



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 | 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 26 • NUMBER 1 • JULY 1, 2019

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

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

Happy Birthday to the New Portlander.

26 years running, comprising 301 issues with this edition.

Notices:

The Town Office will be closed on Thursday, July 4 and also on Saturday, July 6 where it is a holiday weekend.

The Town of New Portland now has a new Animal Control Officer. His name is Keith Mudgett, Jr. If you have any Animal Control Officer questions or needs you can reach him on his cell at (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

Town Manager

I would like to sincerely thank Janet White for fixing the flower beds at the Town Office. She always does such a great job, and we get many compliments. Thank you, Janet!!

I would also like to extend my appreciation to Judi and Lewis Wills for putting up what we had for flags throughout the town. It is so very hard to find volunteers and when we do we want to make sure they know just how valuable they are. THANK YOU Judi & Lewis!!

We have a few people within our community who try their best to aid when it is needed. We may not always have the ability to acknowledge them; sometimes it's putting up a notice or picking up trash, but THEY know who we are referring to and I personally appreciate you and all that you do for this community!! Thank you for caring about this town.

The town office will be closed Thursday, July 4 in observance of Independence Day. We will also be closed that Saturday, July 6, as it is a holiday weekend. We will re-open at our normal business hours on Monday July 8. We would like to wish all of you a very happy and safe holiday.

Submitted: Stacie Rundlett

Selectmen

Minutes for the Selectmen's Meeting May 7, 2019

Selectmen Present: Raymond Poulin, Wayne Rundlett, Andrea Reichert(absent); Present: Stacie Rundlett, Kip Poulin, Brian Rundlett, Mike Malesky, Bobbi-Sue Harrington, Gary Agren

1. Raymond called the meeting to order at 6:33 pm
2. The board reviewed the minutes from previous meeting. Wayne motioned to accept the minutes as written. Raymond seconded and all were in favor.
3. Department Heads
 - a. Gary Agren updated the board on light fixture at the town garage that needs to be repaired. He briefed the board on grading scheduled to be done. He asked Stacie to order ten tons of calcium. There was a brief discussion regarding traffic cones. He and the board discussed that the posters for the posted roads and when they were due to come down after each road had been graded within the timeframe that they typically come down. There was a brief discussion again regarding a culvert issue on Bennett Hill Road. Gary is still aware of the issue and intends on addressing the issue when the road crews are up there doing ditch work.
 - b. Mike Malesky shared with the board members that he has been successful in finding approximately \$100,000 in valuation without even following up on the building permits that were issued since last April.
 - c. Kip Poulin updated the board on the Highland fire coverage. They still haven't had their meeting so there were no decisions made regarding the matter yet. He updated the board on calls, they are up to around 33 for the payroll year. There was a grass fire on May 5.
 - d. Bobbi-Sue Harrington discussed with the board that she was there in case any of the board members had questions regarding the school budget. She also stressed to the board the importance to have the minutes to the school board minutes recorded. She was circulating a document for New Portland residents to sign that they were in agreement with this so she could present it to the school board. She wants the minutes to either be video recorded and posted online or at the very least audio

recorded and posted on the district's website. She also informed the board that the school budget was voted down. There was a brief discussion regarding ways to utilize cost savings efforts for the district.

4. Items by the Town Manager

The board reviewed and signed the payroll and accounts payable warrants. The board reviewed the website and security policies that were presented to them. Wayne motioned to accept the policies as written, Raymond seconded and all were in favor. Stacie discussed with the board that she would be presenting the board members with employee evaluations and would like them to schedule a time to do employee evaluations soon. There was a discussion regarding the ads that need to be posted for putting up the sand/salt shed building. There was another brief discussion regarding the snow plow contract. The board asked Stacie to draft ads for these two matters for them to review and approve so that we can move forward.

Meeting adjourned at 7:17 pm.

These minutes were approved by the Board of Selectmen at the May 20 meeting. Smr

Minutes for the Selectmen's Meeting May 20, 2019

Selectmen Present: Raymond Poulin, Wayne Rundlett, Andrea Reichert (absent); Present: Stacie Rundlett, Brian Rundlett, Mike Malesky, Marilyn Gorman, Tellis Fenwick

1. Raymond called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.
2. The board reviewed the minutes from previous meeting. Raymond motioned to accept the minutes as written. Wayne seconded and all were in favor.
3. Items by the Town Manager

The board reviewed and signed the payroll and accounts payable warrants. There was a brief discussion regarding the employee evaluations. The board agreed upon the employees conducting self-evaluations before the next meeting. At which time the board will review them and conduct their own evaluations of appointed employees. Then they will have those employees attend the second meeting of June and review the outcome of each individual evaluation with the employee in private.

4. Mike Malesky presented to the board the % ratio from the state valuation for Homestead Reimbursement for the town of New Portland. There was a brief discussion regarding the meeting that Mike had recently with Justin McMann from the Maine Revenue Service. He also updated them on his current findings in assessment valuations. Tax maps are done and Mike was hopeful to pick them up this week.
- There was a conversation with Tellis Fenwick regarding the remaining work that needed to be done. The board and Tellis came to an agreement on the things that needed to be done to finish the prep work for the foundation work to be started. Tellis stated that his start date was right after Memorial weekend; he would begin what work he had left to finish. There was a discussion regarding questions that needed to be presented to the engineer to confirm a few things.
- There was a brief discussion regarding the need for someone to oversee the sand/salt shed project. The Board of Selectmen would take some time to make a decision regarding this matter.

Meeting adjourned at 7:06 pm.

These minutes were approved by the Board of Selectmen at the June 4 meeting. Smr

Minutes for the Selectmen's Meeting June 4, 2019

Selectmen Present: Raymond Poulin, Wayne Rundlett, Andrea Reichert (absent); Present: Stacie Rundlett, Brian Rundlett, Mike Malesky, Marilyn Gorman, Kip Poulin, Steve and Kim Craig, Gary Agren, Judi and Lewis Wills

1. Andrea called the meeting to order at 6:32 pm
2. The board reviewed the minutes from previous meeting. Raymond motioned to accept the minutes as written, Wayne seconded and all were in favor.
3. Department Heads
- Gary Agren updated the board on the grading in town. He discussed a line of wash that needed to be dealt with on Millay Hill Road. He informed the board on an issue with the emergency brake on the grader that is a safety issue and has to be fixed right away. He will get the KNTS graded in the next couple of weeks.

Mike Malesky discussed with the board his progress with the assessing, and informed the board that the tax maps are back from having the updates done.

Kip Poulin discussed with the board that he would like to donate the OLD SCBA gear to the Solon Fire Department. Andrea motioned to donate this gear to Solon Fire Department, Raymond seconded and all were in favor. Kip shared with the board the updates on equipment maintenance and repairs to be done.

4. Items by the Town Manager

The board reviewed and signed the accounts payable and payroll warrants. The board reviewed and signed off on the Treasurer's Report.

5. Items by the Public

Steve Craig shared with the board his findings of trash being dumped at the turn arounds on Route 27 by Western Express trucks. He discussed with the board that he had been in contact with Nestle Waters and the issue is being worked on. Steve will keep the board and town manager informed and share their contact information with the Nestle Waters representative. Kim Craig inquired about the recycling issues at the KNTS. The board informed the public that the KNTS board was hoping that it is just going to be a temporary issue to NOT recycle, other than clean cardboard.

6. Items by the Board of Selectmen

There was a discussion regarding overseeing the building site work to be done. Raymond is available to assist with any issues. The board had a brief discussion regarding the vacancy of the ACO position. They decided to continue to accept applications and or resumés until June 17. Raymond is available to assist with any calls until the position has been filled. Raymond motioned to enter into executive session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. §405(6)(A) Personnel Matters. Wayne seconded and all were in favor. 7:09 pm.

The board called the meeting back to order at 7:52 pm. No decisions were made.

Meeting adjourned at 7:53 pm.

These minutes were approved by the Board of Selectmen at the June 17 meeting. smr

Submitted: Stacie Rundlett

RSU 74 / School Board

The June board meeting was held at Carrabec Community School.

Minutes: The minutes of the May board meeting were approved. The minutes of the special board meetings on May 15, 22, and 30 were also approved.

Presentation: Mr. Tracy spoke about what he considered to be the biggest accomplishments of 2018-2019. He said that he was proud of the work of the administrative team and the staff at all schools in reaching many goals. In particular, he commended the ongoing work in the area of PBE, the analysis of data, RTI programs, and the schools' leadership teams. The reduction in the absentee rate, from 28.5% to 18.7%, was also significant.

Tim Richards spoke briefly about the work on standards at Carrabec High School.

Superintendent Report: 1.) Mr. Tracy said that the year was ending quite positively with many special events. He mentioned the recent chorus/band production at CCS and various successful school field days. 2.) The budget vote will be held June 11. Mr. Tracy said that in future years external solutions (sharing with other school districts) and internal options (such as school closings) will have to be considered. 3.) In the area of sharing with other school systems, he has had many discussions. He has spoken with incoming Bingham Superintendent Sandra MacArthur about sharing a behavior program and/or a school resource officer. Discussions have been held with SAD 59 about sharing high school staff. There is potential for an arrangement to share central office staff with MEANS. The SAD 58 board will meet soon to discuss potential collaboration with RSU 74. 4.) Mr. Tracy intends to bring in a third party auditor to study the financial implications of school closings and to hopefully come up with an accurate projection of how much savings a closing would generate.

Appointments: Mary Keenan - ed tech authorization chair; Brian Twitchell - certification chair; Tanya Carey - new teacher mentor; Tammy Lane - summer cook manager; Darcie Nichols - summer reading, CCS; Hollye Dunphy - summer math, CCS; Mary Keenan - summer reading, Solon; Jessie Cates - summer math, Solon; Hannah Hanson - summer reading, GS; Brenda

Mullin - summer math, GS;

Nominations: Keith Holland - CHS English, Mara Dale - CHS Performing Arts (pending budget approval)

Administrative Reports: 1.) Jean Butler stated that the end of the year has been busy. She said that the elementary band/chorus performance was a success, and that Dan Gilbert has done a great job recruiting kids to the program. 2.) Tim Richards said that it is a busy week at CHS, with class night and graduation. Senator Angus King will speak at graduation. 3.) Tom Desjardins said the spring dance at CCS was tremendous. He complimented Erik Carey on the job he did coaching middle school baseball. He praised Heidi Day and Candy Lebeau for the efforts in organizing a successful CCS field day. 4.) Scott Hall said that it was a busy time for his team as the year ends, and that as soon as the end arrives, work will begin to prepare for year 19-20. 5.) Larry Dunphy said he is continuing to make changes in process and accountability. 6.) Lorie Agren and her team are busy with work on the grounds and preparing for graduation. She said the new utility worker and her whole team are doing great work. 6.) According to Julie Richard, there were 58 CHS athletes participating in spring sports. The girls' tennis team will compete in the State Championship match on Saturday morning. Boys' tennis qualified for the playoffs. The combined Carrabec-Madison baseball team had a losing record, but the record did not indicate how competitive they were. Several of the losses were by just one run. Last year only five CHS athletes participated in track. This year there were 15. CHS had seven all conference academic all-stars. Julie wrapped up by praising the communication between all departments in coping with the unprecedented amount of weather-related postponements this spring.

Committees: None met since the last board meeting.

Citizens: Ellen McQuiston thanked Mr. Tracy for his outreach and communication with citizens during budget season. Erik Carey thanked board members Troy and Judi Dunphy for their regular attendance at CCS baseball games. He thanked Lorie Agren and her staff for their work on the baseball fields, saying that several opposing coaches were very impressed with how well the fields were maintained.

NEW PORTLANDER article submission deadline is July 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.

Director of Operations Position: Mr. Tracy indicated that he intends to go through the process of interviewing candidates for the operations director position.

Summer Hiring Authority: The board supported Mr. Tracy's request to give him more flexibility in hiring during the summer months. Instead of waiting for the next board meeting to officially hire, Mr. Tracy will notify the board of a recommended candidate. If, after five days, no one states an objection, the candidate will be hired.

Board Meeting Schedule: A board meeting schedule for 2019-2020 was approved.

Recording Board Meetings: After some discussion, the board voted no on a motion to record school board meetings.

To see if the Board will suspend the rules of school policy BGB to address the next two agenda items. The board suspended BGB.

To see if the board will approve new school policy IC - School Calendar. The board approved.

To see if the board will approve new school policy ID - School Day. The board approved.

Adjournment

Submitted: Dave Ela, Carrabec Educational Association President

The RSU 74 budget was passed by voters on June 11. (Editor)

Recreation Committee

From June 6, 2019: The committee meets the first Thursday of each month. This is a time the members on this committee share ideas and thoughts. What would people living in New Portland want to have for events?

What would be of interest to citizens to have them attend and participate in the events?

We have tried a number of different activities that would attract children, youth, and adults. Over the years, we have less families/citizens attend.

Recently, we delivered May baskets to citizens. The response was positive and surprising. The committee enjoyed the happiness and the surprise people had.

The committee met in June to discuss what to do for events. Five people have been on this committee for a few years. We shared our thoughts and were not sure if we should continue to organize/plan events. We discussed asking the citizens for ideas, for help and support to help keep events going.

Submitted: Judi Wills



Friday, July 5

Public spaghetti supper at Happy Horseshoe Campground in Lexington from 4:30 – 6:30 pm. Benefit the Historical Society.

Saturday, July 6

Open House and Special Exhibits 10:00 am - 3:00 pm.

Saturday, July 13

LHHS will host a silent auction and bake sale at Happy Horseshoe Campground from 10:00 - 11:00 am.

Wednesday through Friday, July 17 - 19

Youth Day Camp from 10:00 am - 3:00 pm each day, lunch provided. This is for elementary and high school age students. To enroll, phone 207-465-8238.

Saturday, July 20

"Tools of the Past" Exhibit and presentation starting at 10:00 am at the History House. Coffee and refreshments provided.

Saturday, July 27

Basket Sale at Happy Horseshoe Campground will take place from 10:00 am – noon. This is to benefit LHHS.

Sunday, July 28:

6:00 pm will be the monthly LHHS meeting.

Tuesday, July 30

Senior Citizen Day and luncheon at the History House is at 11:00 am. Open House will take place every Tuesday during July from the 2nd through the 30th from 10:00 am – 3:00 pm.

Church News

Western Mountain Baptist Church: At the time of this writing, the Vacation Bible School (VBS) volunteers are prepared, excited and ready for Monday, June 24. Children and adults will gather at the Western Mountains Baptist Church for five days of an African adventure called "ROAR! Life is Wild-God is Good". The young people will experience a stampede of fun with wild Bible adventures, high energy games, jaw dropping discoveries and fun songs. They will learn about kids in Africa and enjoy snacks at the Hungry Herd Café. Stay tuned to next month to hear the results of this week long event.

If you are at Kingfield Days on Saturday, July 20, come visit WMBC at the end of Depot Street from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. There will be two bounce houses, popcorn and sno-cones for everyone to enjoy. There is no charge. If it is a hot day, the various flavored sno-cones are a much welcomed and refreshing treat.

Thursday night Youth Group will continue to meet throughout the summer with a few special events. For more information call 446-8082 or email: westernmountainsyouthgroup@. Also, check out Facebook-Western Mountains Baptist Church Youth Group. New members are always welcome.

Sunday morning church services are held at 10:00 am. Throughout the week, there are Bible studies and other opportunities to get together to learn and grow in your faith. Call or text Pastor Tom for more information at 557-3802 or send him an email at: pastorwmbsc@gmail.com. Please feel free to checkout our church newsletter on our website at www.westernmountainschurch.org

May you be blessed with a happy and healthy summer.

Submitted: Crystal Fitch

New Portland Community Church News July 2019:

Summer is finally here! Services at the North Village Church have fully moved into the sanctuary. While congregating in the meeting room has been cozy and warm, it is wonderful to be in the lovely sanctuary for our services.

Church suppers continue very successfully at the North Village Church. We are constantly refining and reworking how we operate in the new space,

and we are always trying a few new things each month. All attendees have been gracious and patient with the changes and this period of trial and error. This month's supper will be held on July 18. "Mexican" is on the menu! Come for tacos, fajitas and all the fixings and sides. Dessert is always spectacular. As always, eat in or take out, \$8 a plate.

July is always a busy month for the church. Flemington Presbyterian Church of Flemington, NJ makes their annual visit this month arriving at the North Village Church on Saturday, July 20. They will be in and around our community working on housing projects with the MATE Housing Ministry (formerly North Parish Housing). They will also be hosting Vacation Bible School at the West Village Church July 22 - 26, 9:00 am - noon. There is no charge for VBS, and all children ages 5 - 12 are welcome to join the fun of crafts (including tie-dye t-shirts!), bible lessons, songs and other activities.

Camp at the Eastward (CATE) will start the first week of July. Applications for all ages can be found on the website www.campattheeastward.org. There are still spaces for more campers, and scholarships are available.

Journey of Faith continues at the Fairbanks Church in Farmington on Tuesdays at 4:00 pm. Recent discussions are centered around the Morgan Freeman documentary series "The Story of God". No prep reading required, just come watch and discuss. All are welcome to join the conversation.

There will be a Session meeting on July 14 following the service.

As always, all are welcome Sunday morning at 10:30 am for coffee hour followed by 11:00 am worship services every Sunday. See you there. Respectfully...

Submitted: Nan Berry

I am holding a special Bible study starting April 14 - September 1. This is entitled: *Search for Truth Bible Study* and will be held at the North New Portland Presbyterian Church on Church Street and Hancock Pond Road each Sunday 2:00 pm. I can be contacted at 207-619-1209

revrafferty@live.com

Submitted: Rev. Leonard Rafferty

Annoucement

FARMSTAND NOW OPEN: It's been one year since the sale of the Bearor house on School Street, and the property's new owner Samantha "Sam" Burns has made good progress establishing her farm there. The Runamuk Acres Conservation Farm is a certified bee-friendly farm and apiary producing raw honey, beeswax products and northern-raised honeybee stock, along with organic eggs, vegetables, and bee-friendly seedlings. The farm offers classes and hands-on workshops, and Burns writes about agriculture, sustainable living, and her farm-journey on the Runamuk blog at runamukacres.com.

A Maine-native, born and raised locally, with family in Madison and North Anson, Sam attended elementary school in Anson and Kingfield, spent most of her high school years at Mt Abram, and then graduated in '98 from Carrabec. Sam has made it her mission in life to promote local agriculture and wildlife conservation at the same time. She has served as the President of the Somerset Beekeepers', as well as the Director of the Madison Farmers' Market, and Sam has spent the last ten years working to grow her income from farming in order to fulfill her lifelong dream of farm-ownership.

Now that she has a farm of her own, Sam intends to cultivate a pollinator conservation center at 344 School Street with a series of perennial flower gardens geared toward different groups of pollinators and other beneficial insects that our ecosystems rely on. Later this summer, Sam will begin construction on an NRCS high-tunnel, which will allow Runamuk to extend the growing season, and produce even more vegetables and seedlings. By employing methods of regenerative agriculture and bee-friendly farming that promote the well-being of pollinators as a keystone species, Burns seeks to demonstrate that we are able to provide a benefit to the farm, as well as the community it serves.

Runamuk's farmstand is now open Saturdays 8:00 am – 4:00 pm, but Sam invites locals to stop in anytime. Or, find Runamuk at the Kingfield Farmers' Market on Friday evenings beginning June 28.

And, on Sunday, July 28, the Runamuk Acres Conservation Farm will participate in their first-ever Maine Open Farm Day! From 10:00 am to 3:00 pm Runamuk is offering free family-friendly activities to celebrate Maine's agricultural heritage: self-guided tours of the farm and demonstration gardens, beekeeping demonstrations, activities for children - including visiting and petting Runamuk's friendliest sheep and chickens, as well as games, activities, and honey-themed refreshments. For more information check out runamukacres.com, or call: 207-858-5678.



Submitted: Samantha Burn



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 JULY 2019 DOUG KEHR PHOTO						
SUNDAY	1		2	3	4	5
			Community Room 6:30 pm Selectmen's Meeting	School Board Meeting 6:30 pm at CCS Planning Board Meeting 6:30 pm	Town Office Closed in Observance of Independence Day	Public Supper Happy Horseshoe benefit LHS 4:30-6:30 pm
	8	9	10	11	12	13
		Fire Department Meeting 6:30 pm Library Board of Trustees NPCL 6:00 pm	Water District Meeting 6:30 pm			Silent Auction Happy Horseshoe benefit LHS 10:00 - 11:00 am
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
NVCC Coffee 10:30 am Services 11:00 am Bible Study 2:00 pm WMBC Bible School 9:00 am Service 10:00 am	Selectmen's Meeting 6:30 pm Community Room		NV Church Public Supper 5:00 pm		Deadline for New Portlander Submissions Presentation/Exhibition History House 10:00 am	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
NVCC Coffee 10:30 am Services 11:00 am Bible Study 2:00 pm WMBC Bible School 9:00 am Service 10:00 am			Fire Department Meeting 6:30 pm			Basket Sale Happy Horseshoe benefit LHS 10:00 am - noon.
28	29	30	31			
NVCC Coffee 10:30 am Services 11:00 am Bible Study 2:00 pm WMBC Bible School 9:00 am Service 10:00 am		Senior Citizen Day Luncheon History House 11:00 am				