



NEW PORTLANDER

INFORMATION IS THE CURRENCY OF DEMOCRACY — THOMAS JEFFERSON

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

DOUG KERR PHOTO

E-mail: nwprtInd@tds.net | Mailing Address: Town of New Portland, 901 River Road, New Portland, Maine 04961
Visit the Town of New Portland's web page at newportlandmaine.org

PUBLICATION VOLUME 28 • NUMBER 12 • JUNE 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 townofnewportland@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 - 2pm

Email newportlandassessor@gmail.com

Fire Department: Chief Kip Poulin

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

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

Town Manager

The Town Office would like to publicly thank Janet White for maintaining the flower beds at the Town Office. They always look very nice thanks to her time and effort.

We would like to let the taxpayers know over the next few weeks you may see the town's assessor, Audra Swanson, show up at your property for a site visit. This is a routine visit. She will be in a white Toyota Tundra with a patriotic flag bug shield on the hood. She leaves a card to the locations that she does visit just to communicate with the public she was at their property. If you wish to schedule a specific time for her to come to your property, please contact the office at 207-628-4441, and we will set that up for you. If you have any other questions, feel free to reach out to us at the office; we will do our best to answer them for you.

Submitted: Stacie Rundlett, Town Manager

Selectmen

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes for April 18, 2022

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

1. Raymond called the meeting to order at 6:28 pm.
2. The Board reviewed minutes from previous meeting. Wayne motioned to accept the minutes as written. Raymond seconded and all were in favor.
3. Old Business: There was a brief discussion regarding draft ordinances. Stacie will update the Board when a draft comes back from the attorney's office.
4. Items by the Public: None
5. Department Heads: None
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.
7. Items by the Board of Selectmen: Stacie discussed with the Board she would email them Audra's work logs which were turned in.
Adjourn the meeting.

These minutes were approved by the Board at the May 3 meeting. Smr

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes for May 3, 2022

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

1. Raymond called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.
2. The Board reviewed the minutes from the previous meeting. Tina motioned to accept them as written, Wayne seconded and all were in favor.
3. Old Business: There was a brief discussion regarding a quote for a new repeater. None had been received yet.
4. Items by the Public: None
5. Department Heads: Kip undated the Board on revenue received. He also discussed with them repairs to be done on Tanker 1. There were discussions on a quote for a new hose rack.
6. Items by the Town Manager:
 - a. The Board reviewed and signed payroll, A/P warrants
7. Items by the Board of Selectmen-None
Adjourn the meeting.

These minutes were approved by the Board at the May 16 meeting. smr

Submitted: Stacie Rundlett

RSU 74 / School Board

The May board meeting was held at Carrabec Community School on May 4. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Adjustments to the Agenda: An appointment and a nomination were added to the agenda, as was one additional agenda item which dealt with policy updates.

Minutes: The minutes of the April 6 board meeting were approved.

Presentation: Mr. Twitchell introduced the board members to the Virtual Reality Goggles. They visited the Great Wall of China, along with several other locations.

Superintendent Report: 1.) As of Wednesday evening, Mr. Tracy had met with town officials in New Portland, Anson, and Solon regarding the proposed 2022-23 budget. He was

planning to travel to Embden on Thursday. The only notable additions to the budget included a performing arts position at CHS, increases in utility costs, and cost of living increases. The annual budget meeting will be held on May 26. 2.) Transition meetings to prepare for the students who will be moving from pre-K to K are going well. 3.) Mr. Tracy shared failure data with the board, comparing the failure rates at the end of the third quarter in 2021, and at the end of the third quarter in 2022. Overall the trend was positive, showing a reduction in the failure rate from where it was a year ago. However, the cohort of students who were fifth grade in 2021 and sixth grade now drew some attention. None were failing a year ago as fifth graders, but as current sixth graders quite a few are. Mr. Tracy gave several reasons which might explain the difference over the course of one year: The move from fifth to sixth (three schools vs. one school) can be a challenge for some. The grade scale changes from fifth to sixth (60 is passing in fifth grade vs. 70 in sixth grade). As students progress up in years, expectations and/or rigor increase, and this may lead to higher failure rates. 4.) Mr. Tracy addressed the ongoing discussions about restructuring. The staff restructure committee met with the superintendent on May 2. He praised the committee members for their professional and thoughtful approach. He said that he is thankful for their input. The board's restructure committee will meet on May 11. 5.) After Mr. Tracy's remarks, board members asked questions about whether students are getting enough needed support and services in the area of mental health. Another board member had a question about the district's policy manual. Questions were also asked about the possibility of utilizing grant money to upgrade the CHS track, and also how 6-12 summer school will operate.

Appointments:

Robert Lightbody - CCS baseball, Jessi Hall - CHS guidance secretary/registrar, Samantha Taylor - CHS performing arts/music teacher, Terri Hoops - preK-5 summer school, Heather Austin - summer school, Jessie Cates - summer school, Amanda DeLeonardis - summer school, Jennifer Hebert - summer school, Mary Keenan - summer school, Desiraeh Ladd - summer school, Billie Lawrence - summer school, Brenda Mullin - summer school, Laurie Nile - summer school, Aimie Pomerleau - summer school, Jenney Rollins - summer school, Danielle Schinzel - summer school, Aaron Welch - summer school, Alicia Bedard - CCS Tier 3 team, Alethea Schanz - CCS Tier 3 team, Lesa Weggler - CCS Tier 3 team, Brian Twitchell - CCS Tier 3 team and data coordinator.

Resignation: Pat Jarvis - CHS Guidance Secretary/Registrar

Admin Reports: Jean Butler told board members that their place settings were created by Jen Lachance and Cindy Currie's students. Preparations have begun for end of the year events at the elementary schools. NWEA testing has begun. According

Wire Bridge Sno-Travelers

The next meeting will be October 8 starting at 6:30 pm.

NEW PORTLANDER article submission deadline is June 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 Grace Cram, there were 99 IEP students in the district on October 1. Since that time, many students have moved to RSU 74, and the current count is 119. Despite the increased count, no additional funds come from the state. Every five years, school districts undergo a special ed audit. RSU 74's special ed audit will begin on May 31. In addition to the counselors employed by RSU 74 to help students, the district has a contract with Maine Behavioral Health, so that more students can receive needed services. Grace described Maine Behavioral Health as being a great asset. Scott Hall discussed the start of NWEA testing, and explained to the board that NWEA is the new MEA. Keith Mahoney said the CCS Tier 3 Grant was approved. This will bring an additional \$35,000 to help improve in the areas of math, literacy and behavior. 35 CHS students will attend SCTC next year, according to Tim Richards. Lorie Agren said new doors are being installed at CHS. Roof bids for the CCS roof will be in by May 10. There will be a special board meeting on May 18 to address the bids. Work is being done on the fields: mowing, lining, etc. Board members asked questions about bleachers at the tennis court, a dumpster, and a fence for the jr. high baseball dugouts. Student board rep/CHS senior Trinity Slate praised the improved atmosphere at CHS.

Committees: The Policy Committee met on April 27, and the Restructure Committee will meet on May 11.

Public Participation: No one spoke.

Probationary Teachers Moving to Continuing Contract (all were approved): Bruce Dostie, Keith Holland, Angela Larlee, Melody Rich, Lindsay Burke-Cinsov, Taylor Savage, Jill Shelley.

Year One Probationary Teachers Moving to Year Two Status: (all were approved): Heather Austin, Suther Bickford, Amanda DeLeonardis, Paul Kaplan, Rachel Layman, D'Ann Luce, Valerie Pinkham, Jerzee Rugh, Billie Lawrence,

Policies: The board approved updates to policies ADC and BBAA.

Strategic Planning: The district is on course to through another round of Strategic Planning/goal-setting. This was last done in the summer/fall of 2018.

Budget Warrants: The budget warrants were signed.

Adjournment: When the meeting ended, I sought out the refreshments. There were some very good brownies.

The next regular board meeting will be June 1.

Submitted: David Ela, President, Carrabec Educational Association

New Portland Community Library

The library is ready for the summer season, let's have some fun! First, if you are reading this prior to Memorial Weekend, we hope to see you on Saturday May 28 at the Happy Horseshoe for our annual Chinese Auction. We have awesome items from several businesses and artisans along with a fun selection of donated items for all ages. We will start selling tickets at 10:00 am and begin drawing at 11:00 am. The auction tickets will be ten tickets for \$5.00, we will also have high end raffle items with tickets at \$1.00 each or six for \$5.00,

and of course, a 50/50 raffle. If this edition has been delivered after the weekend, we would like to extend thanks to all who attended, we appreciate your support! Of course, we thank the Pinkham's and all of the Happy Horseshoe family for all their support!

Missed the auction? Our annual FUN-raiser Plant, Bake, Book, and DVD sale will be held on Saturday June 4 from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm at the library located at 899 River Road, New Portland. We will have plants of all kinds donated by our patrons and of course, Atwood's Greenhouse. A great selection of yummy homemade baked goods. Of course, books for summer reading and DVD's for watching when it's too hot to move. We are so grateful to the Atwood family, all who donate their yummy treats, and all who come out to support us!

We still have an amazing selection of beautifully bound classics for \$20.00 each; Dad may enjoy being spoiled with one of these awesome beauties!

If you are unable to attend one of our events but wish to make a contribution, please be advised we are a 501(c)3 non-profit entity. Your tax deductible contributions may be either dropped off at the library or mailed to: New Portland Community Library, 899 River Rd, New Portland, ME 04961.

We hope when you come to visit us at one of events or browsing our shelves you bring a recipe for our upcoming cookbook. It would be great to offer a wide variety and sharing the favorites of our surrounding communities.

As always, our contact information is: phone 207-628-6561, e-mail newportlandcl@gmail.com, or via Facebook and our hours of operation are: Tuesday's 8:00 am – 12:00 pm; second and fourth Wednesday's 3:00 pm – 6:00 pm, Thursday's 3:00 pm – 6:00 pm, and Saturday's 8:00 am – 12:00 pm. Thank you and have a wonderful June,

Submitted by: Becky Knowles-Redlevske, Secretary

Lexington / Highland Historical Society

The Lexington / Highland Historical Society House Museum will be open each Friday and Saturday in June from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. The following activities will take place during the month of June. June 3, film: *The Maine Frontier through the Lens of Issac Simpson* at 1:30 pm, and this will be repeated on June 4 at 10:30 am. June 10 and June 11, the copier will be available bring your photos to copy for family history albums. June 17 there will be a presentation on the appreciation of the art of Andrew Wyeth at 10:30, and this will be repeated June 18 at 1:30 pm. June 24 10:30 am an exhibition with Wendy Northup quilt making and quilt exhibition; this will be repeated on June 25 at 1:30 pm.

Submitted: Emmons Pinkham

New Portland Churches

New Portland Community Church News June 2022: Summer is fast arriving. The gardens are in and the grass has been growing at an unbelievable rate! Summertime always brings a return to services held in the large nave of the North Village Church. There are so many memories and so much witnessed in over 150 years of worship in this space. The seasons change, marriages, baptisms, funerals and family events attest to the march of time, all have been seen in this worshipful space.

We have been trying to return to some kind of normal, and in a recent meeting discussed our community suppers (and the possibility of community lunches, breakfasts and other gatherings) but have come to the conclusion with the current surge in Covid 19 mutations we should put off large, enclosed gatherings until further notice. We care too much about our community to expose them to this potential hazard. Maybe later in the year?

While we consider how to work around 'gathering' limitations, we have developed a survey for the community to weigh in on how the church could be more present and mindful in the community. Please take a moment to fill out the survey, make whatever comments you think would be helpful, and return it to the Town Hall, the Town Library or to a box on the back porch of the church itself.

Sunday services are being held in-person at the New Portland Church. As of May 29, we are meeting in the main church building. We are excited to be returning to the big sanctuary with its historic presence and lovely acoustics. Please join us for coffee hour at 10:30 am, worship starts at 11:00 am (unless otherwise stated below).

List of those preaching for the month of June: May 29, 10:00 am Supersunday Service. Participatory joint service with Fairbanks Union Church; June 5, Rev. Dick Waddell; June 12, Rev. Stan Wheeler; June 19, Paster MaryEllen Royce; June 26, Rev. Dick Waddell

Online services are still available through Zoom and Facebook Live at the links below. Please note that the online services are held at 9:00 am. If you have trouble connecting to the service, please contact Nan or Judi at the numbers below.

Here is the link for the weekly worship services held at 9:00 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.

A Zoom link can be emailed or text messaged to your phone. Please call Nan Berry at (207)-682-6061 or Judi Batchelder at (207)-858-3628 and we can set you up. Respectfully...

Submitted: Nan Berry

Excitement is in the air at the Western Mountains Baptist Church as adults and kids gear up for Vacation Bible School, or as some fondly recall, VBS! The church is being decorated and transformed for a week of "Monumental: Celebrating God's Greatness". Children ages three through high school are invited. The fun begins Monday, June 20 and goes all week, including Friday, the 24th, from 9:00 am until noon. VBS

volunteers will welcome each child at the registration table. From there, everyone gathers in the sanctuary for lively fun music and songs. Next children are divided into mixed age groups and will visit various activity stations throughout the morning. Older children (seventh graders to high school), known as crew leaders, will guide the younger ones from one station to the next to ensure no one is left out of the fun and learning. Adults will lead activities such as: Awesome Bible Adventure (lessons from the life of Joseph), Imagination Station (science experiments), Red Rocks Recreation (games), KidVid Cinema (engaging videos) and the Oasis Tastes Snacks (snack time). Quail Trail Preschool is for three and four year olds and any five year old who has not been to kindergarten; they will be included with the larger group for music, songs and snacks. All participants will receive Bible Memory Buddies, a music cd and a t-shirt. There is no charge and parents are welcome to stay and participate along with their child. WMBC welcomes all children to join in on this "Monumental adventure through the colorful canyons and sunbaked trails of the Southwest". Mark your calendars, June 20 - June 24, 9:00 am to noon. To preregister, email your child's name, age and contact info to: westernmountainbaptist@tds.net or just show up the week of June 20. For more information call the church at 265-2557.

To get more information about WMBC visit the website: westernmountainchurch.org. On the website you will find a calendar of events, links to Pastor Tom's sermons on the WMBC YouTube Channel, a list of ministries offered to the community as well as interviews with ministry leaders, the latest WMBC newsletter, complete a private form to request prayer and more. Download "Right Now Media" to gain free access to many Bible teaching videos and Bible studies. Church services are at 10:00 am every Sunday morning. Nursery and Children's Church is available during the service if desired. Sunday School for all ages starts at 9:00 am on Sundays. Come as you are.

Submitted by Crystal Fitch

Note from the Editor

In April I was presented with the Maine 2021 Spirit of America Foundation Award for the editing of the *New Portlander*. In a letter, Shenna Bellows, Secretary of State, stated, "For more than thirty years, the Spirit of America Foundation Tribute is presented in the name of Maine municipalities to local individuals, organizations, and projects for commendable community service. Your commitment to volunteerism is an excellent example of true Maine spirit in giving back to your community." I personally do not believe this organization would not have known of me or the *New Portlander* without someone's input. To that person(s), I would like to say thank you; I also would like to sincerely thank the town of New Portland and its community members for allowing me to serve in this manner.

Submitted: Dallas Landry

WE

NEED

YOUR

HELP

AN IMPROVED CHURCH AND COMMUNITY OUT-REACH SURVEY

The following is a multiple choice survey to help **New Portland Community Church** connect with the community as to their needs, concerns, to converse, and most importantly to LISTEN; then engage. **Please help us by completing the survey and dropping it off in a box in the Town Library Lobby, Town Hall, or on the porch of the New Portland Community Church.** Surveys can also be mailed to: **New Portland Community Church, PO Box 147, New Portland, ME 04961**

OUR OBJECTIVE: To listen to the people in the community, their wants and needs. Also, to help them follow in the footsteps of someone higher than themselves, and to become a better person along the way.

1. What are the biggest problems or needs you see in this community?

Please Circle: Drugs Alcohol Lack of communication Lack of interest

Other. Please list:

2. Why do you think people do not attend church?

Sundays are busy times____ Non believers____ Believe but against church____

3. How would you like to see the church connect to the community?

Please circle:

Discussion Group Offer week day (Sunday School) Ages: 5-10

Offer a place for seniors to meet Offer outside summer night concerts

List other:

4. Please list programs or subject matter that the church could provide for the community.

Please Circle:

Cooking Show Game Nights Drive Thru Breakfasts Free Suppers

Support for Christmas Thanksgiving Baskets Visiting Shut-ins Easter Baskets

Movie Nights Senior Center Other:

5. Would you be interested in evening worship services?

____Yes ____No What nights work best for you:_____ Time:_____

6. If you were looking for a church in the area what kinds of things would you look for?

____A welcoming congregation ____Preaching style ____Church mission
____Reaches out to the community ____A choir ____Relevant sermons
____Offer rides for elderly ____Instrumental music in church

To help our community engage with the church family these are my suggestions:

Please circle your suggestion: **List other suggestions on the back.**

- To Listen rather than tell
- To act on my suggestions
- To engage

Our church is open for group meetings, scouts, and weddings. If interested, call
Marilyn Gorman 207-628-3532 or Dick Salmon 207-628-3631 and ask for a Use of the Building Form.



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						
JUNE 2022						
DOUG KEHR PHOTO						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
NPCC Service 11:00 am 9:00 am ZOOM/Facebook WMBC Services 10:00 am			School Board Meeting 6:30 pm CCS Planning Board Meeting 6:30 pm	Recreation Committee Community Room 6:30 pm NPCL 3:00 - 6:00 pm		Town Office 8:00 am-noon NPCL 8:00 am - noon
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
NPCC Service 11:00 am 9:00 am ZOOM/Facebook WMBC Services 10:00 am		Selectmen's Meeting 6:30 pm NPCL 8:00 am-noon	Water District Meeting 6:30 pm NPCL 3:00 - 6:00 pm	NPCL 3:00 - 6:00 pm		NPCL Trustees Meeting NPCL 8:00 am - noon
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
NPCC Service 11:00 am 9:00 am ZOOM/Facebook WMBC Services 10:00 am		Fire Department Meeting 6:30 pm NPCL 8:00 am-noon		NPCL 3:00 - 6:00 pm		
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
NPCC Service 11:00 am 9:00 am ZOOM/Facebook WMBC Services 10:00 am	Selectmen's Meeting 6:30 pm Deadline for New Portlander Submissions 4:00 pm	NPCL 8:00 am - noon	NPCL 3:00 - 6:00 pm	NPCL 3:00 - 6:00 pm		
26	27	28	29	30		
NPCC Service 11:00 am 9:00 am ZOOM/Facebook WMBC Services 10:00 am		Fire Department Meeting 6:30 pm NPCL 8:00 am - noon		NPCL 3:00 - 6:00 pm		