



NEW PORTLANDER

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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 Dec., Jan., Feb., Mar.) ... 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 Dec., Jan., Feb., Mar.) ... 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

Town Clerk

Absentee ballot requests for the Municipal Election will begin on Monday, January 29, 2018. The last day to request an absentee ballot is Tuesday, February 27, 2018.

The Municipal Election will be held Friday, March 2, 2018. Polls open 10:00 am and close at 6:00 pm.

Reminder: Annual Town Meeting is Saturday, March 3, 2018, at 9:00 am.

Submitted: Kristen Mitchell, Town Clerk

Selectmen

Selectmen's meeting minutes for December 18, 2017

Selectmen Present: Wayne Rundlett, Raymond Poulin, Michael Senecal (absent); Present: Stacie Rundlett, Brian Rundlett
Raymond called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

The Board of Selectmen reviewed the minutes from December 13, 2017. Wayne motioned to accept them as written and Raymond seconded, all were in favor.

Stacie shared with the board of selectmen a proposed spreadsheet for 2018 assessing budget and fire department budget. The board and Stacie discussed the data that she had for them. The board decided to make no decisions until they could meet as a complete board.

Stacie discussed with the board that the town's attorney suggested they work with CMP on the violation due to the wording of the town's ordinance. Stacie suggested that they have the attorneys try to work out those details.

Stacie reviewed with the board the liability issues with leasing a site for a sand/salt shed. If a parcel of land is grandfathered with the DEP laws once it changes hands the parcel loses the grandfather status with DEP. They reviewed all of the information they had on hand. At this time the board felt there were a lot of things to take into consideration, and it would be discussed much more in detail at the scheduled January 10 meeting.

Meeting Adjourned 6:57 pm.

These minutes were approved by the Board of Selectmen at the January 2 meeting. smr

Remember...

- **Selectmen's Meeting**
1st Tuesday & 3rd Monday of each month6:30pm
- **New Portland Fire Department Meeting**
2nd & 4th Tuesday of each month6:30pm
- **Library Board of Trustees Meeting**
2nd Tuesday of the month6pm
- **Planning Board Meeting**
1st Wednesday of the month6:30pm
- **New Portland Water District**
2nd Wednesday of each month7pm
- **School Board Meeting**
1st Wednesday of each month6pm
- **Recreation Committee**
1st Thursday 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
- **New Portland Post Office Customer Service Hours**
Monday - Friday 7am - 9am, 2pm - 4pm
Saturday 7am - 10:30am

Selectmen's Meeting minutes January 2, 2018

Selectmen Present: Mike Senecal (chairperson) Raymond Poulin, Wayne Rundlett; Present: Stacie Rundlett, Mike Malesky, Brian Rundlett, Brenda Joy Stevens, Dallas Landry, Ron Lindner-Demers, John Demers-Lindner

Mike Senecal called the meeting to order at 6:32 pm.

Raymond motioned to accept the minutes as written; Wayne seconded, and all were in favor.

Kip updated the board on calls. He briefed the board on maintenance repairs being done on light fixtures in the bay of the fire station. There was a discussion regarding the recent problems with the heating system at the fire station. Bob's Cash Fuel looked into the matter and had to return again to determine why the building was not heating properly. Kip and Stacie will keep the board updated as they know more.

Mike Malesky updated the board that he had been working on reports for the state and made sure they were sent on time.

Brian updated the board on Planning Board meetings with subdivision amendments.

Dallas gave his apologies for not getting the Planning Board minutes into the January *New Portlander* as an oversight. Stacie recognized that Dallas did an exceptional job making sure that the *New Portlander* was printed and delivered to the town in time for them to get out before the New Year.

There was a brief discussion regarding the conditions of the roads. Mike Malesky inquired about the Sand/Salt Shed meeting time and place.

Stacie presented the warrants to the board. The board reviewed and signed all payroll and the accounts payable warrant from year end 2017. Stacie updated the board on the scheduled appointment with the town auditor for January 18.

Stacie presented updated budget spreadsheets for the board to review. There was a brief discussion regarding the breakdown of a few department lines. She will present completed spreadsheets to the board by the January 15 meeting. This is when they will need to be finalized from the board of selectmen. A budget committee will be scheduled as soon as the board finalizes their budget requests. There was a brief discussion regarding possible dates.

The board discussed briefly sand/salt shed business. Stacie reminded the board that they will also need to consider what figure they want in the budget line for the winter roads, as this is the last season for the current contractor, Gilbert Taylor.

Meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm.

These minutes were approved by the Board of Selectmen at the January 15 meeting. Smr

Submitted: Stacie Rundlett

Sand and Salt Shed Committee

The Salt Shed Committee met on January 10 at the New Portland Town Office to discuss the feasibility of leasing the property currently used for the town's sand and salt storage.

The selectmen and town manager, after researching the leasing proposal posed by the committee at the November meeting, discovered multiple challenges to leasing. In addition to the cost of such a lease the town would have to assume all the liability on the property as well as create physical barriers to secure the area. Additionally, it is unlikely that the grandfathering of that property for the purposes of sand and salt storage from the owner to the town as lessees would be allowed by the DEP.

The second option the committee had discussed throughout its meetings in 2017 was for the town to purchase land and build its own sand and salt storage facility for the following reason. The current plowing contractor also is the owner of one of the only two sites in the Town of New Portland that is approved for sand and salt storage. It is reasonable to assume that the current contractor may not always wish to bid on the road contract or not always be the lowest bidder. This would result in leaving the town without a place to store sand and salt within the town, causing potential contractors to put in higher bids to cover the cost of hauling salt and sand from a location outside the town.

The selectmen therefore decided at their January 15 meeting to continue looking for a forward thinking solution to sand and salt storage for the town. They are proposing an article for the 2018 town meeting warrant and an amount of money to pursue purchasing land and constructing a building for sand and salt storage.

Submitted: Sand and Salt Shed Committee

NEW PORTLANDER article submission deadline is February 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: alderswamp2@gmail.com

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

RSU 74 / School Board

The January 10 school board meeting was held at Garrett Schenck. It was a surprisingly quick meeting. Another highlight was the food, particularly the chili that Brenda Mullin prepared.

Minutes: The minutes of the December 6 board meeting were approved.

Student Presentation: Lisa Savage, Brittany Dunham and three GS students discussed Power Reading. A second grade student, Karley Gordon, demonstrated to the board how students sound out words and syllables. Two other students, Hickory Smith and Seth Hanson talked to the board about the activities they do in reading class. They work with letters, vocabulary words, prefixes and suffixes, have dictionary scavenger hunts, and play Two Lies, One Truth with vocabulary words. They quickly played the Two Lies, One Truth game with the board.

Superintendent Report: The financial picture remains rather ominous. At current spending projections, RSU 74 will finish the year at 0.7% on the good side. A spending freeze has been implemented.

On the subject of statewide school consolidation/regionalization, there have been many rumors regarding penalties that will be imposed on schools who do not find a partner. At one point, the belief was that schools could be hit with a penalty of as much as \$120 per student. The current rumor is that the penalty will be roughly \$30 per student, which amounts to \$20,000 for RSU 74. The state has still not said anything definitive, so this number could be different by the next board meeting.

The ad hoc AOS committee has been invited to a meeting in Madison on January 25 at 6:00 pm.

Resignation: Sarah Harriman, CHS English teacher - effective February 24

Nomination: Issac LaCasse - special ed teacher, CCS

Admin Reports: Tim told the board that on January 10, 37 students participated in a Skype session with Senator Angus King. Also, the Cole Land Transportation Museum is donating RSU 74 \$10,000 worth of musical instruments. 50 CHS students will visit the Cole Land Transportation Museum in May. The Cole Museum also donated 50 Kindle Fires to RSU 74, and they have given a grant to fund Reading Recovery Training, according to Jean.

Tom commended the Carrabec Community School boys' basketball team for their effort and attitude in a recent basketball game. He thanked Lorie for her efforts during the first week back from vacation when CCS had major heat issues.

Lorie said that the pellet boiler is down and is in need of repair. The Carrabec High School roof has been shoveled, and the GS roof will be soon. She thanked Chris Roy for his help when CCS was having heat issues.

RSU 74 has a contract with Siemens, but it will be under review.

Committees: The negotiations committee met December 14 and January 10. The policy committee met in December. Mr. Tracy and board chairman Bob Demchak attended a recent SCTC meeting.

Citizens: Alan Walker, a resident and bus driver, encouraged the board to buy diesel buses in the future, as he believes diesel buses are a better investment than gas buses.

Purchase of a third bus: RSU 74 is eligible to purchase a third bus. (Two were purchased earlier in 2017-2018.) The board approved the purchase.

To see if the board will insert the proposed language into section "2 secondary" in school policy IJIC, effective beginning of AY 2018-2019. The board approved.

To see if the board will replace school policy IJNDC and add IJNDB, and add IJNDB-R in place of IJNDC. The board approved.

To see if the board will delete school policy AFC/GCN Evaluations. The board deleted.

To see if the board will update school policy DJ - Add legal language to DJ. The board added.

To see if the board will discuss declining enrollment in winter sports. Nate Stubbart spoke to the board about CCS sports, primarily the 7th grade boys' basketball team. The team has struggled this season, losing often by more than 40 points. Nate feels that the team, which plays in the Central Maine League, would find more success in a different league, possibly the Augusta-area Capital Area League. He hopes to make a recommendation to the board in February.

Board member Tammy Murray spoke about middle school basketball and declining sports enrollment in high school. She believes that the athletes become frustrated in middle school because they lose so frequently and by such large margins. That frustration then leads some to give up on school sports by the time they reach high school. She would like to see CCS offer sports to only seventh and eighth graders, while sixth graders could play sports for town rec teams.

Executive Session: The board entered executive session to discuss support staff contract negotiations.

The executive session was the last agenda item other than adjournment. The regular portion of the meeting was concluded by 7:05 pm, which was much earlier than recent meetings.

Submitted: Dave Ela, President of Carrabec Educational Association

Planning Board

Minutes for November 1, 2017 meeting.

Present: Peter Gardiner, Brian Rundlett, Jim Heichel, Lewis Wills, Stacie Rundlett, Brook Gardiner

Peter called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. There were no minutes to review.

There was a brief discussion regarding the status of the CMP violation. Stacie informed the board that at this time they were still waiting for additional information from the town's attorney. Once she received that information she would make sure that all board members had the same information.

Peter motioned to adjourn the meeting. Brian seconded, and all were in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 6:42 pm.

These minutes were approved by the Planning Board at the December 6 meeting. smr

Minutes for December 6, 2017

Present: Brian Rundlett, Lewis Wills, Kyle Handrahan, Stacie Rundlett, Mike Malesky, Jeff Nickinello.

Brian called the meeting to order at 6:41 pm.

Lewis motioned to accept the minutes as written; Kyle seconded, and all were in favor.

Mike Malesky presented to the board an amendment to an existing lot in a subdivision. The board reviewed the proposed changes, and there was a lengthy discussion regarding the history of the properties and subdivision.

Brian motioned to have a written document created stating the board, at this time, is aware of the modifications to Jeff's lot, and at this time, they choose not to ask Jeff for any other applications.

If Jeff Nickinello decides to sell his lot or divide it more than it currently is divided, then he would need to come back before the planning board and move forward with another subdivision plan. Lewis seconded, and all board members were in favor of the motion.

Mike Malesky will draft a letter, and the planning board will receive a copy to sign and keep on file.

Meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm.

These minutes were approved by the Planning Board at the January 3 meeting. Smr

Submitted: Stacie Rundlett

New Portland Library

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

New Vision Statement "Enrich the Community with a welcoming center to gather, to learn, to connect."

Congratulations January 60 Club winners: first place - Greg Drummond \$50, second place - Wendell Marston \$25, third place - Ezra Pease \$10. Thank you for your participation!

January was "try a new author/genre" month. February is read "a classic" month. Maybe one you read long ago or one you have been thinking about reading. There will be an easy to find selection set out. Try the young adult section: *Moby Dick*, *Tom Sawyer* or the original *Grimms Fairy Tales*.

The Knitwits & Happy Hookers will not be meeting in February or March. The next get together will be the second Thursday in April.

Sheila will be available Saturday, February 10 at 10:30 am for anyone who would like to talk about the book they read. This will continue the second Saturday of each month.

The February board meeting will be discussing programming for the year. If you would like to join us, please do so. Second Tuesday of the month at 6:00 pm at the library.

We are planning to host a session to go over some basic computer issues: gmail, facebook, virus checks, genealogy. We are shooting for Tuesday mornings at 10:30 am or Thursday at 4:30 pm, both the third Thursday and Saturday of the month. Is there any interest? If so, please let the library director know!

Cribbage players unite! We are forming a group to play at the library Tuesday mornings at 10:30 am. Please join us if you would like to play a game, get a cup of coffee, and have a chance to meet some of your neighbors.

If the weather is "iffy", please call the library before you drive over 628-6561. Let's hope the weather will be kinder to us in February!

Submitted: Rosemary Drosky

Wire Bridge Sno-Travelers

The January 13 monthly meeting was called to order at 6:29 pm with 14 members present.

The secretary's report was read and accepted.

The treasurer reported all bills were paid up to date, except the fuel bill, which was just received and would be paid right away. The checking and savings account balances were read. An itemized report of club expenses over the past year was shared with club members. The treasurer's report was accepted as read.

In lieu of the trail master's report, Lew Wills reported that the riding has been great on all club trails, and we have received positive feedback from riders. However, due to the recent rain storm, the snow is now slushy and the trails are full of water. Once things freeze up again, and we get more snow, we can go out and groom and conditions will improve. Lots of

brushing has been done - thank you to all who have helped - but more brushing is needed. Specifically, brushing needs to be done on the trails going out to Hancock Pond and over on the west side of town. The new chainsaw purchased by the club has been working very well for brushing. Lew and Bill Cafarelli have had to cut trees on some of the trails to make wider access for the new groomer.

Old Business: A question was raised about the status of the trail on the Gravel Pit Road. Gary Agren has created a short trail on his land to try to bypass some of the travel on the Gravel Pit Road. He has suggested the club contact the landowner at the start of the trail, and the club may be able to get permission to have a trail across this land as well.

New Business: Club members discussed the operation of the new groomer and potential future maintenance of the machine.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:05 pm.

The next meeting will be Saturday, February 10 at 6:30 pm at the fire house meeting room.

Submitted: Lynne Cary, Secretary

Community Churches

Some of the regularly scheduled events that take place at the Western Mountains Baptist Church throughout a typical week include:

Monday evenings at 6:30 pm, there is a Men's Bible study. All men are welcome. For more information call Jean at 340-8186. Also, a Men's Breakfast is held the first Saturday of each month at 8:00 am.

Monday and Wednesday evenings there is a Ladies Walking Group at 5:00 pm. During the winter, walking videos are used inside the building so everyone stays warm and safe. This is an open group for any woman at any fitness level. Call Crystal at 491-7433 for more information.

The second and fourth Tuesday evenings, the Women's Ministry meets at 6:00 pm. Join the ladies for a Bible lesson, crafts, friendship and community service projects. Pat is available to answer any questions; she can be reached by calling 265-4164.

Wednesday mornings, there is a Ladies Bible study held at 9:00 am. Call Betsy at 678-2328 if you have questions about the group and what they are currently studying or just show up. All women are welcomed.

Youth Group meets on Thursday nights from 6:00 to 7:30 pm. Cheyra is one of the youth leaders and can answer any questions about youth group, her number is 684-2050. GEMS Club for young girls meets monthly on a Friday at 3:00 pm. Text Rosie at 778-1086, if you would like to learn more.

The Daniel Plan friends group meets the third Friday of each month at 5:30 pm. This group meets to encourage each other to live a healthier lifestyle according to the Daniel Plan written by Rick Warren. Call Jean at 628-3331 to learn more or to order a book.

Saturday nights at 6:00 pm there is a group of folks who get

together to pray for our church as well as other churches, our country, our communities and families. If you have a need for prayer or would like to join the prayer group, please call Bryan at 684-3000.

Sunday services begin at 10:00 am. Come early to enjoy coffee and snacks. If desired, there is nursery and children's church available during the service. Sunday school for all ages is available at 9:00 am. Pastor Tom can be reached at 557-3802 or by email at pastorwmbc@gmail.com to answer any questions. Visitors are always welcome to join us. May you be blessed in all ways.

Submitted by Crystal Fitch, member of WMBC

New Portland Community Church News: Already it's February 2018! How did that happen?

Things are fairly quiet just now.

The weather has been cooperative on Sunday mornings so far, and we have not had to cancel any services for weather. If anyone has a question about whether church might be cancelled due to weather please call Nan at 628-6061.

The Wire Bridge Thrift Store will be open, as usual on Saturday mornings from 10:00 am - noon. Fill your winter and spring clothing needs! Everyone can use another sweater!

Services are being held at the West Village Church on Sunday mornings. Rev. Doug Walrath is taking the winter months off, so we will be enjoying a rotation of ministers on the one Sunday a month that Rev. Thea Kornelius is not with us.

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

Citizen's Corner

I learned a lesson in college which did not come from my text books nor my professors. I carried this newspaper article around for years. It is a simple clipping. You may recognize the author, and I felt the time was right to share this lesson with my fellow community members.

A Note on Volunteers:

"Volunteers are like yachts. No matter where they are, they arouse your curiosity. Who are they? Where do they come from? Why are they here?"

They could stay moored where it's safe and still justify their being: but they choose to cut through the rough water, ride out storms and take chances. They have style. They have fierce independence. If you have to ask how much they cost, you can't afford them. Volunteers and yachts have a lot in common these days. They are both a part of an era that is disappearing from the American Scene. They are both a luxury in a world that has become very practical. Day by day the numbers of volunteers decreases in this country. More and more of them equal their worth in terms of dollars and cents. They are the only human beings on the face of this earth, who reflect this nation's compassion, unselfish caring, patience and just plain loving one another." - Erma Bombeck

Submitted: Judi Wills

