



NEW PORTLANDER

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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

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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

Notice of Election • Friday, March 2, 2018

Polls Open: 10:00 am • Polls Close: 6:00 pm

911 River Road Community Room / Fire Station

The following is a list of candidates for the Municipal Election

Board of Selectmen (in alphabetical order): Lorie Agren, Paul Hilenski, Andrea Reichert

Town Clerk: Kristen Mitchell

RSU #74 School Board Member *No papers were taken out for this office:* Write - In

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

Submitted: Kristen Mitchell, Town Clerk

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

Selectmen

NOTICE OF TAX SALE

The Board of Selectmen of New Portland is accepting bids for the purchase of the municipality's interest in New Portland's tax-acquired property. The Selectmen have decided that there will be a minimum bid for this property of an amount being \$1,500.00. Each bid must be in writing and in a sealed envelope marked "**Tax sale bid**" on the outside. The Board of Selectmen must receive all bids no later than **5:00 o'clock pm on April 3, 2018**. Late bids will not be opened or considered.

Each bid must also include the bidder's name, mailing address and phone number and must be accompanied by a deposit in the form of a certified check or money order, in an amount equal to or greater than 10% of the bid price. Each successful bidder's deposit will be credited to the total purchase price for that parcel. Deposits will be returned to the unsuccessful bidders. Any bid, which does not contain the proper deposit, will be rejected.

Bids will be opened, reviewed and awarded by the Selectmen at the Selectmen's Meeting on **April 3, 2018 at 6:30 pm**. The Board of Selectmen reserves the right to reject any and all bids. Each successful bidder shall have 30 days from the date of the bid acceptance in which to complete the purchase. The property will be conveyed by a quitclaim deed without covenants. In the event that a successful bidder fails, for any reason, to complete the purchase in the time stated, the bid acceptance is void and the bidder's deposit shall be forfeited to the Town. The Board of Selectmen may thereafter negotiate a sale of the property with any or all unsuccessful bidders.

The properties for sale are described on the Towns Tax Maps as:

Map 018 Lot 026-002 – Land Only off Safford Road.

The tax maps and other public information concerning the property may be reviewed at the Town Office during its normal business hours, which are Monday through Wednesday 11:00 am to 5:00 pm and Thursdays 1:00 pm to 7:00 pm.

Submitted: Michael Senecal, Chairman

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes for February 6, 2018

Selectmen Present: Mike Senecal (Chairperson) Raymond Poulin, Wayne Rundlett; Present: Stacie Rundlett, Brian Rundlett, Judi Wills, Mike Malesky, Kip Poulin, Ron Lindner-Demers, John Demers-Lindner

1. Mike Senecal called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.
2. Wayne motioned to accept the minutes as written, Raymond seconded and all were in favor.
3. Department Heads: Mike Malesky updated the board on his recovery from medical leave. Kip Poulin, updated the board on truck repairs and upcoming training. He spoke briefly of the dangerous building the fire department burned, and all that was left was small debris for the town to have removed. Stacie reviewed with the board a letter of violation that was being submitted to CMP.
4. The Board of Selectmen and Stacie reviewed the annual town meeting warrant. They approved it and signed it. They also reviewed and signed the payroll and accounts payable warrants. The board discussed with Stacie that the one (1) property on which they

had foreclosed was land only and would go out to bid. They set a date of April 3 to accept bids; they would open those sealed bids at their meeting that night. Mike Senecal motioned to table the property that just had the dangerous building burned until April 3 to determine the next course of action. The board also decided that the last property which was foreclosed has until April 3 to sign a Land Purchase Agreement, which is required by law. Stacie would reach out to the land owner again. There was a brief discussion regarding the Town Warrant and article 11, which is asking for the towns approval to borrow funds for a sand/salt shed facility. Stacie provided the board members with an updated budget worksheet including amounts to be appropriated through taxation.

5. Raymond updated the board members and the public in attendance that at this time the AOS, with RSU #74 is on hold.

Meeting adjourned at 6:59 pm.

Submitted: Stacie Rundlett

New Portland Water District

The New Portland Water District will hold their annual meeting March 14, 2018, 6:30 pm at the New Portland Fire Station, 911 River Road, New Portland. The regular monthly trustees meeting will follow immediately at the conclusion of the annual meeting. Elections of officers and trustees will take place. Public welcome.

Submitted: Marilyn Gorman, Trustee NPWD

Announcement

Hi, my name is Lorie Agren; I am not running for selectman. My name will be on the ballot but please vote for Paul Helinski or Andrea Riechert.

Submitted: Lorie Agren

NEW PORTLANDER article submission deadline is March 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 February school board meeting was held on Thursday, February 15 at Solon Elementary School. It had been scheduled for February 7 but was postponed due to weather. The food was a major highlight. Sandwiches had been prepared, and the six that I ate were outstanding.

Minutes: The minutes of the January board meeting were amended, but approved.

Student Presentation: Sixteen students from grades k-5 displayed their basketball skills. Terry Corson organizes Kitty Kats basketball each year. He started the program in the 1980s, when Solon was a k-8 school. Only the older students (grades 6-8) could participate in school basketball, so Kitty Kats gave the younger students a way to be involved. Students who participate in Kitty Kats learn basketball, but they also learn about sportsmanship and teamwork.

Superintendent Report: The 2018-19 budget outlook is challenging. The current projection is that RSU 74 will be receiving about \$200,000 less in state funding. Equally ominous, the local towns will be required to raise (approximately) an additional \$200,000, resulting in a gap of \$400,000. The board's Finance Committee will be meeting in order to come up with recommendations. The plan is to tackle the 2018-19 budget in three March meetings - the regular March 7 board meeting and budget meetings on March 14 and 21.

RSU 13, 59, and 74 received a STEM grant in 2017-18 and have shared Kathy Bertini. The three RSUs will continue to receive grant money in 2018-19, as a STEAM (the A is for Arts) grant has been awarded. The grant money will pay for expanded STEM labs, 3D printers, and additional math coaching.

A middle school alternative ed grant has been awarded to RSUs 13-59-74. The program will be located at Madison Jr. High. Grant money will fund a teacher and an ed tech for the program.

Appointment: Mat Brown - CCS track coach

Resignations, effective at the end of 2017-18: Stephanie Campbell, CHS Art; Peter Manning, CHS math/science

Admin Reports: 1.) Tom Desjardins congratulated the CCS boys' and girls' basketball teams, who both won the recent Pine Cone League tournament. 2.) Jean encouraged the board members to attend the Kitty Kats basketball performance on February 28 at Solon. She thanked North Star Orchard for donating a bag of apples for every student in grades k-5. 3.) Nikki Richardson said

the recent special ed audit done by DOE had been a great experience. She said there were five minor tweaks and a slight policy update needed, but in general, the audit went very well and was a great professional development opportunity. Mr. Tracy expressed gratitude to Nikki and to her staff, commending them on how well they handle paperwork and deadlines. 4.) Lorie Agren said things are running smoothly right now. Janitorial staff will have some mid-year training. The training is free, and Mr. Tracy said he hopes there will be more trainings in the coming year(s). 5.) Nate Stubbart congratulated the CCS basketball teams for their success. He also commended both CHS basketball teams for reaching post-season play. Banners commemorating past athletic successes are now hanging in the CHS gym.

Committees: The board's Negotiations Committee met on January 10 and January 24. The board's negotiating team reached an agreement with the support staff negotiating team on a new three-year contract for 2018-2021. Later in the agenda, the board would vote on whether to approve the proposed contract.

The board's Finance Committee met on January 14, and they examined projected revenues for budget year 2018-19.

The Buildings and Grounds Committee met in January to discuss terminating a contract with Siemens. This would appear later in the agenda.

The Academic Committee met with the three building principals on Feb 13.

Citizens: Rob Peabody of Solon spoke; he about an agenda item. When combining sports teams, he stated he hoped decisions would be based numbers of athletes participating. He also said he hoped citizens would have a voice in decisions to combine sports teams with other schools.

To see if the Board will approve the second reading of replacing school policy IJNDC and adding IJNDB, and adding IJNDB-R in place of IJNDC. The board approved.

To see if the Board wishes to take action regarding giving the Athletic Director the flexibility to collaborate to combine teams as needed based on numbers in order to continue to provide opportunities for students and keep the integrity of competitive programs at the High School level. Discussion of this item took about fifty minutes. Mike Tracy reiterated that the purpose of combining a CHS sports team with another school would be to provide opportunities for students. If it looked as if the numbers would be too low to field a team, then combining would be considered. Nate Stubbart

addressed the sports that posed an immediate concern due to lack of numbers: boys' soccer, cross country, and golf. RSU 13 has been approached but seems to have no interest in collaborating in sports. The board voted to approve this agenda item.

Terminating the Contract with Siemens RSU 74 is currently in a contract with Siemens. When dealing with recent heating issues, Siemens has not been particularly helpful. The board followed the recommendation of the superintendent, and they voted to terminate the contract with Siemens.

To see if the Board will discuss next year's Special Ed Director position During 17-18, RSU 74 has had a special ed director one day a week. Mr. Tracy hopes to have a full-time director next year. Nikki Richardson spoke, and she advocated having a full-time director next year. She said the special ed staff is working hard, but in the current situation, too much is being asked of the special ed teachers. This topic will be revisited at the March meeting, and Mr. Tracy will propose two or three different scenarios for the board to consider.

Executive Sessions There were three executive sessions. After one of the executive sessions, the board voted to ratify the proposed support staff contract. As the association ratified the contract earlier in the week, the 2018-2021 support staff contract is now official.

Submitted: Dave Ela, President of Carrabec Educational Association

New Portland Library

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

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

Congratulations March 60 Club winners: 1st \$50 Wendell Marston, 2nd \$25 in memory of Mike and Doris Lailer, 3rd \$10 Sophie Green. Thank you for your participation!

January was "try a new author/genre" month. February was read "a classic month". March is "revisit your childhood books" Remember those books that kept you from doing your homework (fellows, not your Playboys!) or the ones you disliked. It may be fun reading with new eyes. If we do not have the book you want, we can get one to you from the Inter Library Loan.

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

in April.

Library Board meeting is the second Tuesday of the month at 6pm at the library. If you would like to join us in March please do so. This month we will be discussing programing for the next year and we like to hear your ideas.

We are planning to host a session to go over some basic computer issues, gmail. Facebook, virus checks, genealogy. We are shooting for the 3ed Tuesday morning at 10:30 or Thursday at 4:30.

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 and have a cup of coffee and meet some of your neighbors.

Sunday afternoon movies will start in March! We will be showing *Tootsie* at 1:30 pm at the library on March 18. Come join us for an afternoon of viewing. Bring your own popcorn – we'll have the chairs set up! For future movies, please give us your suggestions. Hope to see you there!

We have a local patron who would like to start a writer's group. Please let the library personnel know if you are interested. This group includes those who are currently writing, those who want to get started. The first meeting will be in March during an afternoon.

Thanks to the generosity of one of our patrons we have added lots of large print books to our circulation. Please stop in to see what we are offering!

And don't forget to just drop in to see what new offerings we have in books and dvds. There is something for everyone!

When you are doing your taxes list us as a charitable contribution. This would go to the Maine Public Library Fund and is form schedule CP. We don't get the money directly, but it goes into a general fund.

Keep in touch through Facebook New Portland Community Library, email us at newportlandcl@gmail.com or call 628, 6561.

Submitted: Rosemary Drosky

New Portland Thrift Store

New Hours

10:00 am to 2:00 pm

1st and 3rd Saturday of the month, weather permitting

Contact info: 779-7261 or 491-2620

Mission at the Eastward



Presbyterian Church, U.S.A.

MATE Housing Ministry

Headquartered at the Fairbanks Union Presbyterian Church

WHO? Volunteer Mission teams from all over the northeast come to western Maine to share their talents and caring with area homeowners, who without assistance with labor and/or materials, would be unable to make needed repairs and maintenance to their homes. Many of the volunteers take vacation time to be here.

WHAT? Painting, roof repairs, porches, steps, ramps and simple interior and exterior repair are likely prospects for the teams. Wherever possible, we ask homeowners and families to participate in the work and its cost. At times the mission can help with materials through grants and donations.

WHERE? Currently we are serving mostly Franklin County: Farmington area, Chesterville, Jay, N. Jay, Livermore Falls, Wilton, New Sharon, Temple, Strong, New Vineyard. Somerset County: New Portland, Lexington, Highland Plantation & Embden. Volunteer work groups stay in North New Portland and Farmington, and we like to keep the work within 30 minutes of these towns. The Salem Economic Ministry, East Parish Housing Ministry [Starks] and RCAM in Leeds also have similar programs that cover the other towns not listed above, but we are also looking forward to broadening our own scope outward.

WHEN? Volunteer Mission teams arrive during the months of June, July and August. The date and time the team will be at your home will be coordinated with you if your application is accepted.

WHY? The MATE Housing Ministry was created to help people in need stay in their home by doing needed repairs they could not otherwise afford to do. The volunteer Mission teams seek to do Christian service. They are called out of their everyday lives to serve in our community. They come to work on housing and would be pleased to work along with you. Their experience is made better by the time you share with them.

HOW? If you own (or are buying) your home, all you have to do is to fill out this application and return it. Each application received will be considered, and you will be contacted for further information if necessary. We will call you to set up an assessment appointment, and we will notify you, whether or not we are able to do the work requested.

MATE-NPHM determines what applications are accepted based on the skill levels of the volunteer teams and the extent and complexity of the work requested. We do our best to prioritize the requests as to those most in need of assistance. We cannot guarantee that we can do everything requested, and it must be kept in mind that the work will be done by volunteers with varying skill levels. Whatever we do is done with the safety of the volunteers as our highest priority, and in completing a job to our mutual [client & NPHM] satisfaction.

Mortgages held by other than a financial institution: In cases where the mortgage is held by other than a financial institution, MATE-NPHM will require them to also sign off on any repairs made.

**Mission at the Eastward
MATE Housing Ministry
2018**

**Application for the Community Summer Housing Program
Application Deadline: May 11, 2018**

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Street Address: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Town: _____ Zip Code: _____

I am: ___ Elderly; ___ Disabled; ___ Single Parent; ___ Military Service [active or veteran-any member]

I: ___ Own home & land; ___ Home only; ___ Have a mortgage; ___ Mortgage with other than a bank

Total number of people living in my home: _____ (Ages: ___ up to 18 ___ 19 to 59 ___ 60+)

Combined family annual income:

___ Less than \$10,000 ___ \$10,000 to \$15,000 ___ \$15,000 to \$20,000 ___ Above \$20,000

Are you, or will you be able and willing to help volunteer for some of our projects? Yes ___ No ___

Are you current on property tax payments? Y or N Is there a lien on your home? Y or N Please list the work you need:

I will be able to contribute toward the cost of materials: ___ Yes; ___ No; ___ Maybe; \$ _____ Max. Amount

Signature: _____

Please return this form to: MATE Housing Ministry c/o
Fairbanks Union Church
P.O. Box 206, Farmington ME 04938

*. All personal information is for the use of Mission at the Eastward NPHM and is held in strict confidence.
<http://northparishhousingministry.weebly.com>*

Please tell us where you obtained this application: _____

Animal Control Officer

Still have a lot of people who have not licensed their dog(s) please go to the town office and do that. It is the law!

Submitted: Lorie Agren, ACO

Wire Bridge Sno-Travelers

The February 10 monthly meeting was called to order at 6:31pm with 13 members present.

The secretary's report was read and accepted.

The treasurer reported that the club received the annual check from the town for snowmobile registrations in New Portland. There will be two fuel bills coming in, which will be paid this week. The checking and savings account balances were read as well. The Treasurer's report was accepted as read.

The trail master indicates that the trails are looking really great. Brushing has been done by a number of club members, and having two groomers to cover all the trails in town has been fantastic. Brad wants to thank everyone who has been helping out to keep our trails in such good condition. There are a few things on the list for work next year already, including widening the Handrahan Bridge and replanking the small bridge between the Chick Road and the Wire Bridge Diner. The Trail Master's report was accepted as stated.

Old business: This summer, Lewis Wills will attempt to contact the landowner at the start of the pit road to ask permission to cross their land to eliminate having to travel on the road so much. Bill Cafarelli suggested the club pursue the idea of allowing people to sign up for memberships on-line. The club would need a website and a PayPal account, so a few members are going to check into the logistics and report back to the rest of the club.

New business: Club members discussed donating to a local charity in lieu of having a landowner's supper, similar to what we did last year. We can check in with the town office to see where they think there might be a need, and then club members can vote on a donation. A letter will be sent to the landowners explaining that a donation was made in their name. On Sunday, February 18, the Kingfield snowmobile club is having their annual breakfast at the elementary school. Anyone wanting to ride to the breakfast by snowmobile is welcome to meet at the Chick Road crossing at 7:00 am.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:06 pm. The next meeting will be Saturday, March 10 at 6:30 pm at the firehouse meeting room

Submitted: Lynne Cary, Secretary

Community Churches

The Western Mountains Baptist Church will be hosting a March potluck after the worship service on March 18. The church will provide corned beef; we will need side dishes and desserts. Everyone and anyone is welcome. Bring a friend or the whole family. It's always a good time to meet new friends and to catch up with friends or neighbors you haven't seen in a while.

If you, or someone you know, are elderly or homebound and would like a hot nutritious meal delivered to your door on the last Saturday of each month, sign up for a Bridging the Gap meal. Call Cathy at 678-2442 to get on the list and make your meal choice. There are two home-made meals to choose from each month. The meals are free. You may also pick up a registration form at the town office. The coordinators for Bridging the Gap, Jeff and Cathy, are open to new volunteers. Some ways to help are deliver meals, provide a side dish or dessert, donate food to be used as part of a meal, paper products, etc. If you would like to see how you can be involved in this community outreach program, call Cathy or call the church at 265-2557.

This month's Men's Breakfast will take place on March 3 at 8:00 am. Bring a breakfast food to share or just show up. Men of all ages are welcome. In addition to lots of bacon, there will be a devotion and friendly fellowship.

April 1 is Easter Sunday. As in years past, our sunrise service will be held outside the church at the cross at sunrise. Afterwards, everyone is welcome back inside the church for hot coffee, hot chocolate and a big Easter breakfast prepared and served by the men of the church. No one goes away hungry. The worship service will be held at our regular time, 10:00 am. Feel free to join us for the whole morning or for only part of it.

Did you know that there are a group of people who meet every Sunday morning and on Saturday nights to pray? If you have something going on that you would like others to pray about for you, please email your request to: pastorwmbc@gmail.com, call the church at 265-2557 or call Pastor Tom at 557-3802.

Submitted by Crystal Fitch, member of WMBC

