



NEW PORTLANDER



INFORMATION IS THE CURRENCY OF DEMOCRACY — THOMAS JEFFERSON

PUBLICATION VOLUME 22 NUMBER 7

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JANUARY 1, 2016

E-mail for town business: nwprtld@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/CEO: Stacie Rundlett - Ext. 1

Deputy Town Manager: Kristen Mitchell - Ext. 0

Tax collecting, registrations, hunting & fishing licenses

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday11am - 5pm

Thursday2pm - 7pm

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

Town Clerk: Kristen Mitchell - Ext. 2

Deputy Town Clerk: Stacie Rundlett

Vital statistics & dog licensing

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday11am - 5pm

Thursday2pm - 7pm

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

LPI: Robert Dunphy - Ext. 5

Assessor's Agent: Terri Lamontagne - Ext. 3.....npassessor1@gmail.com

Monday and Tuesday.....9am - 5pm

Fire Department: Chief Kip Poulin - Ext. 4

Email for Town Manager nwprtld@tds.net

Email for Town Clerk..... newportlandtownclerk@gmail.com

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, Thurs4:00 pm – 6:00 pm
Tuesday and Saturday morning from 10:00 am - noon (Thank you)
- **Kingfield-New Portland Transfer Station Hours:**
Wed, Sat, and Sun..... 7:30 am – 4:30 pm
Fri..... 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

NOTICE OF HEARING

Pursuant to 17 M.R.S.A. § § 2851-2859

(Dangerous Buildings)

You are hereby notified that the Municipal Officers of the Town of New Portland, Maine will hold a hearing on Tuesday, January 5, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. at 911 River Road, New Portland Maine to determine whether the residential building located at:

1. 210 Lemon Stream Road, New Portland, Maine 04961
Map 016 Lot 042
2. 34 River Road, New Portland, Maine 04961
Map 003 Lot 013

Both properties are of the current Tax Maps of the Town of New Portland, Maine on file at 901 River Rd, and are a dangerous or a nuisance within the meaning of 17 M.R.S.A. § 2851.

If the Municipal Officers find that the building/structure is dangerous or a nuisance, they may order appropriate corrective action, including but not limited to demolition and removal of the building/structure. If their order is not complied with by the deadline stated in their order and no appeal is taken, the Municipal Officers may take the corrective action at municipal expense and recover all expenses, including reasonable attorney's fees, by means of a special tax or civil action. This hearing is your opportunity to present evidence as to why the building/structure is not dangerous and to oppose any corrective action ordered by the Municipal Officers.

Dated: December 14, 2015

Municipal Officers Town of New Portland, Maine

Andrea Reichert

Wayne Rundlett

Mike Senecal

New Portlander article submission deadline is January 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@tdstelve.net

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

Town Clerk

Hello Fellow New Portlanders,

Just another reminder that there is going to be one (1) vacancy for Selectman and one (1) for a School Board Member. If you would like to pull nomination papers, you would need to come and pull them as soon as possible so that you can get your 25 signatures and have it turned into me before the deadline of Tuesday, January 19 at 5:00 pm.

January 31 is the last day to license your dog(s) before a \$25.00 late fee per dog becomes effective. This \$25.00 late fee is in addition to the \$6.00 if your dog(s) is spayed or neutered or \$11.00 if your dog(s) is not spayed or neutered.

Submitted: Kristen Mitchell, Town Clerk

Town Manager

The town office will not be open the first Saturday of the month during January 2016. The town office will be also closed on Monday, January 18 in observance of Martin Luther King Day.

Selectmen

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes for November 16, 2015

Selectmen Present: Wayne Rundlett, Mike Senecal, Andrea Reichert; Present: Stacie Rundlett, Judi Wills, Marilyn Gorman, Kristen Mitchell, Brian Rundlett

Andrea called the meeting to order at 6:35 pm.

Selectmen reviewed the minutes from previous meeting. Wayne motioned to accept them as written, Mike seconded and all were in favor.

Selectmen reviewed and signed payroll and accounts payable warrants. There was a discussion regarding the date for a public hearing for two dangerous buildings. A tentative date was set for December 1 unless more time is needed. Stacie will update selectmen.

There was a discussion regarding the demo permit for KNTS. The selectmen were having a KNTS meeting and would clarify a few things and let Stacie know proper procedures. Stacie reviewed with the board the two budget requests for the 2016 budget. The New Portland Community Library has asked for \$8,000 and the People Who Care Food Cupboard asked for

\$1,000 to be appropriated at the 2016 town meeting. There was a brief discussion regarding scheduling budget talks for 2016. It was proposed to review some budget requests for 2016 at the December 1 meeting. The board decided to cancel the December 21 meeting and reschedule it for December 15 instead.

Andrea discussed the rumors that were going around about the taxes being changed and how it affected Stacie in town and out of town. She proposed that they draft a brief letter stating that the Board of Selectmen found no truth to the rumors after investigating this. Mike motioned to go ahead with a letter for the public to clear up the rumor. Wayne seconded and all were in favor. Judi and Marilyn applauded the board members for doing this.

Stacie also discussed with the board that she had discovered an error she had made in payroll. That an employee had been getting over paid each month since March 31. There was a brief discussion. Mike motioned to not over expend that budget line as this employee was not being shorted any money, just over paid each month. Andrea seconded and all were in favor. Andrea asked Stacie to notify the employee as soon as possible and that questions regarding this can be directed to the board of selectmen.

There was a discussion regarding an upcoming scheduled meeting with the Somerset County Commissioners. Mike and Wayne would not be able to attend. Andrea, Stacie and Kip would be representing the Town of New Portland at the workshop on November 18.

Kristen discussed with the board her budget request to increase the ballot clerks pay from minimum wage of \$7.50 to \$8.50. There was a brief discussion, Mike proposed for it to be \$9.50 an hour as it is a very important position. This will be discussed more at the budget meetings.

Andrea motioned to enter into executive session for personnel matters pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6) (A), Mike seconded and all were in favor. Executive session began at 6:55 pm.

At 8:21 pm the board members exited the executive session and went back into a public session

They noted that they had completed employee evaluations. They asked Stacie to invite Kip, Gary and Terri to the meeting scheduled for December 15 to review their evaluations.

Mike motioned to adjourn the meeting, Wayne seconded and all were in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:22 pm.

These minutes were approved by the Board of Selectmen at the December 01, 2015 meeting. smr

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes for December 01, 2015

Selectmen present: Andrea Reichert, Wayne Rundlett, Mike Senecal (absent); Present: Stacie Rundlett, Marilyn Gorman, Dee Menear, Terri Lamontagne, Ron Lindner-Demers, John Demers-Lindner, Brian Rundlett, Kip Poulin

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

Wayne motioned to accept the minutes from previous meeting as written. Andrea seconded and all were in favor.

The Board reviewed and signed A/P and payroll warrants.

Kip briefed the board on repairs done to the rescue squad. There was also a brief discussion regarding the generator that has been listed for sale. Kip may have found a company that might take the generator in trade for a new one more compatible to our fire station. There was a brief discussion on payroll and training budgets for the current year. Kip confirmed that he would have 2016 budget items to present at the December 15 meeting. Brian briefed the board on mutual aid coverage for Kingfield while their engine was down getting repairs.

Terri brought to the board's attention information regarding payroll and what the laws are when someone is overcompensated. There was a discussion regarding the information provided. The board assured Terri that if there was an error on the town's part, that she would be properly compensated. Andrea asked Terri for a copy of her hours which she has been keeping; Terri said that she could do that. Terri agreed to let the board look into the matter and get back to her.

There was a brief discussion regarding budget items and scheduling upcoming meeting on December 15 to work on budget items and reviewing employee evaluations.

Andrea motioned to adjourn, Wayne seconded and all were in favor. Meeting adjourned at 6:56 pm.

These minutes were approved by the Board of Selectmen at the December 15th meeting. smr

Announcement

The winners of The New Portland Historical Society raffle are as follows: Doug Archer, Brayden Lovejoy, Barbara Parker. Many thanks to everyone that attended the craft sale.

Submitted: Marilyn Gorman, New Portland Historical Society

Planning Board

Planning Board Minutes for September 30, 2015

Present: Peter Gardiner, Brian Rundlett, Jim Heichel, Lewis Wills, Kyle Handrahan, Stacie Rundlett, Brook Gardiner, Ben Madden

Peter called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

Board members reviewed the minutes from previous meeting. Brian motioned to accept the minutes as written. Peter seconded and all were in favor.

The board reviewed an application from CMP regarding a repeater on existing utility pole on Route 27 at the CMP substation. There was a brief discussion regarding the protocol for public hearings, and the application. Lewis motioned to accept the application as complete, Peter seconded and all were in favor.

The board members decided to schedule a public hearing for October 21 at 6:30 pm. Stacie would notify the abutters to the location. The board decided to cancel the meeting for the October 7.

Stacie would get notice to the public.

Meeting adjourned at 6:48 pm.

These minutes were approved by the Planning Board Members on December 02, 2015. smr

Planning Board Minutes for October 21, 2015

Present: Peter Gardiner, Brian Rundlett, Jim Heichel, Lewis Wills, Kyle Handrahan, Stacie Rundlett, Brook Gardiner, Terry Turner and associate, Tim Gordon, Ron Clark.

Peter called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

The board members reviewed the application from CMP. Brian motioned to approve the application and Peter seconded. All were in favor. Terry Turner spoke up regarding the waivers that are within the application. He would like to board to motion that the board also approved the waivers. Lewis motioned to accept the waivers, Kyle seconded and all were in favor.

Tim reviewed with the board members information regarding the stormwater permit that is issued through DEP. There was a discussion about the new information from DEP. DEP clarified the "buffer" area on the maps for the commercial development plan from the original owners of that property.

Meeting adjourned at 7:04 pm.

These minutes were approved by the Planning Board Members on December 2, 2015. smr

Submitted: Stacey Rundlett

Wire Bridge Sno-Travelers

The December meeting was held with 15 members present. The secretary and treasurer's reports were read and accepted.

Trail Master: Brad said some signing and brushing had been done on the trails. He also reported he had received notification both grants had been accepted by the state. Lewis said he had replaced the broken window, and mirror on the groomer and everything was ready to go for the season.

Social Director: No plans as of yet, waiting for snow.

Old Business: Judi will contact Black Bear Graphics about prices for the club decals after the holidays.

New Business: Food donated tonight will be donated to a local food cupboard.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:50 pm. Next meeting will be January 16, 6:30 pm at the New Portland Fire Station meeting room.

After the meeting, the club had refreshments and held a Yankee swap. A good time was had sharing gifts, laughter, and stories (thanks Bill).

Happy Holidays to all the Wire Bridge Sno-Traveler family!!

Submitted: Joyce Knowles

Community Churches

Happy New Year from the Western Mountains Baptist Church!

After hosting the "Experiencing God Weekend" in November, we are making now dig deeper into the seven realities of "Experiencing God: Knowing and Doing the Will of God" by offering a 12 week study. Details continued to be worked out to be able to offer this at the beginning of the new year. The plans, so far, are to offer the same class on Sunday and Wednesday evenings. This opportunity is open to everyone. If interested and want to learn more please call or text Pastor Tom at 557-3802. You may also call the church at 265-2557.

Our Sunday morning worship services begin at 10:00 am. For more information about Western Mountains Baptist Church and the variety of Bible studies and other opportunities to grow in your faith, please call the church at 265-2557 or email us at westernmountainbaptist@tds.net.

"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men". Luke 2:14 (KJV)

Submitted: Crystal Fitch

Community Dinner

On December 6, 2015, the townspeople were invited to a "community dinner". The plans were discussed in October and final plans were made in November. The community dinner had been held in the past after the horse drawn carriage ride and caroling.

The selectmen were eager to take part, along with the town manager, town clerk, fire chief, assistant fire chief, and recreation committee. The menu was organized and each person was given an item they were responsible to buy. This would continue the tradition of not using any tax dollars to put on this supper and having the select people serve the meal to the community.

It was a busy time setting up tables, peeling, cooking and cleaning. This was a great working group, who laughed and enjoyed the preparation.

At 4:45 pm the line of people was amazing. As people sat down they were served with a salad, coffee or punch. The meal was served which consisted of prime rib, mashed potatoes, carrots, broccoli and homemade roll. Dessert was a brownie sundae. The conversations amongst the crowd were great, lots of laughing and enjoying seeing other New Portlanders.

The committee was very busy, serving, cleaning, filling coffee, and punch and doing dishes. 108 people (an unofficial count) had been served, we had planned on 75 - 80. So, the people who came in later saw the serving size become less and less, but all were served. Some opted for dessert.

After the clean up and reorganizing equipment, the crew was excited about all the citizens who came to share this special time with us. We were all exhausted but happy at the response from the town. We want to "thank" all who came to share this evening with us and our neighbors. We are already talking about doing this again next year.

So "thank you" all, and we wish you Happy Holidays! Enjoy 2016! Respectfully. . .

Submitted: Judi Wills





