



NEW PORTLANDER

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DOUG KERR PHOTO

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

PUBLICATION VOLUME 28 • NUMBER 9 • MARCH 1, 2022

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: Stacie Rundlett

Email newportlandtownmanager@gmail.com

Deputy Town Manager/Deputy Town Clerk: Mallory Stratton

Email newportlandclerk@gmail.com

Office hours: Same as the Town office hours

Town Clerk: Jianna Pinkham

Email newportlandclerk@gmail.com

Office hours: By appointment

LPI: Leo Mayo - 566-7341

Assessor's Agent: Audra Swanson

Wednesday 10am - 3pm

Email newportlandassessor@gmail.com

Fire Department: Chief Kip Poulin

Animal Control Officer: Dillon Wellman - 207-405-1134

Town Manager

Municipal Election Date: Friday, March 4, 2022

Polls Open / Close: 10:00 am - 6:00 pm Location: 911 River Road in the Community Room at the Fire Station

Board of Selectmen - Three Year Term - Raymond Poulin

RSU #74 School Board Member - Three Year Term -

Write-In

RSU #74 School Board Member - One Year Term - Write-In

The New Portland Annual Town Meeting will be held in the Fire Station at 911 River Road at 9:00 am on Saturday, March 5. You can find copies of the annual Town Meeting Warrant at the Post Office, Community Library, Town Office and on the town's website; newportlandmaine.org

Submitted: Stacie Rundlett, Town Manager

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 Saturday of the month 9am

• 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

Tuesday 8am - 12pm

2nd and 4th Wednesday 3pm - 6pm

Thursday 3pm - 6pm

Saturday 8am - 12pm

• 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

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes for January 4, 2022

Roster - Selectmen: Raymond Poulin, Tina Poulin, Wayne Rundlett; Town Manager: Stacie Rundlett, Garrett Oswald, Tiffany Silva, Kip Poulin, Brian Rundlett

1. Raymond called the meeting to order at 6:28 pm.
2. The Board reviewed the minutes from previous meeting. Tina motioned to accept the minutes as written. Wayne seconded and all were in favor.
3. Old Business: There was a brief discussion regarding creating ordinances for marijuana facilities and solar farms. No decisions were made.
4. Items by the Public: There was a discussion regarding accuracy of the minutes and what was printed in the *New Portlanders*.
5. Department Heads: Kip shared with the Board his concerns regarding discontinued roads and it might be more beneficial to the public to have better signage for roads that do not get properly maintained. There were two recent calls dealing with this. He briefed the Board on the low call volume.

6. Items by the Town Manager:
 - a. The Board reviewed and signed payroll, A/P warrants.
 - b. The Board reviewed the 2022 budget figures. Stacie would update the spreadsheets and provide copies to the Budget Committee.
7. Items by the Board of Selectmen: Raymond discussed with everyone in attendance the status of the town's sand and currently we have used 40 to 45 %. There was a discussion regarding ARPA funds to be used for a new repeater for the Fire Department. A Public Hearing was scheduled for January 17th at 6:30 pm.

Wayne motioned to adjourn the meeting, Tina seconded and all were in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 7:28 pm.

These minutes were approved by the Board of Selectmen on February 1, 2022. smr

Submitted: Stacie Rundlett

New Portland Community Library

Hello All, Thank you all for your visits and hope you are enjoying the new arrivals as well as old favorites. We will be hosting a "Bake and Book" fundraiser on Saturday March 19 from 9:00 am through 2:00 pm. At the sale we will also be selling used dvds, some classic books (great for gifts, in pristine condition), and there will be some games. DVDs and games by donation as are the baked goods and books. Classic books for sale at \$20. It's a great way to bust out from cabin fever, enjoy good company and find treats for yourself, your families, and friends. We look forward to seeing you!

Our hours of operation are Tuesday 8:00 am – 12:00 pm; second and fourth Wednesday 3:00 pm – 6:00 pm, Thursday 3:00 pm – 6:00 pm, and Saturday 8:00 am – 12:00 pm. Please reach out if you would like to place any orders either from our stock or the lending program. Our contact information: phone 207-628-6561, e-mail newportlandcl@gmail.com, or via Facebook. Even though we are hoping for spring weather to avoid frustration, please be advised to call ahead during times of inclement weather should closing be deemed necessary for safety. Respectfully...

Submitted: Becky Knowles Redlevske

RSU 74 / School Board

The February school board meeting was held at Carrabec Community School.

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes: The minutes of the January 5 board meeting were approved.

Student Presentation: Cali, a fifth grade student at GS, spoke to the board. She said a lot of her classmates are interested in theater and performing. She encouraged the board to add performing arts to the middle school. Mr. Tracy indicated that a 6-12 performing arts position will be in the 2022-2023 budget proposal.

Superintendent Report: 1.) Mr. Tracy told the board that teacher representatives had met with board representatives the night before to discuss synchronous learning. He said that the meeting had gone well. The remote learning handbook will be tweaked, as there are some issues to work through. 2.) He discussed the three recent remote days. 3.) Mr. Tracy commended Heidi Day for her work with DOE. She has her students using heart monitors in phys ed class. 4.) RSU 74 administrators will attend the UMF job fair in early March. 5.) Budget meetings will begin in March.

Appointment: Kathryn Shea-Stocking to the After School Program

Resignation: Paul Thompson from CHS Science

Nomination: Valerie Pinkham to GS pre-k. She has resigned her position on the school board and will start in the pre-k role as soon as possible.

Admin Reports: 1.) Lorie Agren reported a recent incident where a school bus was hit by a plow truck. There were no injuries. The CHS electric bill has doubled. Snow has been removed from the roofs. It is hoped the work to replace the CHS windows and doors will begin in late March or early April. The district is advertising for a permanent sub driver/custodian. 2.) Jean Butler discussed Pender Makin's visit to Solon. The Commissioner of Education was there to kick off the Read to Me Challenge. She read to Mrs. Currie's students. She also served lunch to the k-5 students. Jean also thanked Solon community member Tom Roderick for plowing under the classroom windows. 3.) Brian Twitchell discussed the recent Early Release Day. He told the board the purpose of the day was to allow teachers to talk with the teachers in the grade levels a year above them and a year below them. Math and science standards and materials are being reviewed. In March, three students each in grades 3-6 will be able to attend Maine Discovery Day at UMF. Mr. Twitchell is planning

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.

to read to students at GS, Solon, and CCS. He will read a book written by his daughter, who will be visiting schools to talk with students about the writing process. 4.) Mr. Mahoney was not present, but Mr. Tracy addressed a couple items that had been in his report. Tracy mentioned Mrs. Theberge and the 100 Mile Club, and he also said the CCS WinterKids snowman making contest had been a success. Board member Larry Dunphy praised Mr. Rothert for having students deliver the morning announcements via video, and he commended Joyce Flanagan for starting an after school Chess Club. 5.) Scott Hall had nothing to add to his report, but a board member asked for an update of how synchronous learning had been going. No tech issues had been reported from the school side. 6.) The board chair briefly reported on the recent meeting between teacher and board reps regarding synchronous learning. He stated he feels everyone has made a good effort to make this be successful.

Committees: 1.) The Buildings and Grounds Committee met on Jan 12. They discussed projects, staffing, the CCS curtain, heat in the shop, oil tanks, CCS gym lights, placing tar to the new CCS playground area, a new bus request, Solon playground mowing, and CCS roof repair. 2.) The Academic Committee met on Jan 19. They discussed mid-year data. They are considering adding an end of year data review. They plan to spend \$13,900 on Mystery Science. The work of the data interventionists was also a topic. 3.) The board's negotiating team met on Jan 19 and Jan 25 regarding the proposed ESP contract.

Public Participation: No one spoke.

Budget Timeline: It was approved. It will be similar to past years with March budget meetings, the budget hearing, and a referendum vote.

2022-2023 Calendar: The calendar was approved.

2022-2025 Support Staff Contract: The contract was approved. The vote was unanimous.

Hiring of Engineer/Architect to perform the necessary work to bid for a new roof on the CCS building. This was approved.

Adjourn: The meeting ended at 7:42.

The next board meeting will be held on March 2.

Submitted: David Ela, President, Carrabec Educational Association

New Portland Churches

The Western Mountains Baptist Church at 928 Carrabasset Road (RT.27) continues to meet every Sunday morning. If you are looking for a church home or are just curious, consider visiting WMBC any Sunday or check out what is happening during the week by looking at the calendar on the WMBC website: westernmountainschurch.org, or show up any Sunday at 10:00 am. There will be people to welcome you and answer questions you may have. While there, pick up a quarterly newsletter, a Daily Bread Devotional or enjoy a cup of coffee. Feel free to bring a friend; everyone is welcome.

Before the 10:00 am service, there is Sunday School at 9:00

am. Everyone uses the same curriculum titled "The Gospel Project". Gospel means "good news". This study shows how all 66 books of the Bible from Genesis to Revelation is "one big story" of good news that all point to Jesus at the center. The cool part about this study is that we are all studying the same section of the Bible and have a class for all ages (except nursery age) so families or households can discuss what they are learning at home during the week. Dean Stanley teaches the adult class; Annette Stanley teaches preschool to third grade; Betsy DuBois and BJ Smith teach fourth to sixth grade; and Jim Cockerham teaches seventh through twelfth grade students. Come join us, Sunday mornings at 9:00 am.

A reminder about "Bridging the Gap". The fourth Saturday of each month volunteers prepare hot meals at the church, and then they are delivered throughout New Portland, Lexington, Kingfield, Freeman Township and Salem Township. If you know of anyone elderly (or homebound) who is interested in receiving a monthly free hot lunch, please call Cathy at 678-2442 or leave a message at the church, 265-2557. Email is also an option: westernmountainbaptist@tds.net

If you have a prayer request or would like to talk with the pastor at WMBC, Pastor Tom can be reached by email: pastorwmbc@gmail.com, phone/text 557-3802, or call the church at 265-2557. Regular office hours are held on Thursdays, 9:00 am – 3:00 pm.

Submitted: Crystal Fitch

Wire Bridge Sno-Travelers

The February 2022 meeting of the Wire Bridge Sno-Travelers was called to order with nine members present. The Secretary and Treasurer's reports were read and accepted.

TRAIL MASTER: The trail master reported both groomers had around 100 hours of grooming time so far. The trails are in very good shape. A big thanks to the people who groom the trails and to those who have been out brushing and signing the trails.

OLD BUSINESS: The electronic card swipe machine has been purchased and will be ready to be used soon.

NEW BUSINESS: A discussion was held about the possibility of purchasing a brush cutter that can be attached to the drags. The general consensus was that the brush cutter was needed and would be a benefit to have. A motion was made, seconded, and accepted to have one of our members research brush drags and bring back information to the next club meeting.

A member mentioned we have several groups of people using our trails. So be aware that around any corner you might meet a biker, cross-country skier, snowshoer, or someone walking.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 pm. Our next meeting will be Saturday, March 12, starting at 6:30 pm. Hope to see you there.

Submitted: Joyce Knowles



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						
MARCH 2022						
DOUG KEHR PHOTO						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		NPCL 8:30 am - noon Selectmen's Meeting 6:30 pm	School Board Meeting 6:30 pm CCS Planning Board Meeting 6:30 pm	NPCL 3:00 - 6:00 pm Recreation Committee Community Room 6:30 pm	Municipal Election 10:00 am - 6:00 pm Community Room, Fire Station	NPCL 8:30 am - noon Annual Town Meeting 9:00 am Fire Station Town Office Closed
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
NPCL Service 11:00 am 9:00 am ZOOM/Facebook WMBC Services 10:00 am	NPCL 8:30 am - noon Fire Department Meeting 6:30 pm	NPCL 8:30 am - noon Fire Department Meeting 6:30 pm	NPCL 3:00 - 6:00 pm Water District Meeting 6:30 pm	NPCL 3:00 - 6:00 pm	NPCL 8:30 am - noon Community Room 6:30 pm Sno-Travelers	NPCL 8:30 am - noon Community Room 6:30 pm
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
NPCL Service 11:00 am 9:00 am ZOOM/Facebook WMBC Services 10:00 am		NPCL 8:30 am - noon		NPCL 3:00 - 6:00 pm		NPCL 8:30 am - noon
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
NPCL Service 11:00 am 9:00 am ZOOM/Facebook WMBC Services 10:00 am Deadline for New Portlander Submissions 4:00 pm	Selectmen's Meeting 6:30 pm	NPCL 8:30 am - noon Fire Department Meeting 6:30 pm	NPCL 3:00 - 6:00 pm	NPCL 3:00 - 6:00 pm		NPCL 8:30 am - noon
27	28	29	30	31		
NPCL Service 11:00 am 9:00 am ZOOM/Facebook WMBC Services 10:00 am		NPCL 8:30 am - noon		NPCL 3:00 - 6:00 pm		