

## NEW PORTLANDER

INFORMATION IS THE CURRENCY OF DEMOCRACY — THOMAS JEFFERSON

The Town of New Portland is an equal opportunity employer and service provider.

PUBLICATION VOLUME 23 • NUMBER 11 • May 1, 2017

#### **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 .......nwprtlnd@tds.net

**Town Clerk:** Kristen Mitchell - Ext. 2

Email ......newportlandtownclerk@gmail.com

**Deputy Town Clerk:** Stacie Rundlett

Vital statistics & dog licensing

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday......11am - 5pm Thursday......1pm - 6pm 1st Saturday of each month (except holiday weekends).....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

## Remember...=

•	Selectmen's Meeting
	1st Tuesday & 3rd Monday of each mont

1st Tuesday & 3rd Monday of each month ......6:30pm

 New Portland Fire Department Meeting 2nd & 4th Tuesday of each month .......6:30pm

2nd & 4th Tuesday of each month ......6:30pi

New Portland Community Library

Wednesday, Thursday.......4pm - 6pm
Tuesday and Saturday morning.....10am - noon
Sunday.....1pm - 3pm

• Kingfield-New Portland Transfer Station

Wednesday, Saturday, Sunday...... 7:30am - 4:30pm

• Library Board of Trustees Meeting

2nd Tuesday of the month ......6pm

Planning Board Meeting

1st Wednesday of the month......6pm

New Portland Water District

2nd Wednesday of each month......7pm

School Board Meeting

1st Wednesday of each month ......6pm

• Knitwits & Happy Hookers (NPCL)

## **Town Manager**

There will be an initial meeting for the Wire Bridge Park Project on May 17 at 6:30 pm in the Community Room.

It's that time of year when people will be wanting burn permits. If any residents are in need of a burn permit please contact the following: Fire Chief Kip Poulin – 491-0140, Brian Rundlett – 491-4583, Wayne Rundlett-578-2425.

Town Office will be closed on May 29 in observance of Memorial Day. Thank you.

Submitted: Stacie Rundlett

### **Town Clerk**

On Tuesday, May 9, 10:00 am to 6:00 pm, there will be the RSU #74 Budget Referendum Election. *There is a change in what has become our regular voting location for this Referendum.* We will not be voting in the Community Room / Fire Station located at 911 River Road for this vote only. We will have voting at the Town Office located at 901 River Road.

Submitted: Kristen Mitchell

## **Selectmen**

### Minutes for Selectmen's Meeting for March 07, 2017

Selectmen Present: Raymond Poulin, Wayne Rundlett, Mike Senecal (absent); Present: Stacie Rundlett, Brian Rundlett, Mike Malesky, Kyle Handrahan, Gary Agren

Raymond called the meeting to order at 6:27 pm.

Wayne motioned to nominate Mike Senecal as chairman of the board. Raymond seconded.

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

Gary updated the board with road postings, work being done to the grader, and that we have lost 150 yards of gravel from the snow banks not being pushed back. He spoke with the board about his meeting with the surveyors for Hancock Pond Road and the timeline for this to be completed.

Mike Malesky updated the board of his work done assessing, and he has found about 260,000 in new valuation, and he is about half done with his site visits. His office hours for April 1 will be 8:00 am – 12:00 pm for the taxpayers.

Kip updated the board on the estimate for the work to be done for repair work on the Fire Department roofing and entryway canopy. He updated the board on the call volume, and within five days they responded to three rescue calls in the township area. He briefed the board on repair work for the forestry truck and payroll now is around

\$2,000. They are having electrical work done, and he updated the board on the engine repairs that were done.

Kip asked Stacie to have a new door that had arrived installed at the Community Room.

The board reviewed and signed an accounts payable warrant. Stacie discussed with the board members some changes in the paperwork that is within the accounts payable warrant. She also asked that their second meeting of the month, she would like to have the board sign off on additional paperwork to have on file. She also updated the board with training which she and Kristen will be having at the end of May for TRIO and the Motor Vehicle module.

There was a brief discussion regarding signs in town, and Stacie confirmed that the Town of New Portland did not have a sign ordinance.

There were no items by the Board of Selectmen. Meeting adjourned 6:47 pm.

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

#### Selectmen's Meeting Minutes for March 20, 2017

Selectmen Present: Raymond Poulin, Wayne Rundlett, Mike Senecal; Present: Stacie Rundlett, Mike Malesky, Judi Wills, Ron Lindner-Demers.

Mike Senecal called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

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

The Selectmen reviewed and signed accounts payable and payroll warrants.

The Selectmen reviewed and signed off on the treasurer's work for lanuary 2017.

Stacie discussed with the board her ideas on improving the Wire Bridge area. There was a brief discussion on ideas; the selectmen agreed for Stacie to try and organize this project to be started this year.

Raymond asked questions to Stacie regarding the flood zones on behalf of a resident. There was a brief discussion regarding this property, and Stacie stated that currently there was no information on file at the town office stating that this property or any part of it was not in the flood zone. She also stated that if the resident had information stating otherwise it would just need to be documented and kept on file at the town office so that the resident could move forward with any future changes to the property. She also stated that if the resident did not have this documentation, all the resident would need to do is apply to FEMA to try and get all or part of the property out of the flood zone.

There was a brief discussion regarding the lease between the library and the Town of New Portland. Stacie stated that she has this document on file and would email it to all the board members for their records.

Mike Senecal discussed an option for future dates for the Sand/ Salt Shed Project. There was a brief discussion regarding this, and it was agreed upon the third Thursday of each month at 6:30 pm in the Community Room. This is to be put in the *New Portlander* and on the town website. Mike Senecal. stated that he would reach out to those who already stated they wanted to be a part of this committee. And any others who might want to attend are more than welcome to present. Mike Malesky briefly discussed with the board that he will be in the office on April 1 from 8:00 am to 12:00 pm for the public to discuss their list of estates with him if they chose. He also stated that he had an abatement request he will be presenting to the board soon but currently didn't have any details for the board.

Judi presented to the board the possibility of having a free band come to New Portland in June. She was still working on the details and would keep the board posted with new information confirming this event.

There was another brief discussion regarding the internet options for the town. There are no changes at this time for options for New Portland

Stacie briefed the board on upcoming construction to be done by DOT in 2018 on the Bog Road.

Meeting adjourned 7:19 pm.

These minutes were approved by the Board of Selectmen at the April 04, 2017 meeting. smr

#### Selectmen's Meeting Minutes for April 04, 2017

Selectmen Present: Raymond Poulin, Wayne Rundlett, Mike Senecal; Present: Stacie Rundlett, Mike Malesky, Judi Wills, Gary Agren, Marilyn Gorman, Becky and Gilbert Taylor, Kyle Handrahan, Kip Pouliin, Brian Rundlett

Mike Senecal called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. Raymond motioned to accept the minutes as written, Wayne seconded; all were in favor.

Mike Senecal discussed with all present that the superintendent of RSU #74 was supposed to be present tonight but rescheduled for the April 17 meeting.

Mike Malesky. updated the board on number of residents who came into the office on April 1 to discuss their accounts with him. He shared with the board that he received a confirmation that the homestead exemption will be going up from \$15,000 to \$20,000. He updated the board members that he had no new information on the possible abatement request.

Gary briefed the board on grader, and it is being worked on. He discussed with the board that he was going to be gone on vacation in May but would be at the first meeting in May and would update the board on planned work to be done then.

Kip briefed the board on the Fire Department receiving \$20,000 from a grant for which they had applied, so they could purchase a side by side to assist in rescue calls in areas where a fire truck can not go or for forest fires. There were some discussions regarding options. The board commended the fire department on applying for the grant but stated they were not in favor of spending any additional funds to properly equip the piece of equipment if it cost more than \$20,000. Kip updated the board on the status of wiring to be done on the new compressor and work to be done on the forestry and engine. There were discussions regarding the old SCBA compressor and whether to sell it; it would need to go out to bid. The board and Kip briefly discussed citations that the department received for an injury which occurred at the scene of a fire back in January. The citations have already been amended and a letter of request to waive penalties was being sent via certified mail on 04-05-2017. The repairs are due to be done in the upcoming week to the fire station from snow and ice damages.

#### **NEW PORTLANDER article submission deadline is May 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: bigd@tdstelme.net If there are any questions or needs regarding the receiving of the *New Portlander*, those inquiries should be directed to the Town Manager.

Stacie gave the board appointment papers as the Town Clerk Kristen was out sick.

Mike Senecal motioned to nominate Kip Poulin as fire chief. Raymond seconded and all were in favor. Mike Senecal motioned to nominate Robert Dunphy as LPI, Wayne seconded and all were in favor. Mike Senecal motioned to nominate Stacie Rundlett as CEO, Raymond seconded and all were in favor. Mike Senecal motioned to nominate Peter Gardner as Planning Board member until 2020, Wayne seconded all were in favor. Mike Senecal motioned to nominate Brian Rundlett as Planning Board member until 2020, Raymond seconded all were in favor. Mike Senecal motioned to nominate Lewis Wills as Planning Board member until 2019, Raymond seconded and all were in favor. Mike Senecal motioned to nominate Jim Heichel as Planning Board member until 2019, Raymond seconded; all were in favor.

Raymond inquired about a payment arrangement that the town had with a taxpayer. Stacie confirmed that those taxes were paid in full.

The Selectmen reviewed and signed accounts payable and payroll warrants.

The Selectmen reviewed and signed off on the treasurer's work for January 2017.

There were discussions regarding the school district budget. The board requested Stacie to get the names of the 80 children that the district has that are from New Portland.

Meeting adjourned 7:06 pm.

These minutes were approved by the Board of Selectmen at the April 17th meeting. Smr

Submitted: Stacie Rundlett

### RSU 74 / School Board

The April board meeting was held at Carrabec Community School. A new member Kathy Bertini of Solon joined the board.

Minutes: The minutes of the March 1 regular board meeting and the budget meetings of March 9, and March 15 were approved. Approval of March 22 budget meeting minutes was tabled.

Student Presentation: Brian Twitchell, CCS fifth grade teacher Tammy Long and two Garet Scheck fifth grade students, Conner Nelson and Tyler Hanson, presented to the board their work with the Cue Think Problem-Solving Program. They showed the board a word problem asking how many handshakes there would be if five people met and all shook hands. Using Cue Think, the students wrote the answer in words and pictures, and they recorded an audio explanation. Ms Long said she believed Cue Think had helped her students perform better on the MEA Test, and Terry Corson spoke, saying new approaches like Cue Think were very valuable. He also praised the effectiveness of Brian Twitchell in his role as math coach. (And the answer to the handshake question is 10.)

Mr. Twitchell also reported to the board that on Tuesday, the Carrabec High School math team placed seventh out of 21 schools at the statewide math meet.

Superintendent Report: Before Mr. Beverage began, board

chair Bobby Sue Harrington noted she had shared with the board resources from the school board conference which she recently had attended in Denver.

Recently, RSUs 74, 13, and 59 collaborated to complete a grant request. Mr. Beverage reported that the grant request was not approved. He said the joint effort of the three school systems was a good experience, and he hoped it had set the groundwork for future collaboration.

Mr. Beverage has approved Stacey McCluskey's request for a oneyear leave of absence.

The superintendent, along with administrators Jean Butler, Jamie Weggler, and Jaime Ela have discussed the future of grade 7-8 unified arts.

The superintendent received a request from a student wishing to graduate as a junior. The student is currently a sophomore. He stated that board policy requires board action on early graduation requests be taken during a student's junior year.

There will be a Policy Committee meeting on April 12 at 6:00 pm. The policy committee will tackle a new procurement policy and hopes to be consistent with federal guidelines.

Mr. Beverage announced he has implemented a freeze on all expenditures until the end of the year. He is asking for only emergency purchase orders.

He received an update from MSMA saying that the legislature's education committee rejected the governor's plan for funding of administration. This could lead to more state subsidy for RSU 74, but at this time, it is impossible to determine if the increased subsidy amount will be particularly meaningful.

In the days to come Mr. Beverage will attend meetings in all RSU 74 towns to discuss the 2017-2018 budget.

He requested that the board become familiar with the Freedom of Information Act.

Appointments and Recent Staff Hiring: Skip Rugh - CCS varsity girls basketball, Lauren Bean - CCS junior varsity girls basketball, Luke Ellis - CHS boys tennis, Nora Ellis - CHS girls tennis, Dustin Zamboni - CCS track co-coach, Heidi Vicneire - CHS girls soccer, PJ Vicneire - CHS boys soccer, Heath Cowan - CHS boys baseball, Marc Collard - CHS boys and girls track, Dave Richardson - CHS junior varsity softball coach. All of the above were approved.

However, the transfer of Lisa Savage from Literacy Coach position to GS SIG coordinator/reading interventionist was tabled.

Admin Reports: The administrators had all Submitted reports to the board. The only additional comments came from Tim Richards who said NHS inductions will be April 12, and the top ten letters are in the envelopes.

Committees: Bobby Sue reported the only committee which has been active recently has been the board's Negotiating Committee. She said that "negotiations are going very well ... going very smoothly." She then called on me (president of the CEA) in the audience for my comments. I said, "I agree."

Adjustments to Agenda: An item was added to the agenda regarding RSU 74 tuition rates.

Continued on next page



Citizens: Jack Kaplan spoke about a comment that was made at the last budget meeting. He stated he is proud to be Jewish, and he has a son who is a student in this district who is also Jewish. He said he is angry about the comment and finds it embarrassing that such a comment was made. He has sent an email to the superintendent regarding this matter, and he hopes there will be action taken. He believes that in the past, employees have received consequences for making lesser comments.

He expressed hope the board will address the issue.

Erik Carey spoke and asked why the budget seems to be about to be re-opened after it had been approved by the board at the previous budget meeting. He wanted to know what had changed, as he thought it was made quite clear at the last meeting what the total impact to taxpayers would be. Mr. Beverage said perhaps he did not explain the situation clearly enough. The major source of the increase was due to the inaccurate revenue projection for 2016-2017, and the deficit must be made up. He thinks the picture is now clearer, and that nearly everyone thinks an overall increase of more than \$600,000 is too high.

Executive Session to discuss Superintendent duties and relations with the school board: No action was taken following the executive session.

New Agenda Item: To charge the full tuition rate to all current and future tuition students. At a previous board meeting, there was much discussion and debate about a previous decision to charge Athens students a tuition rate lower than what is charged to students from other towns. The board voted to tuition students from all towns the same rate going forward.

Correct Motions from March 22 Budget Meeting: This was tabled. Budget Adjustment of \$9,000: This was tabled.

Options for selling the double wide: The double wide will likely be sold, though it is not likely to bring in a great deal of money.

Vote to approve a new English Language Arts Program for k-8: This was tabled.

2017-2018 Calendar: This was approved

Solon Title One Grant: The board granted permission for Solon to apply for a Title One grant.

Adjourn: The meeting ended at 7:26.

Submitted: Dave Ela, President of Carrabec Educational Association

#### **Kindergarten Screening for Fall 2017**

MSAD 74 / RSU 74 (Anson, Embden, New Portland and Solon) will be holding kindergarten screening for all pre-school children entering kindergarten in the fall. Children must be five years of age on or before October 15, 2017.

Continued on next page

## New Portland Library

Spring is here, and we are happy to get out and about! The library is busy with activities so mark your calendars! Saturday, May 27 Chinese Auction at Happy Horse Campground at 9:00 am – 1:00 pm. As a reminder for the Auction we are currently

Saturday, May 27 Chinese Auction at Happy Horse Campground at 9:00 am – 1:00 pm. As a reminder for the Auction we are currently collecting useable items in good condition. Since it is time for spring cleaning you may find some once "useful to you" items that you no longer need but may be useful to someone else! You can drop them off at the library. Call if you need more information 628-6561. We cannot take books or clothing. Thank you for all your help and hope to see you at the Auction!

Saturday, June 3 Annual Plant- Book and Bake Sale 9:00 am - noon at the New Portland Community Library. We will have a variety of plants for your summer vegetable, herb or flower gardens. We will also accept donations of plants you would like to share! Our book sale selection is large and of full new hardcovers and western paperbacks, fiction and nonfiction, good for summer relaxing! This is also good chance to get some delicious, baked with love, home goods to enjoy! You can also check out the new books and movies added to our shelves.

Our librarian, Sheila, has been adding a nice variety of new books and movies for all ages. Don't forget that we do have computers available for your use. Some of our hours will change June 3: Saturday 9:00 am – 12:00 pm, Tuesday 9:00 am – 12:00 pm, Wednesday 4:00 – 6:00 pm, Thursday 4:00 – 6:00 pm. June, July & August will no longer have Sunday hours.

New Portland Community Library is once again offering our patrons a chance to win money while helping the library. This year is a little different. It is a "60 Club". The first 60 people to respond and pay \$60.00 will have their name put into our drawings. We will draw three names each month for one year. 1st draw is \$50, 2nd draw is \$25, 3rd draw is \$10. That gives you a 1 in 60 chance 36 times to be a winner, and you may win more than once! With your winnings you can: have it mailed to you or donate it back to the library (in your name, your business name or in a memory of). So as soon as possible send your \$60 to the library. We will accept only the first 60! The 2017 drawings will begin in June so please sign up now!

Questions? Call 628.6561 or e-mail-newportlandcl@gmail.com

Visit us on Facebook-New Portland Community Library, or stop in Tuesday 10:00 am – 12:00 pm, Wednesday 4:00 pm – 7:00 pm, Thursday 4:00 pm – 7:00 pm, Saturday 10:00 am – 12:00 pm, Sunday 1:00 – 3:00 pm through May.

Submitted: Rosemary Drosky

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The screening tool used will be the Developmental Indicators for the Assessment of Learning (DIAL-4). Testing will be administered individually by a team of teachers on a variety of tasks. The information is used only to assist us in developing the best program for your child.

Screenings for all district children will be held by appointment only on Tuesday, May 2 at the Carrabec Community School in North Anson.

Please call Heidi Atwood at the Garret Schenck School, 696-3100, for an appointment and/or any questions you may have. Screenings take approximately one (1) hour per child.

If you know of other children ready to start school please share this information.

We are now taking applications for the fall 2017-2018 Pre-School Program. Please call Jen Hebert at 696-3753 for registration information.

Submitted: Heidi Atwood

#### **Announcement**

The Wesserunsett Arts Council and Main Street Skowhegan are gathering information about cultural resources in Somerset County, including those related to recreation, agriculture, the arts, history, community, and more. We'll use the information to craft a cultural plan that will leverage and promote those resources to help drive tourism to the region and boost the economy.

Whether you live, work, or just spend time in Somerset County, your feedback is essential! Please help shape the cultural plan by taking a few minutes to complete the Public Opinion Survey. (http://reinholtconsulting.com/somerset-county-public-opinion-survey/)

There is also an Artist & Performer Survey (http://reinholtconsulting.com/somerset-county-artist-performer-survey/) and a Business & Cultural Organization Survey

(http://reinholtconsulting.com/somerset-county-business-cultural-organization-survey/)

for those who fit those categories. You may fill out as many of the surveys as apply to you.

Each survey takes five to ten (5-10) minutes, and by completing the Public Opinion Survey you will be entered into drawings for artwork from local artisans!

Submitted: Lolly Phoniex

# East New Portland Cemetery Association

East New Portland Cemetery Association Annual Meeting will be held 6:00 pm Monday, May 8, 2017 at the Community Room at the Fire Station. Thank you.

## **New Portland Water Department**

I wanted to make everyone aware that there are going to be a few changes at the water department. Andrea and Marilyn are no longer the treasurers. I have now taken their place. With that being said, when you are sending in your payments please use the post office box. Bear with me as I am learning and getting used to being the treasurer now. I have to admit, having Marilyn and Andrea helping me learn the ropes has made this transition easier. The water department is looking for more trustees, so if you are interested there is a water department meeting the second Wednesday of every month at 7:00 pm and is held in the Community Room / Fire Station at 911 River Road. If you have any questions the number at the pump house is (207) 628-4810 and my cell phone number is (207) 491-6366. Regards,

Submitted: Kristen Mitchell

## **Community Churches**

The Western Mountains Baptist Church had a very busy April including an Easter sunrise service and breakfast. As usual the men did a fine job cooking and serving a huge Easter breakfast. Two new studies also started "The Explicit Gospel" by Matt Chandler and "The Daniel Plan" by Rick Warren. A free concert was held April 20 with a good attendance on such a short notice. Check out our newly updated website: westernmountainschurch.org to learn more about available opportunities for fellowship and to learn and grow in your Christian faith.

Also, during April a new \$1000 scholarship was made available to one high school senior at either Carrabec or Mt. Abram High School. Another \$500 scholarship was made available to a high school senior that attends WMBC. The application deadline was April 29. Stay tuned to next month to hear who the winners are/were.

May will bring warmer weather so the Ladies Walking Group is looking forward to getting their exercise outside in the sunshine. Call Crystal at 684-3000 if you would like more information. Or, show up at the church on Monday and Wednesday evenings at 5:30 pm. All ages and fitness levels are welcome.

The Men's Breakfast will meet at the church on Saturday, May 6 at 8:00 am. Easter morning everyone was able to get a sampling of how these guys can throw a breakfast together-no complaints were heard; certainly no one left hungry. Any man that is interested in good food, building friendships and hearing how God is working in lives of other men is welcome. For more information call Jean. He can be reached at 265-2698 or just show up May 6th at 8:00am.

Mark your calendars for Tuesday, June 13. The Good Shepard Food Mobile will be at the Western Mountains Baptist Church from 10:00 to 11:30 am to distribute food to those who show up. The selection of food includes fresh produce and other healthy selections. Bring your own bags or boxes and choose what you will use. More details and a reminder next month.

Worship services are held every Sunday at 10:00 am. Sunday School is available for all ages beforehand at 9:00. During worship service nursery and Children's Church (up to third grade) are offered. Coffee and snacks available at no charge. Call or text Pastor Tom at 557-3802, the church at 265-2557 or email: westernmountainbaptis@tds.net for more information.

Reminders: Bring your mom to church day is May 14. Also, mark your calendar for Vacation Bible School (VBS), happening the last full week in June. (June 26 to June 30). Again, more information to follow.

Submitted: Crystal Fitch

BULK RATE
US POSTAGE
PAID
New Portland, ME
Permit No. 1

## **POSTAL PATRON**NEW PORTLAND MAINE 04961

#### Memorial Day Observance of Town Office Closed 82 mq 00:1 - ms 00:9 ts MPCL - 10:00 am Happy Horse Campground Knit Wits & Happy Hookers NPCL Chinese Auction at **L**Z 97 52 23 77 12 Соттиту Роот Mq 00:4 te anilbeaQ to church day. mq 0£:3 mq 0E:ð 16 WMBC Bring your mother New Portlander Selectmen's Meeting Wire Bridge Park Project 20 6١ Meeting - 6:00 pm Library Board of Trustees Community Room mq 00:3 Election - Vote at Town Office at 7:00 pm at Fire Station MPCL - 10:00 am **BniteeMinnA** RSU #74 Budget Referendum Knit Wits & Happy Hookers New Portland Water District Cemetery Association Meeting - 6:30 pm East New Portland Fire Department ٤١ 71 mq 0£:3 mq 0E:3 Selectmen's Meeting 8:00 am - Noon Planning Board Meeting (Appointment Required.) Fown Office mq 00:9 School in North Anson School Board Meeting at Carrabec Community Z Kindergarten Screening **YAGRUTAS** YAGIЯ **YAGZЯUHT MEDNESDAY YADS**3UT **YADNOM YADNUS**

**Tros yam** 

NEM PORTLANDER CALENDAR