning. You may also find more information on our website at www.westernmountainschurch.org.

Submitted: Crystal Fitch

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
MARCH 2012



| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|--|--------------------------------------|---|--|--|---|---|
| | | | | 1 | 2 VOTING 9:00 am – 7:00 pm Community Room | 3 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING - 9:00 am Community Room Dr. Suess Children's Hour 9:00 am NPCL |
| 4 North Village Church 11:00 am | 5 | 6 Selectmen's Meeting 6:30 pm | 7 School Board Mtg 6:00 pm Planning Board Mtg. 6:30 pm | 8 Knitwits & Happy Hookers NPCL - 10am NPCL Book Club 6:30 pm | 9 | 10 |
| 11 North Village Church 11:00 am | 12 | 13 NPCL Board of Trustees NPCL - 6:00 pm Fire Dept. Meeting 6:30 pm | 14 Water District Mtg 7:00 pm | 15 | 16 | 17 Sno-Travelors 6:30 pm |
| 18 North Village Church 11:00 am | 19 Selectmen's Meeting 6:30 pm | 20 Fire Dept. Meeting 6:30 pm | 21 Activity Night NPCL - 6:30 pm Recreation Committee Comm. Rm - 6:30 pm | 22 Knitwits & Happy Hookers NPCL - 10am | 23 | 24 |
| 25 North Village Church 11:00 am | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |