



NEW PORTLANDER

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

DOUG KERR PHOTO

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

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TOWN OFFICE INFORMATION

Phone: 628-4441 • Fax: 628-4440

Town Office Contact Information and Hours of Operation:

Town Manager/CEO: Stacie Rundlett - Ext. 1
Email nwprtInd@tds.net

Deputy Town Manager: Kristen Mitchell - Ext. 0
Tax collecting, registrations, hunting & fishing licenses
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 11am - 5pm
Thursday 1pm - 6pm
1st Saturday of each month (except holiday weekends) 8am - noon

Town Clerk: Kristen Mitchell - Ext. 2
Email newportlandtownclerk@gmail.com

Deputy Town Clerk: Stacie Rundlett
Vital statistics & dog licensing
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 11am - 5pm
Thursday 1pm - 6pm
1st Saturday of each month (except holiday weekends) 8am - noon

LPI: Robert Dunphy - Ext. 5

Assessor's Agent: Mike Malesky - Ext. 3
Email newportlandassessors@tds.net

Fire Department: Chief Kip Poulin - Ext. 4

Remember...

- **Selectmen's Meeting**
1st Tuesday & 3rd Monday of each month6:30pm
- **New Portland Fire Department Meeting**
2nd & 4th Tuesday of each month6:30pm
- **New Portland Community Library**
Wednesday, Thursday4pm - 6pm
Tuesday and Saturday morning10am - noon
Sunday 1pm - 3pm
- **Kingfield-New Portland Transfer Station**
Wednesday, Saturday, Sunday 7:30am - 4:30pm
- **Library Board of Trustees Meeting**
2nd Tuesday of the month 6pm
- **Planning Board Meeting**
1st Wednesday of the month 6pm
- **New Portland Water District**
2nd Wednesday of each month 7pm
- **School Board Meeting**
1st Wednesday of each month 6pm
- **Knitwits & Happy Hookers (NPCL)**
2nd & 4th Thursday of each month 10am

Town Manager

Town of New Portland Notice of Public Hearing: The Town of New Portland will be holding a public hearing at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, March 3rd, at the Town Office 901 River Road for the purpose to comment on proposed comprehensive plan. Draft to be available for viewing on Monday, February 13th at the Town Office and on the town's website, newportlandmaine.org

A friendly reminder from your Town Office regarding Maine State Law: 29-A, M.R.S.A. § 2396 prohibits any person from placing in the public way snow or slush that has not accumulated there naturally. Please, contact the Town Office with any questions. 207-628-4441

Town Clerk

Notice of Municipal Election

Date: Friday, March 3, 2017

Polls Open / Polls Close: 10:00 am - 6:00 pm

Location: 911 River Road, Community Room / Fire Station

The following is a list of candidates for the Municipal Election:

Board of Selectmen for a 3 year term: Wayne Rundlett
RSU #74 School Board Member for a 3 year term: Bobbi Sue Harrington

You can start requesting absentee ballots now. The deadline to request an absentee ballot, including a ballot voted in the presence of the clerk, is Tuesday, February 28, 2017, unless the voter completes a special circumstances application, stating one of four allowable reasons for requesting an absentee ballot after this deadline. The four reasons are:

- An unexpected absence from the municipality during the entire time the polls are open on election day;
- A physical disability,
- An inability to travel to the polls because the voter is a resident of a coastal island ward or precinct; or
- An incapacity or illness that has resulted in the voter being unable to leave home or a treatment facility.

This special circumstances application must be signed **by the voter.**

If you have any questions you can contact me by telephone at (207) 628-4441 ext. 0 or by email at newportlandtownclerk@gmail.com.

Submitted: Kristen Mitchell

Selectmen

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes for Jan 16, 2017

Selectmen Present: Raymond Poulin, Andrea Reichert, Mike Senecal; Present: Stacie Rundlett, Mike Malesky, Judi Wills

1. Andrea called the meeting to order at 6:32 pm.
2. Raymond motioned to accept the minutes as written; Mike Senecal seconded and all were in favor.
3. The Board of Selectmen and Stacie reviewed all of the budget line items and decided what the board wanted to support. The requests for funding that were not supported, the Board of Selectmen asked that those be listed in the Annual Town Report so that residents of New Portland could support those items if the citizens wanted to support the article as private citizens. After thoroughly reviewing all line items, the Board of Selectmen have decreased the budget from 2016's budget by 18,840.
4. Mike discussed with the others the article which he is proposing to be on the annual town meeting warrant. There was a discussion regarding verbiage and the intention would be to get the townspeople to approve the Board of Selectmen to form a committee to research a Sand/Salt Shed project. If that committee could prove that such a project would be beneficial to the town, then the town could move forward from there. There was a brief discussion on the possibilities of this project.

Meeting adjourned 7:15 pm.

These minutes were Approved by the Board of Selectmen at the February 7 meeting. smr

Submitted: Stacie Rundlett

RSU 74 / School Board

The February board meeting was held at Carrabec Community Sschool. The crackers and chex mix were good. The creme puffs (I had four) were a particular highlight. - Dave

Minutes: The minutes of the January board meeting were Approved.

Student Presentation: There was none.

Superintendent Report: Mr. Beverage is concerned that not everyone has come to the realization that dramatic changes are coming (sooner than we may think) to the public schools.

He believes that within the next decade, school will be in session year round. He shared with the board a release from the Department of Education (DOE) that advocates the creation of regional Grade 9 - 16 schools; more discussion of this topic is expected at the March meeting.

The DOE recently announced some funding changes. Schools may not receive their subsidy statement until July.

The governor's proposed budget makes some changes to EPS ratios (funding formula). At the high school the student-teacher ratio will be 16:1, and 17:1 in K-8.

The 2016 - 2017 budget situation continues to be troubling. In the 2016 - 2017 budget there was an expectation of Medicaid revenues of \$280,000. The revenues could come in at less than \$80,000. Needless to say, this is a problem. Mr. Beverage praised Nicki Richardson and her efforts to get to the bottom of this.

The board Approved a snow removal bid and garbage bids.

Committees: At a buildings and grounds committee meeting, the superintendent shared a report from ESG (connected to the CHS renovations). It costs \$5000 to receive the report each year. It was determined that there is little or no value in the report. The board Approved terminating the contract with ESG, and saving \$5000 a year on a needless report.

The finance committee met recently. Mr. Beverage is concerned about the large amount of debt. There is a debt of \$9,000,000 connected to CCS and QZAB, and a great deal of lease debt as well.

In upcoming committee work, the bus contract with RSU 59 will be discussed. There will be a meeting with Siemens next week. Paving needs and capital improvements will be discussed.

Coaching Appointments: CCS Softball = Doug Larlee and Terry Corson, CCS Track = Matt Brown and Dustin Zamboni, CCS Baseball (Cooperative Team with Madison) = Luke Tewksbury and Ted Brown, CHS Baseball = Scott Franzose (cooperative team), CHS Softball = Craig Knight

Citizens: It was quiet.

Executive Session One, Personnel: When the executive session ended, the board took no action.

Executive Session Two, Personnel: When the executive session ended, the board took no action.

Executive Session Three, Personnel: When the executive session ended, the board authorized the superintendent to address a concern regarding an employee's need for leave days.

Executive Session Four, Negotiations: When the executive session ended, the board took no action.

Adjournment: The board meeting ended shortly before 7:00 pm. The next board meeting is Wednesday, March 1.

Submitted: Dave Ela, President of Carrabec Educational Association

New Portland Water District

The New Portland Water District will hold their annual meeting, March 8, 2017, at 7:00 pm.

This will be held at the New Portland Fire Station, 911 River Road. The regular monthly trustees meeting will follow immediately at the conclusion of the annual meeting.

Election of officers and trustees will take place. Everyone is welcome.

Submitted: Marilyn Gorman, Trustee

NEW PORTLANDER article submission deadline is March 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.

Wire Bridge Sno-Travelers

The February monthly meeting was called to order at 6:38 pm with nineteen members present.

The Secretary's minutes from the January meeting were read and accepted. Thank you notes were sent out to landowners for the Giving Tree donation in lieu of a landowner's supper this year.

The Treasurer read the checking and savings account balances and listed off all bills paid to date, as well as upcoming bills that need to be paid. The Treasurer's report was accepted as read.

The Trail Master thanked all those who have helped with brushing the trails so far. More brushing will need to be done on the municipal trails - all help would be greatly appreciated. Those wishing to operate the groomer will need to watch the safety and training video, and then take a test in order to fulfill grant requirements. The trail to Tindall's Store has been changed temporarily; more modifications will be done before the start of next season. All trails are being groomed and are in excellent condition - thanks went out to all who have groomed. The Trail Master's report was accepted as stated.

The Social Director is looking for a volunteer to lead another club ride. Ride suggestions are welcome. Additionally, other ideas for fun club activities, such as a poker run, were discussed. If anyone would like to be involved with the planning and implementation of club activities, please contact Linda.

There was no old business discussed.

New business: We have received a number of new membership applications within the past month. Anyone wishing to join the club may contact Joyce, or any of the officers, who will put new members in touch with Joyce Knowles.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:05 pm. The next meeting will be Saturday, March 11 at 6:30 pm.

Submitted: Linda DeWolfe and Lynne Cary, secretaries

New Portland Library

Sunday afternoons from 1:00 - 3:00 pm are our Family Sundays. We have lots of games available (cribbage, chess, monopoly, various card games, puzzles, and coloring books), public computers, reading nooks, used books for sale, and some great reading corners for you and your children. Please join us to break up your weekends.

We continue with our Toasty Tuesdays 10:00 am - noon at which time you can join us for a cup of coffee or a sweet. Bring your laptop or use one of ours, including the new MacIntosh, and check out our latest books and dvds.

Our Board of Directors meets the second Tuesday of each month at 6:00 pm. The public is welcome to join us. We really can use people interested in becoming board members. We can also use volunteers to cover some library hours or to work on specific events. Ask us about our list of activities or suggest an event you would like to spearhead.

Knitwits and Happy Hookers will meet on the second and fourth Thursday mornings in March, 10:00 - noon. If you have a craft project you are working on, bring it in and enjoy the company. Please call the library for further details on any event.

Librarian's and patron's picks for the month: adult fiction *Never Go Back* by Lee Child. (This is a nice switch from Robert Parker's books.); adult nonfiction *Outhouses of the East* by Sherman Hines (I guess, there's a market for any subject!); youth fiction: *The Midnight Star* by Marie Lu (science fiction); children: *Hilda and the Stone Forest* by Luke Pearson (graphic novel); DVDs: any of the Jesse Stone movies. Stop in to check out these new selections!

Submitted: Sheila Atwood

Community Churches

The New Portland Community Churches, in partnership with **Mission at the Eastward** [MATE - a Presbyterian Church ministry], has for the past 40 years offered home maintenance assistance to families who own their own homes. Our primary focus is to help elderly folks on limited income with critical home maintenance that they otherwise cannot afford to do, and to help other economically stressed families [such as single mom's or new families struggling to make ends meet] with similar needs. We give preference to families with members who have disabilities and also to military veterans. We are limited in what we can do, since we rely on volunteer workers from churches who travel here for a week in the summer months to enable us to offer this assistance. The two page insert explains the program and asks for pertinent details from you, which we hold in strict confidence.

We will contact everyone who applies in the April/ May timeframe to assess whether we can be of help to you. If you want to have someone call earlier than that to discuss 'issues' with you, please make a note on the form to that effect and someone will get back to you, or leave a message on the Fairbanks Union Presbyterian Church's office phone - 778-4705, and someone will call you back [give us a week or so, since all of this is volunteer effort, and we are not staffed during the weekdays].

Submitted: Ed Jesteadt

The Western Mountains Baptist Church offers ongoing Sunday school classes each Sunday at 9:00 am. Please take note of the following:

-Kindergarten through third grade - the teacher is Annette Stanley, fourth grade through sixth grade - the teacher is Denise Bestwick, seventh grade through high school - the teachers are Jody and Cindy Fletcher, young adult (post high school) is led by Tom DuBois, and they are currently studying Colossians. Adult women class is led by Deb Staier and currently studying historical books of the New Testament. Any adult (mixed) class is led by Dean Stanley and currently studying Daniel

Worship services begin at 10:00 am. Coffee and snacks are available before and after worship services. All classes are open so anyone is welcome to join a study at any time.

This past week, the planning for Vacation Bible School 2017 began. If you have any interest in participating as a volunteer please contact Pastor Tom by phone or text, 557-3802 or call the church at 265-2557. If you have a child or know a child who may be interested in attending VBS, please stand by for more updated information.

Have you noticed how much more daylight we are now getting compared to just a few weeks ago? Before we know it, it will be Easter, April 16!

Submitted by Crystal Fitch

Mission at the Eastward



Presbyterian Church, U.S.A.

North Parish Housing Ministry

A program of the Fairbanks Union Presbyterian Church
And the New Portland Presbyterian Community Churches

WHO? Volunteer Mission teams from all over the northeast come to western Maine to share their talents and caring with area homeowners, who without assistance with labor and/or materials, would be unable to make needed repairs and maintenance to their homes. Many of the volunteers take vacation time to be here.

WHAT? Painting, roof repairs, porches, steps, ramps and simple interior and exterior repair are likely prospects for the teams. Wherever possible, we ask homeowners and families to participate in the work and its cost. At times the mission can help with materials through grants and donations.

WHERE? Franklin County: Farmington area, Chesterville, Jay, N. Jay, Livermore Falls, Wilton, New Sharon, Temple, Strong, New Vineyard. Somerset County: New Portland, Lexington, Highland Plantation & Embden. Volunteer work groups stay in North New Portland and Farmington, and we like to keep the work within 30 minutes of these towns. The Salem Economic Ministry, East Parish Housing Ministry [Starks] and RCAM in Leeds also have similar programs that cover the other towns not listed above.

WHEN? Volunteer Mission teams arrive during the months of June, July and August. The date and time the team will be at your home will be coordinated with you if your application is accepted.

WHY? The North Parish Housing Ministry was created to help people in need stay in their home by doing needed repairs they could not otherwise afford to do. The volunteer Mission teams seek to do Christian service. They are called out of their everyday lives to serve in our community. They come to work on housing and would be pleased to work along with you. Their experience is made better by the time you share with them.

HOW? If you own (or are buying) your home, all you have to do is to fill out this application and return it. Each application received will be considered, and you will be contacted for further information if necessary. We will call you to set up an assessment appointment, and we will notify you, whether or not we are able to do the work requested.

MATE-NPHM determines what applications are accepted based on the skill levels of the volunteer teams and the extent and complexity of the work requested. We do our best to prioritize the requests as to those most in need of assistance. We cannot guarantee that we can do everything requested, and it must be kept in mind that the work will be done by volunteers with varying skill levels. Whatever we do is done with the safety of the volunteers as our highest priority, and in completing a job to our mutual [client & NPHM] satisfaction.

Mortgages held by other than a financial institution: In cases where the mortgage is held by other than a financial institution, MATE-NPHM will require them to also sign off on any repairs made.

**Mission at the Eastward
North Parish Housing Ministry
2017**

**Application for the Community Summer Housing Program
Application Deadline: May 13, 2017**

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Street Address: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Town: _____ Zip Code: _____

I am: Elderly; Disabled; Single Parent; Military Service [active or veteran-any member]

I: Own home & land; Home only; Have a mortgage; Mortgage with other than a bank

Total number of people living in my home: _____ (Ages: up to 18 19 to 59 60+)

Combined family annual income:

Less than \$10,000 \$10,000 to \$15,000 \$15,000 to \$20,000 Above \$20,000

Are you current on property tax payments? Y or N Is there a lien on your home? Y or N
Please list the work you need:

I will be able to contribute toward the cost of materials: Yes; No; Maybe; \$ _____ Max. Amount

Signature: _____

Please return this form to: North Parish Housing Ministry
c/o Fairbanks Union Church
P.O . Box 206, Farmington ME 04938

. All personal information is for the use of Mission at the Eastward NPHM and is held in strict confidence.
<http://northparishhousingministry.weebly.com>

Please tell us where you obtained this application: _____



The New Portlander

Established July 1994

901 River Road
New Portland, Maine 04961

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NEW PORTLAND MAINE 04961

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 School Board Meeting 6:00 pm Planning Board Meeting 6:30 pm	2	3 Municipal Election 10:00 am - 6:00 pm Community Room Public Hearing/ Comprehensive Plan 6:30 pm Town Office	4 Annual Town Meeting 9:00 am Community Room Town Office Closed
5	6	7 Selectmen's Meeting 6:30 pm	8 Knitwits and Happy Hookers at NPCL 10:00 am New Portland Water District at 7:00 pm at Fire Station	9	10	11 Wire Bridge Sno-Travelers 6:30 pm
12	13	14 Fire Department Meeting - 6:30 pm Library Board of Trustees Meeting - 6:00 pm	15	16	17	18
19	20 Selectmen's Meeting 6:30 pm New Portlander Deadline at 4:00 pm	21	22 Knit Wits & Happy Hookers NPCL - 10:00 am	23	24	25
26	27	28 Fire Department Meeting - 6:30 pm	29	30	31	

NEW PORTLANDER CALENDAR MARCH 2017

DOUG KEHR PHOTO

