



# 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: [nwprtInd@tds.net](mailto:nwprtInd@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](http://newportlandmaine.org)

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## TOWN OFFICE INFORMATION

**Phone: 628-4441 • Fax: 628-4440**

### Town Office Contact Information and Hours of Operation:

#### Office Hours:

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday ..... 10am - 5pm  
Thursday ..... 12pm - 6pm  
First Saturday of the month ..... 8am - noon  
(except Dec., Jan., Feb., Mar. and permitting it's not a holiday weekend)

#### Town Manager/CEO, Deputy Clerk: Stacie Rundlett

Email ..... [nwprtInd@tds.net](mailto:nwprtInd@tds.net)

#### Town Clerk: Kristen Mitchell

Email ..... [newportlandtownclerk@gmail.com](mailto:newportlandtownclerk@gmail.com)

**LPI:** Leo Mayo - 566-7341

#### Assessor's Agent: Mike Malesky

Monday ..... 1pm - 5pm  
Email ..... [HUDSONBAYAXE@gmail.com](mailto:HUDSONBAYAXE@gmail.com)

#### Fire Department: Chief Kip Poulin

**Animal Control Officer:** Keith Mudgett, Jr. - Cell: (207) 248-2874

## Remember...

- **Selectmen's Meeting**  
1st Tuesday & 3rd Monday of each month ..... 6:30pm
- **New Portland Fire Department Meeting**  
2nd & 4th Tuesday of each month ..... 6:30pm
- **Library Board of Trustees Meeting**  
2nd Tuesday of the month ..... 6pm
- **Planning Board Meeting**  
1st Wednesday of the month ..... 6:30pm
- **New Portland Water District**  
2nd Wednesday of each month ..... 6:30pm
- **School Board Meeting**  
1st Wednesday of each month ..... 6pm
- **Recreation Committee**  
1st Thursday of each month ..... 6:30pm
- **New Portland Community Library**  
Winter Hours - September 1 to May 31  
Tuesday & Saturday ..... 10am - Noon  
Wednesday ..... 4pm - 6pm  
Thursday & Sunday ..... 1pm - 3pm
- **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

## Assessor's Agent

The Town of New Portland is currently accepting applications for a part time Interim Assessor's Agent. The position will be responsible for gathering information to determine the valuation of all exempt and taxable, real and personal property in the Town of New Portland. The appraisal work involves gathering of information by inspection, research, and examination of records and using this information to determine the tax assessment of the property; executing official documents and assuring the accuracy and validity of the annual property tax commitment; determining the tax rate and preparing commitment; maintaining accurate assessment records; extensive public contact.

An application package, including full job description, can be obtained at the Town Office located at 901 River Road, New Portland, Maine or by calling Stacie Rundlett at (207) 628-4441 ext. #1. Applications may be submitted to the Town Office by fax to (207) 628-4440 or by email to [nwprtInd@tds.net](mailto:nwprtInd@tds.net) or by mail. Applications will be accepted until the position has been filled. Direct all correspondence to:

Interim Assessor's Agent Search  
C/O Town Manager, Town of New Portland  
901 River Road  
New Portland, ME 04961

*The Town of New Portland is an Equal Opportunity Employer.*

## Town Manager

To the Residents of New Portland:

We are all well aware of the public health situation in Maine and across the U.S. regarding the Coronavirus outbreak. It is a major concern, and it is evolving rapidly. Like every organization and business in Maine, we have been monitoring the COVID-19 virus, and its potential impact in our community. After a lengthy discussion with the Board of Selectmen at their March 16 meeting, we will be making some adjustments

in the Town Office and services that are provided while protecting the health of our residents and employees. These adjustments will be evaluated on an ongoing basis and changes will be made as information and circumstances change. We sincerely apologize for the inconveniences that these steps will cause but feel it necessary to protect everyone and not have to close the office entirely. The following measures have been implemented as of Tuesday, March 17, 2020.

Effective March 17, 2020, through April 7, 2020, the New Portland Board of Selectmen together with the Town Manager will be taking measures to protect our staff and attempt to stay somewhat operational. The Town of New Portland will close all buildings to public entry. The Town Office staff will be working and providing services via phone, email and through USPS. You will not be allowed in the building. If you are able to call or email ahead before coming to the Town Office to conduct your business, the staff will do their best to accommodate you. The office number is 207-628-4441, emails are nwprtInd@tds.net or newportlandtownmanager@gmail.com, newportlandtownclerk@gmail.com. We will be conducting your services by "curbside". When registering your vehicle, please call us when you arrive, we will come get your paperwork to process the registration. You may also email your proof of insurance and registration to us and let us know when you might be arriving to try and save time. We are asking for your cooperation and patience during this pandemic. The Board of Selectmen is supportive in this decision. We are trying to avoid exposure and the possibility of closing our office completely. We will be making necessary accommodations on a case by case basis. We do have a drop box by the front door if you are only making a tax payment. For General Assistance applications please call the office and we will make arrangements to get the application to you and get it processed.

**ALL** public events and/or gatherings in the Community Room are being postponed until further notice.

We, as a responsible group of Town Officials, have made these decisions with the recommendations provided by the CDC; we will re-evaluate these decisions in approximately three weeks. We sincerely apologize for any inconvenience, but we also want to assure you are all safe as well as our staff members.

I stress for everyone to please implement "social distancing" policies and practices as recommended by the U.S. CDC. Remember to do what you can to help your family, friends and neighbors, where we can. These are difficult times and we are erring on the side of caution in order to do our best to slow the spread of the virus, but we will persevere. If you have any questions at all please feel free to contact me at the office; 628-4441 or on my cell; 491-8007. Stay safe.

*Submitted: Stacie Rundlett, Town Manager*

## Selectmen

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### Minutes for the Selectmen's Meeting for February 17, 2020

Selectmen Present: Raymond Poulin, Wayne Rundlett, Andrea Reichert

Present: Stacie Rundlett, Brent and Misty Davenport, Kristen Mitchell, Brenda Stevens.

1. Call the meeting to order: Andrea called the meeting to order at 6:28 pm.
2. Review minutes from previous meeting: Raymond motioned to accept the minutes as written, Wayne seconded and all were in favor.
3. Old Business: There was none.
4. Department Heads: There was none.
5. Items by the Public: Brenda Stevens discussed with the board a recent propane truck that went off the road on Hancock Pond Road. After a thorough discussion about how the incident happened. Brenda suggested that the board of Selectmen issue a letter to all the local fuel delivery companies to request they slow down as she is concerned about the speed these trucks travel our roads. The board would consider this, but all were unsure on what authority they could issue these letters to the companies. Brenda also discussed with the board a couple of different locations where the snow banks are very high and difficult to see past. Stacie will call DOT to see what can be done. Brenda inquired on what type of training the Fire Department members had regarding propane issues. Wayne relayed that recently Bob's Cash Fuel had donated a meter to many local departments to determine any levels of propane leaks, and they also had training on the issues of propane matters. There was a brief discussion regarding the plowing and the banks being back too far, which Brenda felt was misleading to drivers who might not be familiar with New Portland roads. Raymond reiterated to her that the roads are being plowed as they should be and the banks are pushed back where they should be as well.
6. Items by the Town Manager: a. ) The board reviewed and signed payroll warrants. b.) The board reviewed and signed the Treasurer's Report.
7. Items by the Board of Selectmen: 1.)The board discussed the need to make changes to the Tax Anticipated Note loan to ensure that there are enough funds until 2020 taxes start coming in. Andrea motioned to move forward with this and to increase the amount to \$600,000. Raymond seconded and all were in favor. 2.)The board briefly discussed the issue with conveying the new electricity poles to CMP. The Board decided to not convey them at this time, and Stacie would call CMP to get this part of the Sand Salt Shed project wrapped up.

Adjourn the meeting- 6:54 pm.

*These minutes were approved by the Board of Selectmen at the March 3rd meeting. Smr*

## Minutes for the Selectmen's Meeting for March 3, 2020

Selectmen Present: Raymond Poulin, Wayne Rundlett, Andrea Reichert

Present: Stacie Rundlett, Juanita Bean, Gary Agren, Kip Poulin, Brian Rundlett, Lynn and David Cary.

1. Call the meeting to order: Andrea called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.
2. Review minutes from previous meeting: Wayne motioned to accept the minutes as written, Raymond seconded and all were in favor.
3. Old Business: The board decided not to issue letters to the fuel companies about trucks traveling New Portland roads. The board felt that they did not have any authority to do so.
4. Department Heads- There was none.
5. Items by the Public- 1.) Lynn Cary made an official petition for the board to withdraw from R.S.U. 74. She read her statement explaining why she felt it necessary to do this. There was a brief discussion on the matter, and all information that the board has been gathering. After she read her request, the board thanked her for voicing her concerns and opinion. 2.) Juantia Bean, real estate agent, discussed with the board her concerns on the high taxes on Nona Young's property. She asked the board if they would be willing to look into the matter because as it stands with such high taxes on an ordinary home; she would not be able to sell it with taxes being so high. She provided comparable properties to the board to show comparison. The board agreed to look into the matter and get back to her on the matter.
6. Items by the Town Manager: The board reviewed and signed payroll warrants.
7. Items by the Board of Selectmen: 1.) The board had a discussion regarding the foundation of the Sand Salt Shed. They asked Stacie to reach out to the engineer to schedule a meeting to go over some issues that have been found. 2.) Andrea motioned to enter into executive session pursuant to M.R.S.A §405(6)(A) to discuss the assessor's agents' medical leave at 7:13 pm.

At 7:42 the board entered back into public meeting. Andrea motioned to advertise an interim Assessor's Agent position. Raymond seconded and all were in favor. The board asked Stacie to put this ad on the MMA website as well as The Daily Bulldog, the town's website and see how much it would be to run ad in the Morning Sentinel. They were all in agreement for Stacie to reach out to Audra

Swanson, former Assessor's Agent, to see if she would make some time to come and see what the status is in the assessing department to make sure we try and stay on track with Mike Malesky out on medical leave.

Adjourn the meeting at 7:42 pm.

*These minutes were approved by the Board of Selectmen at the March 16 meeting. smr*

*Submitted: Stacie Rundlett, Town Manager*



**NEW PORTLANDER article submission deadline is April 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**

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The March board meeting was held at Carrabec High School.

Adjustments to the Agenda: The agenda item regarding a plan to close Garrett Schenck by the end of June 2021 was tabled. An executive session was added to the end of the agenda.

Minutes: The minutes of the February 5 board meeting were approved.

Presentation: Brian Twitchell spoke. Prior to the board meeting, he had been at Cony High School attending a Math League meet. He informed the board that CHS students Laci Dickey, Luke Carey and Annika Carey had won individual awards at the meet. As a team, CHS finished in first place.

Superintendent Report: Mr. Tracy spent much of February 28 at Garrett Schenck. He said that the staff is outstanding, and the students are wonderful with which to work. He has been facilitating an ACES training each month for interested staff. While filling in at Carrabec Community School recently, he has been impressed with the learning that is going on. (He mentioned fraction pie in Mrs. Schanz' room). He also noted that the students have been great. The WMEC Rendezvous event is March 20 at UMF. During April, a focus will be the District Writing Challenge.

Appointments: Chad Caldwell - CCS baseball coach, Greg Carey - CHS assistant softball coach, Grace Cram - 504 coordinator.

Resignation: Tom Desjardins - CCS principal

Admin Reports: Tim Richards informed the board he and Mr. Tracy met with Mike Gould from Dirigo Timberlands on February 24. Mr. Gould would like to form a partnership to enable CHS students to visit their facilities to explore career opportunities. Jean Butler noted that Solon will be holding a "Happy 200th Birthday Maine" event next week. GS will have a STEAM event on March 26. The elementary schools are being prepared for MEAs. Elementary students who achieved the highest score in their class on the 2019 test have been honored. Scott Hall and his staff are preparing for the MEA test. As the test is computer based, they may be busy. He mentioned the district Facebook page and believes that it has been a great addition this year. Lorie Agren said that her staff is focused on the flu and making sure everything is disinfected.

Committees: The board's negotiating committee met with the teacher's negotiating team on February 10 and February 25. A tentative agreement is placed, pending ratification by both parties. The re-structure and finance committees met on February 26.

Citizens: Tammy Murray spoke. She hopes in light of a recent admin resignation, the position will be filled

internally, in order to save money. Andrea Reichert asked if there is a document outlining the governance of the board. She was told that there is.

Outdoor Club overnight trip to Maine Huts and Trails: Tammy Long will be taking students on the overnight trip March 26-27. The board voted to approve.

JMG overnight trip to Urban Maine Adventure: The board voted to approve. Nine middle school students will attend this trip on Maine 1-2.

Plowing RFP: The Partridge Company was given the plowing contract.

Rubbish RFP: Three Rivers was awarded the rubbish contract.

The Budget: Mr. Tracy presented the preliminary budget numbers. The original proposal comes in at only a \$27,000 increase to taxpayers. Savings has been achieved in the following areas: one special ed position reduced (currently unfilled). There are two music/performing arts positions in the 2019-2020 budget. The position that is currently unfilled will be reduced. Third grade laptop purchase will be tabled. The position of one teacher planning to retire (individual not named) will not be filled. Reductions in supplies, two bus runs, equipment, admin office hours, two custodial hours. Combining CCS (K-8) principal and AD (6-12) into one position. In its current form, the proposed 2020-21 budget does not lead to any reductions in existing staff. Some board members did have questions, which will be addressed at next week's budget meeting. The next budget meeting will be March 11 at 6:00 pm at CHS.

Executive Session: The last agenda item was an executive session.

Submitted: Dave Ela, President Carrabec Education Association

Addendum: Regarding the Budget Meeting of March 11. The board voted to accept the proposed 2020-2021 budget. The board did not make any changes to the proposal that was presented on March 4.

## **Church News**

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The Western Mountains Baptist Church plans to celebrate Easter, April 12. Traditionally, we begin the day with a Sunrise Service at 6:00 am. We gather outside, around the cross, for a few hymns and a short Easter message by Pastor Tom. Immediately afterwards enjoy coffee, tea and hot chocolate inside the warm church while the men cook a big breakfast. If you have not had one of these breakfasts, make this your year! There is no charge, and these men practice making breakfasts all year long during their monthly men's breakfasts. There will also be a 10:00 am Easter service. Make a plan to join us for all or part of the morning. It's a great way to remember and celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

April 18 at 10:00 am, there will be a ladies' spring brunch. Bring a dish to share if you would like or just show up; either way, all ladies are welcome. Dot Lambert from Kingfield will be sharing her experience in "God's Keeping Power". Invite a friend and join us for food, fellowship and fun.

WMBC is promoting the Family Life Marriage Conference in Portland, Weekend To Remember, April 24-26. There are several area couples attending. To learn more that "great marriages just don't happen" go to the Family Life website: <https://www.familylife.com/>. To register and get the best price, please register under the WMBC Group Name, SecondChances. Call the church (265-2557) if you would like to talk with someone local about the weekend.

Church services at WMBC begin at 10:00 am. If you are unable to attend, please visit the website to listen to sermons, check out the calendar of events or give online: <https://www..> Cds are also available for free. Email your mailing address to [westernmountainchurch@tds.net](mailto:westernmountainchurch@tds.net).

Please feel free to call or checkout the church's Facebook page or the website (calendar of events) for updated information on scheduled events for April and beyond.

*Submitted: Crystal Fitch*

## New Portland Community Church News April 2020.

Springtime. In keeping with health recommendations from the CDC to limit public gatherings and given that our congregation and our town has a high risk population, we have made the difficult decision to suspend services at the New Portland Community church until further notice. This decision, sadly, included the Breakfast Club community breakfast that was planned for March 21 and 22. This will, absolutely, be rescheduled in the future when it is safe to do so. It is/was hoped that we would be able to hold Palm Sunday and Easter Services in April, but this is looking less and less likely. We will get posters up, and a notification on the town office talking sign, announcing our return to services.

In the meantime, please stay safe, and stay connected, even when you cannot meet in person. Call your neighbors, check in via email with your friends, catch up on your letter writing... remember when that used to be a 'thing'? It was a good 'thing'.

Reverend Rothea Kornelius sent an email this week with some of her thoughts. It seemed very pertinent to the time, and I thought I would share it with her permission:

I am looking at a message to share in some form on Sunday and was sitting with the lectionary. How fitting, in some way that the Psalm reading this week is Psalm 23. It is one of those Psalms that most people can recite from memory, using the King James version. We use it at funerals or occasions of great distress and disaster to remind us of God's nearness, his care for us and his presence all around us.

This seems like the perfect time to dwell on it again...

## Psalm 23

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

2 He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.

3 He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

4 Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil:

for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

5 Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies:

thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life:

and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

*(King James Version)*

### A few take-aways from Psalm 23...

In the original Hebrew of Psalm 23, there are exactly 26 words before "Thou art with me", and exactly 26 words after "Thou art with me". It might have been by chance, but the idea in my head is that the poet was trying to convey the idea, very boldly, that God is with us in the very center of our lives, amidst all that aspires, and the focal point of the universe. It means, that even when the world is crazy, that we are not alone down here.

The whole message here, and the Good News is that God is with us - "Emmanuel". God might not necessarily shelter us from difficulty, or trouble or the corona virus, and God does not magically manipulate things to suit us, but "WITH" is unassailable, unchangeable and really the only thing that matters.

As things may feel so out of control right now, as we are fearful, as we feel isolated and lonely, as we wonder where God is and why, I pray that you will find peace in this - God is WITH us, right in the middle of our lives and this mess. He is present and leads us, comforts us and feeds us; most of all, God dwells with us and we can dwell with God, not just one day, but right now.

This is the comfort I find right here...

Rev. Rothea Kornelius

If you would like to receive further reflections from Rev. Thea via US mail or email, please call Nan Berry at (207)-682-6061 or Judi Batchelder at (207)-858-3628.

Respectfully...

*Submitted: Nan Berry*



**PUBLIC NOTICE:  
NOTICE OF INTENT TO FILE**

Please take notice that

Maine Timber Mats, LLC

207-628-2054

(Name, Address and Phone of Applicant)

57 Lemon Stream Rd, New Portland, Me 04961

is intending to file a (check that one that applies):

☐ Site Location of Development Act permit application pursuant to the provisions of 38 M.R.S.A. §§ 481-490 or a

☒ Stormwater Management Law application pursuant to M.R.S.A. § 420-D

with the Maine Department of Environmental Protection on or about

4-20-2020

(anticipated filing date)

The application is for

Transfer of existing Stormwater Management

(description of the project)

Law Permit.

at the following location:

57 Lemon Stream Rd New Portland, Me 04961

(project location)

A request for a public hearing or a request that the Board of Environmental assume jurisdiction over this application must be received by the Department, in writing, no later than 20 days after the application is found by the Department to be complete and is accepted for processing. A public hearing may or may not be held at the discretion of the Commissioner or Board of Environmental Protection. Public comment on the application will be accepted throughout the processing of the application.

For Federally licensed, permitted, or funded activities in the Coastal Zone, review of this application shall also constitute the State's consistency review in accordance with the Maine Coastal Program pursuant to Section 307 of the federal Coastal Zone Management Act, 16 U.S.C. §1456. (Delete if not applicable.)

The application will be filed for public inspection at the Department of Environmental Protection's office in (Portland, Augusta or Bangor)(circle one) during normal working hours. A copy of the application may also be seen at the municipal offices in

New Portland, Maine.  
(town)

Written public comments may be sent to the Department of Environmental Protection, Bureau of Land and Water Quality, 17 State House Station, Augusta, Maine 04333-0017.



# 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

<div><h1>NEW PORTLANDER CALENDAR</h1><h1>APRIL 2020</h1><p>Doug Kerr Photo</p></div>													SUNDAY		MONDAY		TUESDAY		WEDNESDAY		THURSDAY		FRIDAY		SATURDAY	
5		6		7		8		9		10		11		12												
NVCC Coffee 10:30 am Service 11:00 am WMBC Bible School 9:00 am Service 10:00 am				Selectmen's Meeting Community Room 6:30 pm Town Office		Water District Meeting 6:30 pm						Sno-Travellers Meeting Community Room 6:30 pm		1												
1						School Board Meeting 6:30 pm at CCS						4		2												
12		13		14		15		16		17		18		3												
NVCC Coffee 10:30 am Service 11:00 am WMBC Bible School 9:00 am Service 10:00 am				Fire Department Meeting 6:30 pm Library Board of Trustees NPCL 6:00 pm										1												
19		20		21		22		23		24		25		4												
NVCC Coffee 10:30 am Service 11:00 am WMBC Bible School 9:00 am Service 10:00 am		Selectmen's Meeting 6:30 pm Community Room Deadline for New Portlander Submissions 4:00 pm												2												
26		27		28		29		30						5												
NVCC Coffee 10:30 am Service 11:00 am WMBC Bible School 9:00 am Service 10:00 am				Fire Department Meeting 6:30 pm										All dates on this calendar are tentative, and the use of the Community Room for public meetings/events maybe unavailable until further notice.												

NEW PORTLANDER CALENDAR  
APRIL 2020

DOUG KEHR PHOTO

