



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:

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 - Ext. 1
Email nwprtInd@tds.net

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

LPI: Leo Mayo - 566-7341

Assessor's Agent: Mike Malesky - Ext. 3
Monday..... 1pm - 5pm
Email hudsonbayaxe@gmail.com

Fire Department: Chief Kip Poulin - Ext. 4

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 7pm
- **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
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

Town Manger

The Town Office will be CLOSED for the following dates: December 31 for End of Year Processing, to close the books; January 1 in observance of New Years Day; January 21 in observance of Martin Luther King Day.

There will still be a selectmen's meeting on New Year's Day evening at 6:30 pm. With meetings to work on the 2019 budget taking place in the month of January, after January 1's selectmen's meeting, we should have some tentative dates set for said meetings. Once those dates are confirmed, they will be posted at the post office, the town office, the community library bulletin board, on the town's website as well as the town's facebook page, and all are welcome to attend.

Submitted: Stacie Rundlett

Selectmen

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes for November 19, 2018

Selectmen Present: Raymond Poulin, Andrea Reichert, Wayne Rundlett ; Present: Stacie Rundlett, Michael Malesky, Brian Rundlett, Marilyn Gorman, Ron Lindner-Demers and John Demers-Lindner, Kristen Mitchell, Brenda Stevens, Judi and Lewis Wills

1. Andrea called the Special Town Meeting to order at 6:30 pm
2. Kristen read the warrant, Stacie motioned to choose Mike Malesky as moderator, Andrea seconded and all were in favor. Kristen swore Mike in as moderator.
3. Mike read article 2 and the explanatory note. Andrea motioned to approve the motion as written, Raymond seconded. There was no discussion on the matter. All were in favor of this motion, the motion carried. Mike concluded the meeting. Stacie motioned to adjourn the Special Town Meeting, Raymond seconded, all were in favor, the meeting was adjourned.

4. Andrea called the Selectmen's Meeting to order at 6:37 pm.
5. Raymond motioned to accept the minutes from the previous meeting as written. Wayne seconded and all were in favor.
6. Department Heads: There were none.
7. Items by the Town Manager:
 - a. The Board of Selectmen reviewed and signed the payroll and A/P warrants.
 - b. Raymond motioned to accept a declaration of official intent regarding funding for the sand/salt shed project, Wayne seconded and all were in favor. Andrea and Stacie signed said document to keep on file.
 - c. There was a discussion regarding finance options for the sand/salt shed project. Andrea motioned to go with Androscoggin Bank with an interest rate of 3.39% per annum. Raymond seconded and all were in favor.
8. Items by the Public: Brenda Stevens inquired if the warrant for the special town meeting could go into the New Portlander; she felt it was important to keep things transparent with the public regarding this project. There was a brief discussion regarding how this special town meeting came about and the time frame to finalize paperwork regarding the loan for the sand/salt shed project. It was agreed to put the special town meeting warrant in the newsletter even though it had already taken place. Minutes would follow once they were approved. Stacie reminded everyone that if the public went to the town's website in the top righthand corner there is an envelope where they can sign up for notifications of all town postings via email.
9. Items by the Board of Selectmen: Raymond brought up the amount of phone calls regarding winter road complaints. There was a discussion on the town's options to handle this matter with complaints and a paper trail. The Board of Selectmen asked Stacie to write up a draft letter detailing the complaints. And to invite Gilbert to the December meeting to discuss the issues. Stacie brought to the boards attention that one person that complained has stated that it has been an ongoing issue year after year with no improvements, and this person stated that they were going to be contacting an attorney to bring suit against the town for not holding the winter plow contractor accountable. Stacie also informed the board that the salt invoices were still outstanding and were due on November 3, 2018.
Meeting adjourned at 7:03 pm

These minutes were approved by the Board of Selectmen at the 12/04/18 meeting. smr

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes for December 4, 2018

- Selectmen Present: Raymond Poulin, Andrea Reichert, Wayne Rundlett; Present: Stacie Rundlett, Michael Malesky, Brian Rundlett, Kip Poulin, Gary Agren, Marilyn Gorman, Becky and Gilbert Taylor, Steven Govoni
10. Andrea called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.
 11. The Board of Selectmen had a brief discussion regarding a proposed contract with engineer Steve Govoni. The board requested a new proposal that did not include designs for the road in to the sand/salt shed area. They stated that once they received a new proposal, they would sign it to begin the process for Steve. Steve reviewed the stages once the proposal was signed and assured the board, he would email the document within the next few days.
 12. The board reviewed the minutes from the previous meeting. Raymond motioned to accept the minutes as written, Wayne seconded and all were in favor.
 13. Department Heads:

Mike Malesky updated the board on his assessing work.

Gary Agren discussed projects that were still in the works. He briefed the board on some upcoming work that needed to be done on the grader. Andrea reminded Gary that being December it was crucial for him to be working on budget figures for the new year.

Kip Poulin updated the board on the status of payroll for the year. He briefed the board on work that still needed to be done on the trucks, pending the budget figures for end of year. Stacie would send him his figures so he could finalize necessary work. He discussed with the board a recent purchase of a projector to be hung in the community room for training purposes.
 14. Town Manager Items: The board reviewed and signed the accounts payable and payroll warrants. The board reviewed and signed the treasurer's reports that were presented to them. Stacie also updated the status of structure on Bennett Hill Road. and that until the conditions were improved it would not be resided in. She also briefed the board regarding the couple of properties that had been foreclosed.
 15. Items by the Board of Selectmen: Wayne discussed with the board a matter of the old lawn mower in the fire station. The board agreed that if Wayne could find someone to take it so it was out of the way that it would be ok. The mower was in very poor condition and costly to repair. The Board of Selectmen had a discussion with Gilbert regarding all of the complaints for poor road conditions. They reiterated to him their expectations and Gilbert stated he has put out more sand in he month

of November than he ever has. Gilbert updated the board on work that he was having done on some of his equipment. Gilbert asked about where the complaints were coming from because he has had people stop him on the road letting him know that he and his crew were doing a good job. The board stressed that the roads needed to be cleaned up by six am in the morning so that the road conditions were better for those traveling to work and or school. They also reminded him the importance of communication to the board or manager regarding any break downs. The board reviewed with Gilbert his equipment he had to work with and drivers. Stacie brought to the boards attention regarding possible options when purchasing materials for the sand/salt shed. Meeting adjourned at 7:12 pm.

These minutes were approved by the Board of Selectmen at the 12/17/18 meeting. smr

RSU 74 / School Board

The December board meeting was held on the December 5 at Carrabec Community School.

Minutes: The minutes of the November school board meeting were approved.

Presentation - Winter Athletic Updates: Athletic Director Julie Richards discussed the sports program. She commended the sportsmanship of the RSU 74 athletes, noting that during the fall sports season, only one soccer player received a card from the officials. Ms. Richards continued and discussed the (possible) future direction of the CHS sports teams. Madison AD Chris Leblanc was present. The two athletic directors seemed to envision a scenario where Carrabec High School and Madison High School would have cooperative teams for track, girls' and boys' tennis, golf, cross country, and possibly girls' soccer. Ms. Richards said that the three keys to make the cooperative sports programs successful were the following: 1.) regular transportation to practices and bus departures for road games, 2.) periodic communication among the schools' administrators, 3.) a substantial JV schedule for the combined teams. The sports-related agenda item led to much discussion and debate among board members. (This agenda item took roughly 45 minutes.) The potential merging of the CHS and Madison girls' tennis teams proved to be rather controversial. *Later in the week a special board meeting was scheduled for December 10. The purpose of the special meeting will be "To see if the Board will direct the Superintendent of Schools to create a cooperative Women's Tennis team with Madison."*

Superintendent Report: Mike Tracy said that in all areas, including sports, his goal is to put programs together that benefit students. Last month RSU 74 received a visit from the Department of Labor. The DOE inspector cited four or

five violations, and imposed fines of \$2850. All of the areas of concern have been addressed, and it is hoped that the prompt attention to the DOE concerns will lead to a reduction or elimination of the financial penalties. RSU 74 is working with other schools in hopes of creating gifted and talented opportunities. The January board meeting will start at 5:00 pm. Administrators will participate in a mid-year data review with board members.

Appointment: Tammy Conners - Food Service Coordinator

Resignations: Chris Roy - Director of Transportation, effective December 31; Heather Hilenski - board member effective January 2. Ms. Hilenski will begin subbing.

Admin Reports: Tim Richards said that CHS student Lillian Johnson has been nominated for a US DOE Presidential Scholarship. He said that a CDL course is being offered at Madison High School, and CHS students are invited to take part. Jean Butler said that at Solon and GS, MEA results have been discussed with students, and goals for improvement have been made. Tom Desjardins showed board members pictures of the CCS Veteran's Day event and also shared the recent CCS newsletter. A Cobra Youth Wrestling program is being developed, and Ross Sirois will coach. The December Chorus/Band event has been moved to January. CCS students will sing Christmas carols outside the North Anson Fire Station on December 19.

Committees: The Superintendent Evaluation Committee met in November and offered Mr. Tracy a contract extension. The Buildings and Grounds Committee met and discussed shingles, gutters, 3m tape on windows, bleachers, plowing, and mowing. The Academic Committee met on November 28. They discussed vertical teaming, curriculum, shared professional development with RSU 59, textbook wishlists, and the January board meeting academic review.

The Strategic Planning Committee met on November 29. A plan will be presented to the board's subcommittee and discussed with the full board in January or February. Some recommendations will be relatively easy, and others will have financial implications.

Citizens: No one spoke.

To see if the Board will support a review of the current structure of the Maintenance & Transportation Departments.

There will be a review. A particular focus will be whether to keep the current structure - with one administrator for maintenance, and another for transportation - or to revert back to the previous structure in which one person oversaw both maintenance and transportation.

To see if the Board will approve the second reading of policy JLFA.

After the correction of some grammatical mistakes, the policy was approved.

To see if the Board will vote to approve the Property and Casualty Trust Documents

The board approved.

Executive Session: The board entered executive session to discuss administrator contracts.

The next regular board meeting will be held on January 2. There is a special (tennis related) board meeting scheduled for Monday, December 10. It will be held at CCS at 6:00 pm.

Special Board Meeting December 10

The purpose of this meeting was *"To see if the Board will direct the Superintendent of Schools to create a cooperative Women's Tennis team with Madison."*

The board voted against creating a cooperative team with Madison. The vote was 7 against and 6 in favor.

Submitted: Dave Ela, Carrabec Educational Association President

Community Supper

The Community Supper was held on Sunday, December 3, 2018 at the New Portland Community Room.

The menu was planned and organized with who was responsible for what items they needed to purchase and what their task was to be during the supper. The funds to do this meal came from each one of the selectmen, town manager, and town clerk, fire crew, assessor agent and a member of the recreation committee.

This has been an event for a few years and has been such a well-attended and enjoyable connecting of neighbors and friends. The town select people helped fill the plates of residents who attended. The fire department helped peel potatoes, cook, and mash potatoes. Town manager, town clerk and assessor agent helped with serving dessert and doing dishes along with the fire department and others.

We heard so many positive comments and were very pleased to see this attendance to this supper. We did not run out of food but came close. That evening brought people together to talk, laugh and reconnect with neighbors. It made all the hard work that went into this event, worth every minute of our time.

Thank you to the community who came and shared stories, laughed and reconnected. Each person who worked to make this happen went home with a smile

because of each of you who attended.

I would like to thank each select person, the town manager, town clerk, assessor agent, fire chief and his fellow officers and crew. The other people who helped with everything and anything, Marilyn Gorman, Christeen and Andy Mudgett. It was a fun time and very enjoyable.

Hope we can do this again with all the positive attitudes and helping hands. I enjoyed every minute of the entire planning, organizing and preparing along with everyone else.

Submitted: Judi Wills, Recreation Chairperson

New Portland Community Library

We have a couple of new initiatives for 2019. Does anyone have any interest in homeschooling and ways which your library can help? Do you need books, space, activities? If so, please let me know.

Starting January 1, we are starting a home delivery program. If you are infirm and for some reason can't get out this winter, don't despair. We will be delivering books you order and then picking them up in two weeks to check them back in. We also extend this service to movies. How do you find out what the library has to offer? You can check the internet under the "Town of New Portland" website. Under departments, open the page for the library. Scroll down the page to the search link for the library. Fill in both blanks with "NPCL". The next page lets you type in the name of the item you are looking for. If we have it, order by emailing us at newportlandcl@gmail.com or call at 628-6561. The item (or items) will go out for the next delivery. If we don't have it, I will place an interlibrary loan request for you at no expense. Deliveries will be made every other week and a pickup will be two weeks later. If you have any questions, call us. We can check the shelves and answer any questions you may have. The only criteria is you need to have a library card, and items must be returned!

We will be hosting a Valentine's Day event on February 10. We will have our doll raffle, be selling "sweets for your sweetheart" and a book sale. Check our Facebook page and our front door for details.

Monthly 60s Club winners for December are Joe Earle, Gary Cobb and Doug Archer. Slots are still available if you wish to purchase a chance to be in our three drawings a month; prizes are \$50, \$25 or \$10 every month through August 2019.

NEW PORTLANDER article submission deadline is January 20 by 4:00 pm.

Any articles, submissions, information for publication should be received by:

Dallas Landry • PO Box 34, North New Portland, ME 04961 • phone 628-4201 • email: 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.

We are always looking for board members and library volunteers. If you have a few extra hours a month and would like to help us out, please talk to us!

May the New Year bring you health, happiness, and lots of good reading !

Submitted: Sheila Atwood

Sno-Travelers

December 2018 Meeting for the Wire Bridge Sno-Travelers

The meeting was called to order with 14 members present. The secretary's and treasurer's reports were read and accepted.

Trails Report: Three bridges have been re-planked. The groomers have been out breaking trails but still not enough snow to cover rocks and other obstacles. Lewis said he will check with a crew, who are still lumbering on the Katie's Crotch Road to see when they plan on being finished cutting, and if they would be willing to park their machinery off the trail so sleds can use the trail. It was brought to the attention of the club that some signs need to be posted by Agren's pit and on Freeman Ridge.

Old Business: A new supply of club decals have been printed. A motion was made and accepted for the club to pay for the decals.

New Business: The club now has new trail maps and club decals. Maps and decals will be free to members. So if you have not received yours, come to a meeting and they will be available. Maps will be sold for \$3.00 to non-members. It was decided if local businesses would like to sell maps, they will need to prepay for them. Judi will be updating information for the MSA at the beginning of the new year.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 pm. The next meeting will be Saturday, January 12, 6:30 pm at the Fire Station Meeting Room. Happy Holidays to everyone.

Submitted: Joyce Knowles

Church News

The Western Mountains Baptist Church was blessed with a "full house" for the Community Christmas Choir concert held on Friday, December 14. The talented singers directed by Brenna Cockerham from Freeman Township put on a wonderful performance filled with the Christmas message and holiday cheer. A couple of special arrangements were done, one by John Vetne of New Portland. He led the choir in an arrangement of "We Three Kings". Secondly, Kacie Ackley, from Kingfield, along with two students from Mt. Abram did a moving presentation of "Wexford Carol" arranged by John Lawson. Brenna announced she is already recruiting singers for next year.

Again this year, many bakers at WMBC made hundreds of cookies for the Children's Christmas Program at Set Free Church in Skowhegan. What a blessing it is to see so many volunteers willing to share their time, resources and talents to support other communities and/or churches.

For January, meetings include GEMs Club for young girls. They will meet twice in January: Friday the 4th and again on the 18th. The Daniel Plan (healthy living) friends group will meet those same Fridays at 5:30 pm.

The Women's Fellowship group which meets the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month and will meet at 5:30 pm on the 8th and the 22nd. Men's Bible study meet every Monday night at 6:30 pm. This month the Men's Breakfast will meet 8:00 am January 5.

Youth Group took a short Christmas break but will pick up again beginning January 3. Teenagers are invited and welcomed to join Heidi and Ted Neil on Thursday evenings at 6:00 pm to socialize with other teens who share the same interests, learn about having a relationship with God, games, crafts, food, outside activities such as bowling, etc.

For elderly and shut-ins Bridging the Gap will be delivering a hot meal to local folks on January 26.

For more information on any of these groups, upcoming events or any questions about Western Mountains Baptist Church's mission or statement of faith, please call the church at 265-2557 or visit our website, www.westernmountainchurch.org <https://www.facebook.com/>

Happy 2019!

Submitted: Crystal Fitch

Animal Control Officer

Time to license you dog[s] before January 31. If you own a dog, yes, you have to license the dog; it is the State of Maine Law. It lets us know that your dog has been vaccinated against rabies. Please follow the law! Please do not call to tell me you didn't know or you can not afford it. It is your responsibility of owning a dog in the State of Maine. Even if your dog is allergic to the rabies vaccine you still have to license your dog; your veterinarian can write you a letter you bring it in to the town office when you license your dog, and we will keep it on file for you. Any questions please call me at 491.4182

Submitted: Lori Agren



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

NEW PORTLANDER CALENDAR JANUARY 2019 DOUG KEHR PHOTO						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
6 WVCC Coffee 10:30 am Services 11:00 am WMBC Bible School 9:00 am Service 10:00 am	7 Town Office closed End of Year Books	8 Town Office closed New Year's Day Selectmen's Meeting 6:30 Community Room	9 School Board Meeting 6:30 pm at Garret Schend School Planning Board Meeting 6:30 pm	10 Recreation Committee 6:30 pm	11 Snow-Trippers Meeting 6:30 pm Community Room	12
13 WVCC Coffee 10:30 am Services 11:00 am WMBC Bible School 9:00 am Service 10:00 am	14	15	16	17	18	19
20 WVCC Coffee 10:30 am Services 11:00 am WMBC Bible School 9:00 am Service 10:00 am Deadline for New Portlander Submissions	21 Town Office closed Martin Luther King Day Selectmen's Meeting 6:30 pm	22 Fire Department Meeting 6:30 pm	23	24	25	26
27 WVCC Coffee 10:30 am Services 11:00 am WMBC Bible School 9:00 am Service 10:00 am	28	29	30	31 Deadline for Licensing Dogs		