



NEW PORTLANDER

INFORMATION IS THE CURRENCY OF DEMOCRACY — THOMAS JEFFERSON

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

DOUG KERR PHOTO

E-mail: nwprtld@tds.net | Mailing Address: Town of New Portland, 901 River Road, New Portland, Maine 04961
Visit the Town of New Portland's web page at newportlandmaine.org

PUBLICATION VOLUME 24 • NUMBER 5 • NOVEMBER 1, 2017

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 nwprtld@tds.net

Deputy Town Manager: Kristen Mitchell - Ext. 0
Tax collecting, registrations, hunting & fishing licenses
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 11 am - 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**
Winter Hours - September 1 to May 31
Sunday 1pm - 3pm
Tuesday & Saturday 10am - Noon
Wednesday & Thursday 4pm - 6pm
- **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
- **Recreation Committee**
1st Thursday of each month 6:30pm

Town Manager

The location of November 7 selectmen's meeting is set for the Town Office as it is voting day and the community room will be unavailable for the monthly meeting.

The flags will be taken down on Sunday the November 12. Anyone wishing to assist can meet at the Town Office at 9:00 am.

The Town Office will be closing early on Wednesday, November 22. The office will be closing at 3:00 pm, and we will not be open on Thursday, November 23 in observance of Thanksgiving.

Stacie and Kristen are having their Annual Giving Tree at the Town Office starting November 16th. We will be taking gifts until Wednesday, December 20th. Stacie is making gift tags that will be hanging on the tree at the Town Office which will have an item listed on it. We have children from the ages of 4 to 16, and we also have adults who are in need as well. The Fire Department will assist us with delivering the gifts before Christmas Day. If you have any questions, you can call the Town Office or email Stacie. We look forward to making this year's Giving Tree another success and hope you all have a wonderful Holiday Season.

A reminder that Sunday, December 3 the Selectmen, Fire Department, and Recreation Committee will be hosting our Annual Free Public Supper for New Portland residents. Supper will be served from 5:00 - 6:00 pm. Town officials will be cooking and serving you for your continued support over the past year. The menu will be posted in the December *New Portlander*; so mark this event on your calendar. There will be no tax payer dollars used for this supper, so please come and join us for some good food and great company.

Submitted: Stacie Rundlett, Town Manager

Town Clerk

The State of Maine Referendum Election will be held on Tuesday, November 7, 2017, located at 911 River Road at the Community Room / Fire Station. Polls Open: 8:00 am - Polls Close: 8:00 pm

The New Portland Water District will be meeting on Wednesday, November 8 located at 911 River Road at the Community Room / Fire Station at 7:00 pm.

Submitted: Kristen Mitchell, Town Clerk

Selectmen

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes for September 18, 2017

Selectmen Present: Wayne Rundlett, Raymond Poulin, Michael Senecal; Present: Stacie Rundlett, Mike Malesky, Marilyn Gorman, Brian Rundlett, Dallas Landry, Brenda Stevens, Kristen Mitchell, Judi and Lewis Wills, Peter and Brook Gardner, Ron Lindner-Demers, John Demers-Lindner

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

The Board of Selectmen reviewed the minutes from September 5, 2017. Wayne motioned to accept them as written and Raymond seconded, all were in favor.

Kristen asked the Board of Selectmen if the town would pay a \$95 fee for a course which would enable Kristen to have enough credits to become a State of Maine Certified Town Clerk. There was a brief discussion, then all members agreed that they were in favor of doing this. Mike Senecal motioned to pay for this course, Raymond seconded, and all were in favor.

There was a discussion regarding CMP and antennas which have been put up throughout the town without pulling a Wireless Telecommunications Permit through the Planning Board. This would be the third time this has happened, and this time the representative for CMP has stated they do not feel their antennas meet the definition of an antenna which is described in the Town of New Portland Wireless Telecommunications Ordinance and would not be applying for a permit on these installations. The Planning Board and the Board of Selectmen had a discussion on this matter. Raymond motioned for Stacie to contact the town's attorney on this matter. Wayne seconded, and all were in favor.

Mike Malesky updated the board that he would be working on the survey for the Wire Bridge Park project in the upcoming week.

Brian Rundlett updated the board members on fire calls. There was a brief discussion on the recent fire call that was at the Wire Bridge.

Mike Senecal updated all in attendance that there would be a Sand/Salt Shed meeting held on October 11 at 6:30 pm. There was a brief discussion regarding a culvert issue on the Hancock Pond Road.

Meeting adjourned 6:58 pm.

These minutes were Approved by the Board of Selectmen at the October 3rd meeting. Smr

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes for October 3, 2017

Selectmen Present: Wayne Rundlett, Raymond Poulin, Michael Senecal (absent); Present: Stacie Rundlett, Mike Malesky, Dallas Landry, Brenda Stevens, Judi Wills, William Serafino, Ron Lindner-Demers, John Demers-Lindner, Gary Agren, Becky and Gilbert Taylor.

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

The Board of Selectmen conducted a public hearing regarding the 2017-2018 General Assistance Ordinance. Stacie noted the increase in allowances that is governed by the State of Maine in this ordinance. There were no questions. The Board of Selectmen reviewed, Approved and signed this ordinance.

The Board of Selectmen reviewed the minutes from September 18, 2017. Wayne motioned to accept them as written and Raymond seconded, all were in favor.

Gary Agren updated the board on status of work to be done. There was a brief discussion regarding the Hancock Pond Road. Gary discussed with the board his suggestion of grinding the remaining pavement on the Hancock Pond Road. He received a quote for \$4200. Raymond and Wayne agreed with this proposal. Gary updated the board on a tire issue on the grader. Raymond briefly asked about the rock issue on the Hancock Pond Road that has been brought up previously. Gary would look into having the rock removed. Stacie updated Gary on a request for calcium on Hancock Pond Road. Depending on the weather later in the week he would take care of it.

Kip Poulin discussed with the board a proposal from ME DOT regarding a dry hydrant on Meadow Brook Road. He updated the board on the calls. He discussed his concerns with the board with an ongoing issue with Highland Plantation and the mutual aid, or lack of with aid from them. He requested the board consider putting in a request to the officials in Highland Plantation to discuss these issues.

Mike Malesky presented to the board two abatement requests. There was a brief discussion regarding these requests. Wayne motioned to accept the abatement requests, Raymond seconded, and all were in favor. 1. Raymond Brown- \$137.83; 2. Thomas Bossie- \$166.22. Mike presented a copy of the MVR to the board members for them to review. He would like them to sign it at the next meeting so that he can get it into the State of Maine in a timely fashion. He will get a copy to Mike Senecal as well.

Judi Wills presented a copy of a draft policy for the Recreation Committee. This is just a draft the committee has been working on and would like input from the Board of Selectmen.

NEW PORTLANDER article submission deadline is November 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.

Stacie presented A/P and payroll warrants to the board. The warrants were reviewed and signed. She updated the board on the status of the CMP and Wireless Telecommunications Ordinance. At this point it is just in the beginning stages of communications. She will keep the board updated when any additional information arrives. She reminded the board that the office would be closed the next two days for training. And the office is scheduled to be open Saturday 8:00 am to noon but closed again in observance of Columbus Day on Monday, October 9.

Gilbert Taylor relayed to the board that his sand/salt pile was up and ready for them to inspect.

Brenda Stevens asked what the scope and the costs for the survey which was done on the Hancock Pond Road. Stacie relayed she did not have the information on the scope of the survey, and the costs were around \$2200. She would have to look back in the warrants to get the exact price as she didn't recall from memory. Gary relayed what he had asked Sackett & Brake Survey, Inc. to include in the survey. Brenda asked if any of this was in writing, and it was stated to the public it was not in writing. Brenda noted her concerns about that. She also brought up her concerns regarding the beavers on Hancock Pond Road. There was a lengthy discussion regarding this and information that was provided to Dallas as well as information on the matter that was provided to Gary. Dallas Landry relayed his concerns as well and how it was all affecting the water lines. Raymond stated that he would contact Chuck Halsey about the issue and see what information he could get on the matter.

William Serafino asked the board about the much-needed improvements to the internet service here in New Portland. There was a brief discussion regarding the information that he was told by TDS and Spectrum. Stacie informed William she has contacted many people regarding this matter. And it boils down to all those she contacts relaying that the town of New Portland would need to invest 100's of thousands of dollars to upgrade our current lines or have Spectrum install more service than the few that they currently have in the North Village.

Raymond and Wayne both stated that they would go and inspect the sand/salt pile.

Meeting adjourned 7:13 pm.

These minutes were approved by the Board of Selectmen at the October 16th meeting. Smr

Submitted: Stacie Rundlett

RSU 74 / School Board

The October school board meeting was held at the Embden Community Center.

Minutes: The minutes of the September Board Meeting were approved.

Proficiency Based Education Presentation: Brian Twitchell showed a video to the board. The video discussed Proficiency Based Education. The video emphasized that with PBE student learning and assessment can be more personalized.

Students have multiple ways to demonstrate proficiency.

The board raised questions about PBE. Some standards were written several years ago, and a board member wanted to know if those standards were still in use, or if they had been revamped. Mr. Twitchell said that over time, as the state has given more guidance, it has been determined that some of the standards were not sufficiently rigorous. Those standards have been revised or replaced. In general, there seemed to be more revision of math standards than English standards.

Another board member expressed skepticism of PBE. He worried that PBE was less about students reaching proficiency than it was about students being just passed along. Mr. Twitchell said that goal was for all students to be proficient.

A board member asked if all students were required to meet the same standards. Mr. Twitchell said all students must meet the same standards, though they are allowed to meet the standards in different ways.

Finally, one board member asked what school boards or individual board members could do if they were opposed to PBE. It is state law. Mr. Tracy said that the board as a whole could approve a resolution expressing opposition to PBE and that sentiment would be relayed to Augusta. Individual members were free, he said, to contact their state legislators.

Bus Warranty: Recently, the board purchased two new buses. At the last board meeting there was much discussion as to whether or not an extended warranty should be purchased. Cliff Chase from O'Connor spoke to the board about this. His recommendation was not to purchase the warranty. The board voted against the warranty purchase.

Superintendent Report: Mr. Tracy did not have much to add to the report which he had Submitted to the board members, but he did discuss the results of a recent survey that students in grades 6-12 were given the opportunity to take. The After School Participation Survey sought feedback as to what the barriers might be that prevent students from participating in extra-curricular activities. The most common responses as to why students didn't participate involved lack of transportation, unhappiness with coaches, and perhaps students were interested in an activity that RSU 74 did not offer. Students who did participate in extra-curricular activities said that they loved the activity in which they were involved, wanted to be active, and liked the coach. There was much discussion surrounding this topic. A next step will involve collaboration between the 6-12 athletic director, town rec departments, administrators, teachers, parents, and coaches.

Elections: Maurice Langlois and Stacey Robinson to National Honor Society advisors.

Appointments: Andrew Ferrari - MLTI stipend, Chuck Glidden - CHS jv boys' basketball coach, Luke Tewksbury - CCS boys' basketball coach, Erik Carey - CCS girls' basketball coach

Resignation: Kasey Hiltz - 4th grade, CCS

Admin Reports; Tim Richards told about the happenings at CHS. There will be a blood drive on October 10 The Boston college trip will be on November 1 and 2. 27 students are taking dual enrollment courses from KVCC, UMPI, and UMFK. Katrina Mason is a semi-finalist for the National Merit Scholarship. One student travels to Madison High School

for band. CHS seniors fundraised and cleaned up at the New Portland Fair. JMG students will attend an overnight conference on October 18-19.

Tom Desjardins said he is thrilled with all that is happening at CCS. There are 264 kids in grades k-8. He invited the board to visit CCS, where he said work is ongoing with PBIS. He said that he has tried to set very clear expectations. An eighth grade Huts and Trails trip will take place next week. He has been very impressed with the effort of the sports teams, and he is very pleased with the band and chorus students under the direction of Dan Gilbert.

Jean Butler said that first month at GS and Solon has been very busy with Open House, a spaghetti dinner at GS, Children's Stage Adventures at Solon, and various field trips. Mike Tracy said he attended the Children's Stage Adventure performance at Solon, and he was quite impressed.

Scott Hall had nothing to add to his report.

Nikki Richardson said the first month has been filled with arranging schedules and getting contracted services in place. RSU 74 is undergoing a special ed audit this year, and Nikki said that Bonnie Atwood has been a valuable resource. The number of students identified for special ed services has dropped from 144 to 141. Statewide 17% of students are identified, and in RSU 74 23% are identified. One board member commented on the challenges that special ed staff must face at times. Nikki commented she works with a group of wonderful people.

Lorie Agren said things are running a bit more smoothly than when the year began. Emergency lights should be up and running at Solon by next week. The Solon freezer should be running by Friday.

Committees: The Facilities and Grounds Committee met on September 13. They discussed the CHS storm drains. Some outdated custodial equipment needs to be replaced. Cracked concrete, tile, and carpet issues were discussed.

The Library/Technology Committee met on September 20. Current standards, Synergy, laptops for students in grades 4-12, and the k-3 mobile laptop carts were on the agenda.

Also in September, the board's ad hoc collaboration with RSU 59 and Bingham committee met. Earlier in the day, Drummond Woodsum (school legal firm/representatives) had presented to school districts on the topic of regionalization. At the ad hoc cmte meeting, it was emphasized that if RSU 74 goes the route of regionalization, we should proceed cautiously. Sometimes when regionalization agreements are entered into, it can be very difficult to withdraw later on.

Citizens: Nobody spoke.

JMG Trip: The board approved an overnight JMG trip on October 18-19.

Purchase of two low speed buffers and a wet vac attachment: The purchase, not to exceed \$2,000, was approved. New equipment was needed, especially after some of the existing equipment caught fire during usage.

School Calendar Change: The board took did not express any opposition to Mr. Tracy's plan to remove a workshop day in exchange for teachers doing parent conferences beyond school hours as has been done in the past.

Purchase a Fuel Tank to be placed at CHS: The tank, which

will not exceed \$2,000, was Approved. This will be paid for with QZAB funds.

CHS Boston Trip: The board Approved the CHS college trip on November 1 and 2. Students will visit SMCC, Brandeis, Stonehill, and Salem State.

Negotiations Update: The board's bargaining team will meet with the support staff bargaining team on October 12. They will undergo a joint interest based bargaining training.

Adjourn: The meeting ended at 7:36 pm

Submitted: Dave Ela, President of Carrabec Educational Association

Wire Bridge Sno-Travelers

The October 14 monthly meeting was called to order at 6:34 pm with 14 members present.

The secretary's report was read and accepted. The club received a thank you note from a local student for money the club donated toward her college education.

The treasurer reported both the checking and savings account balances. All bills are paid up to date. The treasurer's report was accepted as read.

The trail master indicated that repair work on one of the bridges has been completed and thanked those who helped get the job done. Lewis has received permission from the landowner to make a sign for Friend's field; Dave and Brad will work on the sign. Lewis and Brad started placing markers with more to be done this month. There aren't too many large projects going on, just small maintenance and upkeep items. The trail master's report was accepted as stated.

Old Business: Lewis has been working on re-routing some of the trails and smoothing out certain areas to make it easier for grooming. Brad is going to bring in the electric chainsaw again so club members can take a look to see if we should purchase one for the club for brushing and trail maintenance.

New Business: Anson has a brush cutter on the side of their groomer, and we are going to look into buying or making one. Club members voted to reimburse Lewis for the acetylene which he uses in maintaining club equipment. Lewis spoke with a couple members of the Lions Club regarding our club lot. Snowmobile Club members agreed Lewis should attend a meeting and represent the Sno-Travelers to discuss specifics of the deed with the rest of the Lions. The club discussed approaching a couple of local organizations regarding donating money to help maintain our trails. It appears as though logging will be taking place near Tuttle's corner this winter.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:03 pm.

The next meeting will be Saturday, November 11 at 6:30 pm at the fire house meeting room.

Submitted: Lynne Cary, Secretary

Community Churches

New Portland Community Church News: The monthly church suppers are all over for the year. We have had a great time with the community and really appreciate all who have attended through the summer. A huge thank you to all who help prepare and serve, those who donate their time and energy to making sure everything we serve is just so, and

those who enjoy the dinners every month. We wish you all a good winter and hope to see you in April when suppers resume!

The Annual Christmas Toy Sale will be held at the West Village Church on Saturday, November 18 and Saturday, November 25 from 9:00 am – noon. The Wire Bridge Thrift Store will be open Saturdays from 10:00 am – noon from now into December. However, if there are needs in the community that require attention please do not hesitate to call 491-2620 or 399-3742.

Services are being held at the West Village Church on Sunday mornings. We have been enjoying our new minister very much. Rev. Thea Kornelius, in her part-time, position will be preaching three Sundays a month. Doug Walrath has kindly offered to cover the remaining one or two Sundays a month. Thea and Doug are both excellent preachers, full of energy and clarity. Coffee hour starts at 10:30 am with the service following at 11:00 am. We would love to see you there. Respectfully...

Submitted: Nan Berry

Western Mountains Baptist Church: October 15, the congregation at the Western Mountains Baptist Church had the opportunity to worship with a group of ten men from the Teen Challenge Program based in Winthrop, Maine. Recovering from the devastating consequences of drug and/or alcohol abuse is a life time battle to say the least. These men shared their personal stories of how with the help of Jesus Christ, and others in the organization, they now have hope for the future. To learn more about the Teen Challenge Recovery Program in Maine visit: <https://tcnewengland.org/locations/maine-mens-campus/>.

Ladies, have you wondered how to get involved with women to make new friendships, do crafts and learn more about being a Christian woman in your everyday life? The answer may be to connect with Pat, leader of the WMBC Women's Ministry. The ladies meet at the church the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at 6:00 pm. This group has been instrumental in providing knitted hats and mittens to kids in our local schools and to the New Hope Women's Shelter in Solon. To learn more, call Pat at 265-4164 or, just show up. They are currently studying the book of Ruth. During November they will meet on the 14th and the 28th.

Youth Group is held every Thursday evening from 6:00 to 7:30 pm at the church for ages kids age 12 and up. If you have a teenager, encourage them to attend this fun group of kids to play games, learn about the Bible, prepare snacks, make crafts, talk, make friends and more. The YG leader, Cheyra, can be reached at 265-2050 to answer questions.

Join us for a Thanksgiving potluck after church on November 19. Food will be served immediately following our 10:00 am worship service so approximately 11:15ish. Bring food, bring friends, or bring nothing but yourself, we welcome you to join us.

An exciting ministry that is now led by folks at WMBC is called Bridging the Gap. For many years this has been a program for the elderly in Kingfield, spearheaded by the United Methodist Church. WMBC volunteers were asked to lend a helping hand several months ago. Now with the passing of Pastor Connie Maginnis, Bridging the Gap

"headquarters" has moved to WMBC so the program is being expanded to New Portland residents. If you are elderly or homebound and would like a hot meal delivered to your home once a month, please call Cathy at 678-2442. The meals are free and delivered to your door between the hours of 10:30 am and noon the last Saturday of each month. Please help spread the word to local folks who may welcome an extra hot meal once a month.

Remember to mark your calendars for our Christmas Concert on Friday, December 15 at 6:30 pm. Snacks will be provided.

Please take note that our physical address has recently been updated to 928 Carrabassett Road in New Portland. We haven't moved, our address just has been updated.

Happy Thanksgiving!

Submitted by Crystal Fitch

New Portland Library

Congratulations October 60 Club winners: First (\$50) Betty and Gary Cobb, Second (\$25) Marjorie Ray, Third (\$10) Lori Hibbard.

Thanks to everyone who attended the Fall Festival. Annette Falco is the winner of the Fall Ball Drop. We hope you had a good time! Thank you, Esma Cole and Bob Whitten for your donation of extra apples, delicious! Thank you, Harry Stout for bringing your cider press. What a great treat!

Every Tuesday 10:00 am – 12 noon is Get Together Day. Come and visit with neighbors and challenge them in a game of chess or cribbage and spend time perusing through all our new books, fiction and nonfiction books of Maine.

On Thursday November 9 at 10:00 am Knitwits and Happy Hookers will meet. All are welcome even if you can't hook or knit; you will have a good time!

Thank you to all Tindells' patrons who have dropped pennies into our Penny Mile Jar. It's starting to add up!

Reminder, if you have an overdue book or movie, you can renew them by calling 628-6561 preferably when the library is open or leave your library number and/or name and the name to be renewed. There is a drop box by the library door to return items when we are not open. We have four computers with WIFI for the public use. We can also help you connect with the genealogy website.

We have many donated books that are often duplicates of what we have. They are for sale for a donation, but soon we will be bringing them to Nursing Homes and Togus. If you know of any groups or homes which could use books, please let us know.

Remember, if we do not have the book you are looking for we can get those books for you from the interlibrary loan.

We are recruiting new volunteers. Since the garden is put to bed, you may have a little more time on your hands, and you can spare two hours a month to work the library desk. If the desk isn't for you, just stop in when we are open and help with other jobs. We appreciate all the help we can get!

Library Hours: Sunday 1:00 – 3:00 pm, Tuesday 10:00 am – 12 noon, Wednesday 4:00 – 6:00 pm, Thursday 4:00 – 6:00 pm, Saturday 10:00 am – 12 noon.

Submitted: Rosemary Drosky



The New Portlander

Established July 1994

901 River Road
New Portland, Maine 04961

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

POSTAL PATRON
NEW PORTLAND MAINE 04961

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 School Board Meeting 6:00 pm Planning Board Meeting 6:00 pm	2	3	4 Town Office Open 8:00 am - noon
5	6 7 Referendum Vote Polls 8:00 am - 8:00 pm at Meeting Room/Fire Station Selectmen's Meeting 6:30 pm at Town Office Get Together Day at NPCL	8 New Portland Water District Meeting - 7:00 pm Meeting Room/Fire Station	9 Knit Wits & Happy Hookers NPCL - 10:00 am	10	11 Sno-Travelers - 6:30 pm Meeting Room/Fire Station	
12	13	14 Fire Department Meeting - 6:30 pm Library Board of Trustees 6:00 pm Get Together Day at NPCL	15	16	17	18
19	20 Selectmen's Meeting 6:30 pm New Portlander Deadline at 4:00 pm	21 Fire Department Meeting 6:30 pm Get Together Day at NPCL	22 Town Office closing early 3:00 pm	23 Thanksgiving	24	25
26	27	28 Fire Department Meeting 6:30 pm Get Together Day at NPCL	29	30		

NEW PORTLANDER CALENDAR NOVEMBER 2017

DOUG KEHR PHOTO

