



# NEW PORTLANDER



INFORMATION IS THE CURRENCY OF DEMOCRACY — THOMAS JEFFERSON

PUBLICATION VOLUME 21 NUMBER 6

Visit the Town of New Portland's web page at [newportlandmaine.org](http://newportlandmaine.org)

DECEMBER 1, 2014

E-mail for town business: [nwprtInd@tds.net](mailto:nwprtInd@tds.net) | Mail for Town Office - 901 River Road, New Portland, ME. 04961

*The Town of New Portland is an equal opportunity employer and service provider.*

## TOWN OFFICE HOURS

**PHONE: 628-4441 • FAX: 628-4440**

The Town Office hours are as follows:

**Town Manager:** Stacie Rundlett - Ext. 1

**Deputy Town Manager:** Kristen Mitchell - Ext. 0

*Tax collecting, registrations, hunting & fishing licenses*

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday .....11am - 5pm

Thursday .....2pm - 7pm

1st Sat. of ea. month (except holiday weekends)..... 8am - 12pm

**Town Clerk:** Alicia Wills - Ext. 2

Deputy Town Clerk: Donna Stout

*Vital statistics & dog licensing*

Monday .....2pm - 5pm

Thursday .....4pm - 7pm

**CEO:** Robert Dunphy - Ext. 5

1st and 3rd Tuesday ..... 1pm - 3pm

**Assessor's Agent:** Terri Lamontagne - Ext. 3

.....Appointment Only

**Fire Department:** Chief Kip Poulin - Ext. 4

**Email for Town Manager** .....[nwprtInd@tds.net](mailto:nwprtInd@tds.net)

## Town Manager

It is that time of year again folks. After having another successful year last year, the Town Office now has the Giving Tree up. We are now accepting donations for our Giving Tree. There are items listed on ornaments that are on the tree and list some of the items that we will be looking for. We hope to have all the donations in by December 18 so we can get everything wrapped and delivered to their destinations.

The Town Office will be CLOSED on the following days: **Wednesday, December 24; Thursday, December 25; Wednesday, December 31; Thursday, January 1**

We hope that you all have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from the Town Office.

## Town Clerk

Howdy New Portlanders!

Just a couple of announcements from the Town Clerk's office. The following terms (which are each three year terms) are going to be up for the 2015 town election; Selectman, Town Clerk and School Board. If interested, you may come to the Town Clerk's office and receive nomination papers any time after December 18, 2014. You must have at least 25 signatures of REGISTERED voters on the papers. The nomination papers must be returned NO LATER THAN January 20, 2015. If you have any questions, please feel free to call the office at 628-4441.

And just another friendly reminder that it is now the time to license your dog(s). It is the law in the State of Maine to license your dog(s). The fee for a fixed dog is \$6.00 and not fixed is \$11.00. If you happen to come in when the clerk's office is closed, you can leave your payment and your dog(s) rabies information, and I will mail everything back to you.

I hope you all have a great holiday season! Respectfully . . .

*Submitted: Alicia Wills, Town Clerk*

## 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
- **Kingfield-New Portland Transfer Station Hours:**  
Wed, Sat, and Sun..... 7:30 am - 4:30 pm  
Friday ..... 12:30 pm - 4:30 pm
- **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  
new hours 10:00 am - Noon.
- **Knitwits & Happy Hookers (NPCL)**  
2nd & 4th Thursday of each month at 10:00 am

**New Portlander article submission deadline is December 20 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](mailto: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

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### NOTICE OF TAX SALE

The Board of Selectmen of New Portland is accepting bids for the purchase of the municipality's interest in New Portland's tax-acquired properties. Each bid must be in writing and in a sealed envelope marked "Tax sale bid" on the outside. Each bid may be for one property only; any person wishing to bid on several properties must submit a separate bid for each one. The Board of Selectmen must receive all bids no later than 5:00 pm. on December 15, 2014. Late bids will not be opened or considered.

Each bid must also 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 parcel. Deposits will be returned to the unsuccessful bidders. Any bid, which does not contain the proper deposit, will be rejected.

Bids will be opened, reviewed and awarded by the Selectmen at the Town Office on December 15th at 6:30 pm. The Board of Selectmen reserves the right to reject any and all bids. Each successful bidder shall have 30 days from the date of the bid acceptance in which to complete the purchase. Each property will be conveyed by a quitclaim deed without covenants. 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.

The properties for sale are described on the Towns Tax Maps as:

*Map 017 Lot 091 – Land Only on Carrabassett Rd. (RE # 401)*

*Map 004 Lot 004-003 – Land Only on George E Cole Rd. (RE# 704)*

*Map 004 Lot 004-001 – Land Only on George E Cole Rd. (RE#242)*

*Map 013 Lot 036 – Land Only on Middle Rd. (RE#906)*

*Map 016 Lot 034-001 – 142 Carrabassett Rd. (RE#282)*

The tax maps and other public information concerning the properties may be reviewed at the Town Office during its normal business hours, which are Monday through Wednesday 11:00 am to 5:00 pm. and Thursdays 2:00 pm. to 7:00 pm.

*Submitted: Andrea Reichert, Chairman*

### Selectmen's Meeting Minutes for September 15, 2014

Selectmen Present: Andrea Reichert, Chair, Douglas Archer, Wayne Rundlett; Present: Stacie Rundlett, Taylor Hargreaves, Joey Emery, Marilyn Gorman

Andrea called the meeting to order at 6:35 pm. Minutes were reviewed and approved. Andrea motioned to approve the minutes from August 5 Selectmen's Meeting with one word change. Wayne seconded. All were in favor.

Andrea motioned to accept the minutes from September 2 as written. Wayne seconded. All were in favor.

A/P and Payroll Warrants were reviewed and signed.

Financials were briefly discussed amongst the Board of Selectmen and Stacie.

No items by the Board.

Doug motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:06 pm. Andrea seconded. All were in favor.

*These minutes are a draft summary that were approved with changes by the Board of Selectmen at the October 7, 2014 Board of Selectmen's Meeting. KMS*

### Selectmen's Meeting Minutes for October 7, 2014

Selectmen Present: Andrea Reichert - Chair, Wayne Rundlett, Douglas Archer; Present: Stacie Rundlett, Terri Lamontagne, Donna Stout, Alicia Wills, Gary Agren, Brian Rundlett, Kip Poulin, Mike Dentico, Kay Michka, Jamie Eck, Leisa Emery, Sue Luce, Ronald Bearor, Marilyn Gorman, Becky and Gilbert Taylor, Dee Menear, Trina Halacy-Bellegarde, Judi Wills, Jean Antonucci, Donald Browne, Ron Lindner-Demers, John Demers-Lindner, Lorie Agren, Beverly Francis, Nan Berry, Deb Johnson

Andrea called the meeting to order at 6:32 pm.

Andrea motioned to accept the minutes from September 15; All were in favor.

Gary updated the Board of Selectmen on the Middle Road project.

Terri and the Board of Selectmen reviewed abatement requests.

Sanford Furman/\$299.20 - Andrea motioned to approve the

abatement for the amount of \$299.20. Wayne seconded. All were in favor. Robert Scarry/\$299.20 - Andrea motioned to approve the abatement for the amount of \$299.20; Donald Browne/\$102.00/\$81.60/\$85.00 - Andrea motioned to deny the abatement requests for the amounts of \$102.00, \$81.60, and \$85.00. Wayne seconded. All were in favor. Austin Luce/\$49.30/79.90 - Andrea motioned to deny the abatement requests based on the fact that he is being taxed exactly like everyone else in town. Wayne seconded. All were in favor. Sue and Jay Luce/\$408.00 - Wayne motioned to grant at the 30% level. Andrea seconded. All were in favor. Terri will get the figure for this. Jay Staton/\$510.00 - Wayne motioned to deny. Andrea seconded. All were in favor.

Alicia brought appointment papers to the Board of Selectmen for school board and for a ballot clerk.

Kip talked to the Board of Selectmen about the payroll being approximately \$9,155.00 for calls only. Only money being spent is for repairs now. The plan of sharing the red Mack to New Vineyard is a no go at this time. They are still planning on selling the Mack in the spring.

The Board of Selectmen looked at and signed the A/P & Payroll Warrants.

Stacie told the Board of Selectmen that she received a letter of recommendation to have a mirror put up on the corner of Route 16 and Long Falls Dam Road and Meadow Brook Road. Stacie said that it has also been suggested for one to be put on the sharp corner in the West Village. Stacie will look into this and call DOT.

Andrea motioned for a two minute break at 7:10 pm. Wayne seconded. All were in favor. Andrea called the meeting back to order at 7:12 pm.

Andrea talked to the people present that there has been some misrepresentation on Facebook and that the Board of Selectmen made a formal motion and vote at a Board of Selectmen's meeting some time ago that the Board of Selectmen will not be conducting town business on Facebook. Andrea said that she read that a petition had been sent to the Town Office by Jean Antonucci, and no petition has been received at the Town Office, and there has been no petition to respond to. Andrea said there was a piece about requesting information from the town and not getting it or having to pay for it, which is pertaining to the Enviro-Mats sound study. Andrea said that it was stated at a meeting that they were going to speak with MMA Legal

to see if the copyrighted sound study could be released. Andrea said MMA said that it could be released. The reason the information was paid for is because there was a large quantity of information requested through an attorney which falls under the right to know law. Seven people came to the meeting and said that they have been bothered by the noise at Enviro-

Mats the past two weeks. There was some discussion amongst the Board of Selectmen and the people present about the noise being heard from Enviro-Mats.

Wayne motioned to adjourn at 8:01pm. Andrea seconded. All were in favor.

*These minutes are a draft summary that were approved with changes by the Board of Selectmen at the October 20, 2014 Board of Selectmen's Meeting. KMS*

### **Selectmen's Meeting Minutes for October 20, 2014**

Selectmen Present: Andrea Reichert – Chair (absent), Wayne Rundlett, Douglas Archer; Present: Stacie Rundlett,

Doug called the meeting to order at 6:45 pm. Minutes were reviewed and signed. Doug made a motion to accept the minutes from the October 7 Board of Selectmen's Meeting as written. Wayne seconded. All were in favor.

A/P & Payroll Warrants were reviewed and signed.

Stacie talked to the Board of Selectmen about two abatements.

Stacie updated the Board of Selectmen about an error in the personal property billing and presented them with abatement amounts to correct these accounts. Doug and Wayne reviewed the abatements to correct this. Both were in favor. Stacie is sending out letters making the personal property owners aware of the error: Bruce and Deborah Agren - \$.10, Ameri-Gas and Propane - \$.08, Richard and Bonnie Atwood - \$.72, Alfred Bolduc - \$2.22, Direct-TV - \$3.15, Dish Net, LLC. - \$4.88, Dish Net Satellite - \$.04, Elavon, Inc. - \$.28, Enviro-Mats - \$56.58, Farmington Coca-Cola - \$.62, Grayhawk Leasing, LLC. - \$.52, Hughes Network Systems, LLC - \$.26, JR Fabrication - \$4.72, Pitney Bowes - \$.02, Poulin's Garage - \$.46, Roadrunner Holding Company, LLC - \$.02, Time Warner Cable Internet - \$.21, Time Warner Cable Northeast - \$17.37, Tindall's Country Store - \$.40

Wayne motioned to adjourn at 7:09 pm. Doug seconded. All were in favor.

*These minutes are a draft summary that were approved with changes by the Board of Selectmen at the October 20, 2014 Board of Selectmen's Meeting. KMS*

### **Selectmen's Meeting Minutes for November 4, 2014**

Selectmen Present: Andrea Reichert – Chair, Wayne Rundlett, Douglas Archer; Present: Stacie Rundlett, Brian Rundlett, Kip Poulin, Mike Dentico, Becky Taylor, Judi Wills, Staci Thompson, Terri Lamontagne, Jean Antonucci, Joey Emery, Taylor Hargreaves

Andrea called the meeting to order at 6:34 pm. Doug motioned to accept the minutes with the amendment to include the names of who received abatements. Andrea seconded. All were in favor.

Kip updated the Board of Selectmen that the Fire Department has received 65 calls to date. Payroll is approximately \$9,200.00 not including meetings and does not include trainings.

Stacie updated the Board of Selectmen for Gary as he could not make the meeting because he had someone coming to look at the town's grader.

A/P and Payroll Warrants were reviewed and signed.

Stacie verified with the Board of Selectmen that the letter she has written to the personal property owners for the abatement granted due to an error in billing is ok. The Board of Selectmen agreed to send out a letter to make personal property owners aware.

Stacie updated the Board of Selectmen that three of the properties that were foreclosed on have people currently living in them. Stacie said she has tried certified and regular mail and the property owners have still not gotten in touch with her. Andrea motioned to put all of the properties out to bid except for the occupied properties and to table the three properties that are currently occupied until the next meeting. Wayne seconded. All were in favor. Andrea will try to get in contact with the owners of the three properties currently occupied.

Andrea talked about the meeting that she and Stacie attended at Enviro-Mats. Andrea and Stacie met with the new manager of Enviro-Mats, Ron Clark, on Thursday October 30 to discuss the noise issue. Ron Clark has been at the mill for approximately six weeks. They have been making changes to reduce noise levels by enclosing the

building where the debarker and chipper are located. They have put up sliding walls that have two inch insulation. They have hung mill felt over a 24 foot opening, and are in the process of putting up more insulation and solid walls in the building. They have ordered two double walled trailers for the chips to go into. This should reduce the noise level when the chips enter into the trailers. Enviro-Mats are trying to mitigate the noise. The work is not complete yet, but Andrea and Stacie are hopeful their efforts will help. Andrea and Stacie will follow-up with the progress of the work they are doing to reduce the noise levels. Enviro-Mats is also sharing the two critiques that Jean Antonucci's sound specialists submitted with RSE, which is the company that did the sound study last year. It is hoped that RSE will review these critiques and provide feedback on them. Andrea asks that Jean and any others hearing the noise to take note of any changes, improvements, or no changes at all and keep the town informed.

Some suggestions were made about posting the Board of Selectmen's Agenda and Meeting Minutes, and the Board of Selectmen's Meeting recording to be put on the New Portland website.

Stacie and the Board of Selectmen had a brief discussion about town acquired properties and disposing of them.

Brian said that a property on the Wire Bridge Road that is a designated snow plow turnaround is now blocked off. Stacie said that she will be calling the property owners.

Wayne motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:36 pm. Doug seconded. All were in favor.

These minutes are a draft summary that were approved with changes by the Board of Selectmen at the November 17, 2014 Board of Selectmen's Meeting. KMM

### **New Portland Community Library**

From the Librarian, Shelby Newell - As we drift into the coldest months of the year, the New Portland Community Library would like to invite you to the library on Tuesday mornings starting in January, any time from 10:00 am - noon to get warmed up, have a hot cup of coffee or cocoa, and a muffin or other breakfast pastry. While there, you can settle in with a book or magazine, add a few pieces to the puzzle of the month or use the computer. You can socialize with your neighbors and even check out a book or two to take with you. Hope to see you on "Toasty Tuesdays at the Library"!

The library is raffling off a toboggan crafted and donated by Tom Polk. Tickets are \$2 each or six (6) tickets for \$10.

The drawing will be December 20, so be sure to stop by the library to buy a chance at winning this lovely wooden toboggan that is sure to be hours of family fun!

The library held our annual ornament making and tree decorating event! The children in attendance had a wonderful time. Be sure to come in and admire our Children's Tree! You'll see ornaments made this year as well as those made in years past.

For those of you interested in researching your family history, come in and try our ancestry.com for free at the library! You can also access books to download to your electronic devices from the Maine InfoNet Download Library for free. All you need to access this is a library card, so come in and we'll get you set up.

We are open Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 4:00 - 6:00 pm and Tuesday and Saturdays from 10:00 am - noon. Just a reminder that when school closes, the library does also. If you ever have any questions you can call the library at 628-6561 or email Shelby at newportlandcl@gmail.com

Friends of the Library Katie Handrahan and Kay Michka - This Month's 100 Club winners are Joan Moes, Barb Bruno, Irene Berry, Enviro-Mat, Anonymous, Anna Seguin, Greg West, Tranten's Store, Peter Gardner, Gary Cobb, Sharlene Belanger, Robert Whitten

Knitwits and Happy Hookers meet December 11 from 10:00 am - noon. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

## Wire Bridge Sno-Travelers

The November meeting was called to order with 13 members present.

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

Trail Master: Both the municipal and club grants have been approved by the state. The club needs to purchase some planking before we can do any bridge work. Lewis will contact a local mill and order the planks. Plans are in the works for having a calendar to schedule drivers for the groomer. Discussion was held about training the groomer drivers to be responsible for greasing the groomer before it is taken out. Also discussed was how the trails could be numbered so when the groomer breaks down or something else has happened, the drivers have a way of communicating where the exact location is.

Social Director: Linda will be putting together a ride/event schedule. Anyone having a special ride they would like to see placed on the schedule can contact her. You can check out our Facebook account by searching for Wire Bridge Sno-Travelers.

The December meeting will be held Saturday, December 13 (change from regular date). The meeting will start at 6:30 pm and will be followed by our annual Christmas party. Each person attending the meeting is asked to bring a gift (\$5) to be exchanged in a Yankee Swap. This year we are also asking people to bring in nonperishable items to be donated to either a local food pantry or given to a local family. After the Yankee swap we will share delicious snacks prepared by club members.

We hope to see even more new members join us on December 13.

## Community Churches

New Portland Community Church News for December 2014: The big news for December is the Annual New Portland Church Christmas sale. If you missed getting to the sale on November 22, there is still an opportunity to finish your Christmas gift list and stuff all the stockings, too. The sale will also be held on Saturday, December 6 from 9:00 am to noon. This is a great fundraiser for the church and a way to get your shopping done locally. For the winter, the thrift store will not be open on the fourth Saturday of the month. It will be open all other Saturday mornings, as usual, from 10:00 am - 12 noon.

Services are now being held in the West Village Church for the fall and winter. Come meet in the West for coffee hour from 10:30 to 11:00 am. Services begin at 11:00 am. The following is a list of ministers who will be joining us in the month of December:w

*December 7 (Communion) - Rev. Doug Walrath*

*December 14 - Rev. Doug Dunlap*

*December 18 at 7:00 pm - Service of Compassion and Hope in the Christmas Season held at Fairbanks Union Church in Farmington*

*December 21 - Rev. Doug Walrath; Christmas Eve service - New Portland 5:00 pm and Fairbanks 7:00 pm - Rev. Doug Walrath*

*December 28 at 10:30 am - Joint service at New Portland, Coffee hour 10:00 am.*

Have a Peaceful and Happy Christmas Season filled with family and friends. May Gods' blessings follow you all the New Year. Respectfully . . .

*Submitted: Nan Berry*

Held at Fairbanks Union Church in Farmington

In addition to our Sunday services and Bible studies, the Western Mountains Baptist Church held a variety of events during November. We hosted a baby shower for Josh and Ellie Stewart; we look forward to meeting their son, August, in the new year. Our Thanksgiving Potluck was well attended which included a birthday celebration for Terry Wills. And, to help raise money for Reaching You Ministries (a Christian based teen suicide prevention program) a Pie Contest was sponsored by the Youth Sunday School. The pies were judged on taste, and then participants were awarded 1st, 2nd and 3rd place ribbons. If you have the opportunity, be sure to ask Pastor Tom about his "favorite" pie.

As well as all the fun get-togethers, WMBC assisted Salem Economic Ministry with Thanksgiving food baskets for area families and also collected twelve shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child. The generosity of so many people is definitely something we are thankful for.

Upcoming: The Men's Breakfast is Saturday morning on December 6th, at 8am. For more information call Jean

Boucher at 265-2698. Sunday, December 14th will be our Christmas potluck held after the morning service. This will be a festive time to meet new and old friends. You can call Kathy McClure at 265-4651 for more information.

To learn more about what is happening at the Western Mountains Baptist Church, "like" us on our Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/WesternMountainsChurch>.

Sunday morning services begin at 10:00. During the service, nursery is provided for birth to 3 years old and Children's Church is available for ages 4 up to 3rd grade. Before the service, at 9:00a.m, Bible Study is held for all ages. For more information about the Western Mountains Baptist Church and the wide variety of Bible studies and opportunities to grow in your faith, please call the church at 265-2557 or email us at [westernmountainbaptist@tds.net](mailto:westernmountainbaptist@tds.net).

Merry Christmas!

*Submitted: Crystal Fitch*



# MERRY CHRISTMAS



