

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

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	
First Saturday of the month	8am - noon
(except Dec., Jan., Feb., Mar. and permitting it's not a	holiday weekend)

Town Manager/CEO: Stacie Rundlett

Emailanewportlandtownmanager@gmail.com

Deputy Town Manager/Deputy Town Clerk: Mallory Stratton Email.....newportllandclerk@gmail.com

Office hours: Same as the Town office hours

Town Clerk: Jianna Pinkham

Emailnewportllandclerk@gmail.com Office hours: Thursday noon to 5:00 pm or by appointment

LPI: Leo Mayo - 566-7341

Assessor's Agent: Audra Swanson

Fire Department: Chief Kip Poulin

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

=Remember... <u>—</u>

• Selectmen's Meeting 1st Tuesday & 3rd Monday of each month6:30pm
New Portland Fire Department Meeting
2nd & 4th Tuesday of each month6:30pm
 Library Board of Trustees Meeting
2nd Saturday of the month9am
Planning Board Meeting
1st Wednesday of the month6:30pm
New Portland Water District
2nd Wednesday of each month6:30pm
School Board Meeting
1st Wednesday of each month6pm
Recreation Committee
1st Thursday of each month6:30pm
New Portland Community Library
Tuesday 8:30am – Noon
Saturday 8:30am – Noon
Sunday
Kingfield-New Portland Transfer Station
Wednesday, Saturday, Sunday
New Portland Post Office Customer Service Hours
Monday – Friday 7am - 9am, 2pm - 4pm
Saturday7am - 10:30am

Visit the Town of New Portland's web page at **newportlandmaine.org**

PUBLICATION VOLUME 27 • NUMBER 11 • MAY 1, 2021

Notice

The Town of New Portland is accepting applications for the voluntary position to oversee the West New Portland Cemetery. This person will be appointed by the New Portland Board of Selectmen. Some of the duties included, but not limited to record keeping, making sure the site is well kept, and placing flags on the graves of the veteran's who are buried there. This position is challenging and will need a highly responsible candidate. The volunteer will be responsible for the seasonal operation and maintenance activities of the West New Portland Cemetery. Work involves cemetery burial record keeping, financial record keeping, preparing grave sites for burials and fill in graves after services, loams and seeds new graves and older graves when necessary, collects burial fees and permits, deals with all funeral homes directly, and the ability to deal with the public in a courteous and professional manner.

If you feel you would be a great fit for this position, please contact the Town Manager's Office at 901 River Road or by calling 207-628-4441.

The Town of New Portland is an equal opportunity employer.

Town Manager

I personally want to take a moment to thank Rosie Hendrix for her many years of volunteering and tending to the needs and upkeep of the West New Portland Cemetery. My husband has family buried there, and our family greatly appreciates the dedicated work Rosie has always done for the upkeep and maintenance of the cemetery. She has recently decided to resign from this position, and I felt it was very important for her hard work and dedication to be recognized by us all.

Volunteers work willingly together for the betterment of their communities and themselves. I know from the short amount of time I have been here in New Portland our community members who continually volunteer, like Rosie Hendrix, have made this a community of which we can all be proud.

THANK YOU SO MUCH, ROSIE!

<u>Selectmen</u>

Minutes for the March 15, 2021 Meeting

Roster: Selectmen: Raymond Poulin, Tina Poulin, Wayne Rundlett, Town Manager: Stacie Rundlett, Garrett Oswald

- 1. Raymond called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.
- 2. Tina nominated Raymond for Chair of the Board of Selectmen. Wayne seconded and all were in favor.
- 3. Wayne motioned to accept the minutes as written. Raymond seconded and all were in favor.
- 4. Old Business: There was a brief discussion on the status of the overhead door to be installed in the Sand/Salt Shed.
- 5. Items by the Public: Garrett discussed with the board his concerns as to why the MAC (Municipal Advisory Committee) was not listed in the town report, even though it is vacant as the Appeals Board was listed there as vacant. He discussed with the board his interest in being on the Municipal Advisory Committee along with a few other people to do research about the process to disorganize the town. He then would like to present said information to the townspeople for discussions and a possible vote.

There was a discussion regarding MAC, how it was created, how to become a part of this committee and what its responsibilities were. Stacie let everyone know that the ordinance regarding this committee is found on the town's website under government/ordinances and permits.

- 6. Department Heads: NONE
- 7. Items by the Town Manager: The Board reviewed and signed payroll and A/C warrants
- 8. Items by the Board of Selectmen: NONE The meeting was adjourned at 6:47 pm.

These minutes were approved by the Board of Selectmen at the April 6 meeting. smr

Minutes for the April 6, 2021 Meeting

Roster: Selectmen: Raymond Poulin, Tina Poulin, Wayne Rundlett, Town Manager: Stacie Rundlett, Kip Poulin, Marilyn Gorman, Judi Wills, Brian Rundlett, Garrett Oswald, Dirk Gouwens

- 1. Raymond called the meeting to order at 6:29 pm.
- The Board reviewed the minutes from previous meeting. Wayne motioned to accept them as written, it was seconded and all were in favor.
- 3. Old Business: There was a brief discussion on the Sand Salt Shed and if anyone had heard from the electrician about hooking up the high voltage power. No one had heard from the electrician.

- 4. Items by the Public: There was none.
- 5. Department Heads: Kip Poulin reviewed with the Board the year to date on calls. He shared with the board he ordered another AED to house in the highland station. He asked if the Board would approve the funds to come out of revenues for the Fire Department. Wayne motioned to use funds from the Fire Department revenues, Raymond seconded and all were in favor. Kip briefed the Board on the schedule of work to be done on the trucks. Kip updated the board on all of the gear which was ordered last year is now in.
- 6. Items by the Town Manager
 - a. The Board reviewed and signed payroll, A/P warrants.
 - b. The Board reviewed and signed the Treasurer's Report for January and February.
 - c. Stacie shared with the Board that Rosie Hendrix had turned in all of her documents and files for the West New Portland Cemetery and has turned all rights and responsibilities over to the Town of New Portland until such time that a new person can take over those duties. Raymond motioned for the Town to accept those responsibilities until someone can be found, it was seconded and all were in favor. There was a discussion regarding documents which the bank would need and to also place an ad for someone on a few different sites.
 - d. Stacie shared with the Board that if they would like to offer ZOOM coverage of all Selectmen's Meetings in the future, she would get all of that arranged. All of the Board members were in favor and Stacie would make the arrangements starting coverage for the public to see and hear the meetings from their home for the 2nd April meeting, and all meetings from there.
- 7. Items by the Board of Selectmen
 - a. The Board reviewed and signed Quitclaim deeds for properties the town put out to bid
 - b. The Board reviewed and signed two Release of Deeds for 2018 liens paid
 - c. The Board reviewed all of the appointment papers from the Clerk's Office. Raymond motioned for the following positions and terms, it was seconded and all were in favor for them all: 1.) Keith Mudgett as Animal Control Officer for a one year term. 2.) Kip Poulin as Fire Chief for a one year term. 3.) Gary Agren as Road Commissioner for a three year term. 4.) Stacie Rundlett for Code Enforcement and Health Officer for a one year term. 5.) Kyle Handrahan for Planning Board for a three year term.
 6.) Gabe Clark for Planning Board for a three year term.
 7.) Leo Mayo for Local Plumbing Inspector for a 1 year term

Stacie did provide the Board with employee evaluation sheets for the positions they oversee. Raymond took a few copies to work on for the next meeting.

Tina questioned who was responsible for the Selectmen's Meeting Minutes to be put on the Town's Website. Stacie

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: 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. discussed with her that it was a task that she and her former Deputy, Kristen shared. She noted that her new Deputy, Mallory, had not been shown yet how to do this task. Tina had brought up with Raymond and Wayne at another time she had complaints the website was not up to date, so she was curious who handled that and how often it was done. Raymond shared with Tina that the minutes from the meetings do not get published until they have been approved by the Board of Selectmen.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 pm.

These minutes were approved at the April 19 meeting by the Board. smr

Submitted: Stacie Rundlett

RSU 74 / School Board

The April School board meeting was held at Carrabec Community School.

Most board members attended in person, while some attended through Google Meet. (I attended through Google Meet.) At the board table, the board members found chocolate and also Easter bunnies which had been created by Mrs. Fournier's kindergarten students.

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Adjustments to the Agenda: Two appointments and two resignations were added to the agenda.

Minutes: The minutes of the March board meeting were approved.

Budget Presentation: Mr. Tracy provided an overview of the proposed 21-22 budget. He said that the admin team and the board's Finance Committee had worked to create what he described as a "responsible budget". The district currently has a healthy amount of carryover, and Mr. Tracy's intent was to use much of that to reduce the increase to the local share.

Superintendent Report: 1.) In the event that the board voted to approve the budget at the April meeting (which they ultimately did), Mr. Tracy announced he hoped to host a Community Zoom on April 28. Among the topics to be addressed in the Zoom: the budget, spring/end of year activities in the schools, summer school, etc. 2.) Three school calendar adjustments: April 16 - Early Release (12:30 pm dismissal for students), May 12 - no Early Release, June 10 - Early Release (12:30 pm dismissal for all students. 3.) Covid: There has been a recent instance where a student tested positive. Schools remain open, as it is believed that the situation is contained. Currently, there are two staff members who are close contacts. CHS has eight students who are close contacts, and one who has tested positive. CCS has two close contact students. GS and Solon have none. CDC guidelines have loosened in some respects. In the event of a positive COVID test, it is no longer necessary to quarantine an entire class. Essential staff who are close contacts but have tested negative are now able to return to work sooner than in the past.

Appointments: Victoria Greene - CCS long-tern sub, Dulcie Welch - CHS softball coach, Mackenzie Baker - CHS softball assistant, Blaise Kandiko - CHS track, Kim Cahill -CHS track, Jeff Fowler - CHS boys' tennis, George Carter CCS custodian, Holly Deal - CCS custodian, Rob Peabody - CHS baseball volunteer assistant coach, Dave Ela - CHS baseball volunteer

Resignations: Kayla Oliver - CHS custodian, Peter Turcotte - CHS custodian

Admin Reports: 1.) Jean Butler discussed CARES Act funding. Funds will be used to improve ventilation, add classroom spaces, and add teachers if needed due to CDC requirements around spacing. She said more, but the audio quality was, at times, a bit of a challenge. 2.) Mr. Twitchell said that work is being done to get the Teacher Certification Handbook aligned with new state law which will take effect in September. He hopes to present the revised handbook at the May meeting, and the intent is that the board will vote on the changes in June. 3.) Tim Richards spoke about end of the year events at CHS. The goal is to keep things as normal as possible. Graduation will be in-person, and students can bring six family members. There will be a prom, but no slow dancing. At the Honors Banquet, students can bring two guests. At Class Night, students can bring four guests. There is no girls' tennis team. The boys' tennis team will scrimmage today. The CHS baseball and softball teams have their first games on April 15. 4.) CCS Eighth Grade Graduation will be held on June 9, according to Mr. Mahoney. 5.) Scott Hall will be presenting new technology policies to the board in the near future. 6.) Lorie Agren said her staff is getting the fields ready for spring sports. Some ed techs have volunteered to help with raking while they await student arrival in the morning. She said that we have a great team in RSU 74.

Committees: The Finance Committee met on March 3.

Public Participation: No one in the crowd spoke. No one at home called.

To see if the board will vote to add \$125,000 to the RSU 74 capital reserve fund. The board voted to do this. CCS will need a new roof. It will be costly.

Fall Re-Open Plan: The plan remains to be back five days a week in person and no remote option. If CDC guidelines loosen up, it will be business as usual (or at least as usual prior to COVID). If the guidelines remain in place, three new classroom spaces and three teachers will be needed at CHS. Sixth grade students will remain at GS and Solon, allowing the 7th and 8th grade to space out more at CCS. Two teachers would be needed, one for the Solon sixth grade and one for the GS sixth grade.

Budget Discussion: As mentioned previously, Mr. Tracy stated he believed the proposed budget was responsible. The financial condition of the district is good enough that substantial carryover money can be used to bring down the increase to taxpayers. Mr. Tracy went through the entire budget document, giving a rationale for areas of increase and decrease in the various cost centers. Ultimately, the proposed budget came in at a decrease of (approximately) \$70,000 to taxpayers. A motion was made to accept the budget as written. The board voted 10-1 to accept the budget. There will be a community Zoom on April 28.

The meeting ended about 8:00 pm. The next board meeting will be held on May 5.

New Portland Community Library

Hello New Portlanders!

We would like to update everyone that our board meetings have been moved to the second Saturday of each month starting at 9:00 am. Please join us to learn more about the library or if you are considering volunteering for an organization and would like to learn more about the community library.

This month is all about fundraisers! First, congratulations to Dean Schubert on his win of the Easter Baskets! The library staff and board members also send out a special thank you for donations received from several of our patrons over the past month. Mother's Day: We have a beautiful silk flower arrangement and tumbler raffle available, \$1.00 per ticket or \$5.00 for six tickets. The drawing will take place on May 8. Memorial Weekend: The Happy Horseshoe Campground is graciously allowing us to hold our annual Chinese auction fundraiser! For this much loved and anticipated event, we have already received many wonderful donations for your viewing and chance-taking pleasure! We hope to see as many of you as possible there. Also, if you are spring cleaning and have some items you would like to donate, please contact us!

June 8: Ah June, summer begins. What better way to celebrate than stocking up at our Annual Plant, Bake, and Book sale beginning at 9:00 am at the NPCL. Just think, a little planting to sooth your soul, then a little snack and good read to completely unwind from the world! October 2021: Plans are beginning for a cookbook. We would love to receive your special recipes to share with our community. Submissions may be dropped off at the library, mailed, or, e-mailed.

Also a note of interest, we have received a large donation of Clive Cussler books which can be found for sale in our used book room!

Our hours are currently Tuesday and Saturday 8:30 am to noon and Sunday 1:00 – 3:00 pm. Please note, beginning in June, the library will be open Thursday afternoons and will be closed on Sunday. As always, please feel free to reach out with any questions or comments to help us serve you and our community better. Our contact information as always, phone 207-628-6561, e-mail newportlandcl@gmail.com, via Facebook and of course, in person.

Hope to see you all soon!

Submitted by Becky Knowles-Redlevske

New Portland Churches

New Portland Community Church News for May 2021: April was certainly a lovely month and spring has definitely arrived. The grass is green, the trees are budding and flowers are starting to bloom. Sunday services for the New Portland Church are still being held remotely, but there is light at the end of the tunnel as more of the community get vaccinated. After discussions during our April session meeting people are feeling more comfortable with the idea of meeting for worship in person and are looking forward to gathering in the large sanctuary of the church as the weather gets warmer. In the meantime, worship services and bible studies will continue at the ZOOM locations listed below. up an Easter Basket on a rainy Palm Sunday afternoon. We hope they were enjoyed. Easter week services on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday were well attended. The Zoom service on Easter Sunday was a joyful event with special music by various members of the New Portland/ Fairbanks church community. A big thanks to everyone who participated and made the service so special.

A reminder that applications for the MATE housing ministry to help with needed repairs on your home can be found at www.missionattheeastward.org Also, applications can be picked up at the town office.

Here is the link for the weekly worship services held at 10:00 am on Sunday morning: https://us02web.zoom. us/j/87009696278 The worship service is also, usually, streamed live on the Fairbanks Union Church Facebook page.

The link to Journey of Faith Bible Study which is held on Tuesdays at 4:00 pm is: https://us02web.zoom. us/j/85809422311

Attending Zoom meetings on your device will require you to download the Zoom app. The link will instruct you on how to do this. It doesn't take much time or space. If you prefer, the links can be emailed or text messaged to your phone. Please call Nan Berry at (207)-628-6061 or Judi Batchelder at (207)-858-3628 and we can set you up.

If you would like to receive a text version of the Sunday sermon and other weekly reflections from Rev. Thea via US mail or email please call Nan Berry or Judi Batchelder at the numbers above to be added to the mailing list.

Respectfully ...

Submitted: Nan Berry

"Foods That Boost Immunity"

Nutrition/cooking class at New Portland Community Library

Sunday, May 2, 4:00-5:30 pm

Recipe demonstrations, heavy sampling.

Learn which foods to eat for a healthy GUT, which is the gateway to your immune system. \$20/person or \$35/two people; cash at library or contact instructor for Venmo or PayPal: Beth Perera 802/342-2946 or beth.perera@gmail.com. ALL PROCEEDS beyond the cost of materials/food goes to the library. RSVP required by May 1.

"Food is Medicine"

FREE presentation; approximately one hour + Q & A Sunday, May 16, 4:00 – 5:30 pm at NPCL

Learn much of what your doctor never learned in medical school about how what we eat contributes to either great health or debilitating disease.

Space is limited, so please RSVP by May 15. Donations to the library are welcome.

Contact presenter: Beth Perera 802/342-2946 or beth.perera@gmail.com

Submitted: Beth Perera

Thanks to everyone who dropped by the church to pick



MATE Housing Ministry A Program of Mission at the Eastward

Headquartered at the Fairbanks Union 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. <u>Wherever possible, we ask homeowners and families to participate in the work and its cost</u>. 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, WMCA and RCAM in Leeds also have similar programs that cover the other towns not listed above.

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-Housing Ministry 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 & MHM] satisfaction.

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

Mission at the Eastward (MATE) MATE Housing Ministry							
	2021 Application for the Community Summer Housing Program Application Deadline: <u>April 30, 2021</u>						
Name:	Phone:						
E-mail address: _							
Street Address: _							
Town:	Zip Code:						
	e & land; Home only;Have a mortgage;Mortgage with other than a bank of of ownership or a letter from the mortgage -owner that we can go ahead with the work ratement).						
Are you current c	on property tax payments? Y or N Is there a lien on your home? Y or N						
A member of the or veteran]	household is: Elderly; Disabled;Single Parent; Military Service [active						
Total number of p	people living in my home: (Ages: up to 18 19 to 59 60+)						
	annual income: Less than \$10,000 \$10,000 to \$15,000 20,000 Above \$20,000						
Have MATE work	ked on your home in the past? Yes No						
What was done?							
Are you, or will yo	ou be able and willing to help volunteer for some of our projects? Yes No						
Please list the wo	ork you need:						
	ontribute toward the cost of materials:Yes;No;\$ (able to contribute)						
Where did you ol	otain this application?						

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We are connected with a variety of other services in the community in the event you may need other help. If there is more that you need help with, and are interested, we are attaching a list of all possible agencies to assist you in the area. If you would like us to assist you in making contact, please indicate this on your application, and the agency you would like us to reach out to.

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 MHM and is held in strict confidence. www.missionattheeastward.org



The New Portlander

Established July 1994 901 River Road New Portland, Maine 04961 BULK RATE US POSTAGE **PAID** New Portland, ME Permit No. 1

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MAY 2021 MAY 2021 NEW PORTLANDER CALENDAR							