



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 29 • NUMBER 5 • NOVEMBER 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

Election Day - November 8

Voting will take place at the Community Room at the Fire Station

911 River Road, New Portland, ME 04961

Polls will be open from 8:00 am until 8:00 pm.

If voters have any questions regarding the process, please call the town office. 628.4441

The Town Office will be closed on Wednesday, November 23 and 24 in observance of Thanksgiving.

Selectmen

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes for September 19, 2022

Roster: Selectmen: Raymond Poulin; Tina Poulin (absent); Wayne Rundlett; Stacie Rundlett, Town Manager; Harold Gayne

1. Raymond called the meeting to order at 6:29 pm.
2. The Board of Selectmen reviewed the minutes from the previous meeting. Wayne motioned to accept them as written, Raymond seconded and all were in favor.
3. Old Business: Ordinances - There was a brief discussion regarding the proposed ordinances and the work to the current drafts to be sent off to the town's attorney for review.
4. Items by the Public: Harold Gayne spoke to the Board about becoming a member of the Planning Board. Raymond motioned to appoint Harold to the Planning Board, Wayne seconded and all were in favor.
5. Items by Department Heads: None
6. Items by the Town Manager: The Board reviewed and signed the payroll and A/P warrants.
7. Items by the Board of Selectmen: Raymond discussed the concern regarding trash and debris at one of the turn a rounds on Route 27. He asked Stacie to find a contact number and reach out to someone to try and get it cleaned up.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 6:53 pm.

These minutes were approved by the Board at the October 4 meeting. smr

Submitted: Stacie Rundlett

RSU 74 / School Board

The October board meeting was held at the Embden Community Center.

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Adjustments to the Agenda: Seven appointments were added to the agenda. All were after-school program positions.

Minutes: The minutes of the September 7 board meeting were approved.

Chestnut Trees: Richard Reichenbach and Randall Rothert spoke to the board about chestnut trees. They have 145 chestnuts, and they were interested in planting chestnut trees at all of the RSU 74 schools. The board expressed support for this goal. Mr. Reichenbach and Mr. Rothert will work with Robert Greene to select the best location at each school for the trees to be planted.

Data Presentation: Brian Twitchell, Amanda DeLeonardis, and Barbara Jordan discussed the Intervention process with the board. Mr. Twitchell explained the role of an Instructional Coach, the Interventionists, and Title One Ed Techs. EasyCBM and NWEA were discussed. Mrs. Jordan and Mrs. DeLeonardis described the strategies and materials they use when they are working with students.

Appointments: Bonnie White - Bus Emergency Operator, Candy Lebeau - CCS Yearbook, Mike Stone - CCS Math Coach, Abbie Barker - CCS After-School Program, Brenda Mullin - CCS After-School Program, Jenah Leeman - CCS After-School Program, Desireah Ladd - CCS After-School Program, Jenney Rollins - CCS After-School Program, Mary Keenan - Solon After-School Program, Melody Rich - Solon After-School Program

Superintendent Report: 1.) Mark Campbell recognized Shirley Mellows for being the Staff Spotlight recipient for October. He praised the work she does getting young students interested in reading. He also commended Jean Butler and Jaime Ela for their work in planning the October 7 Workshop Day. He described the workshop as being educational and enjoyable. 2.) Mr. Campbell discussed his goals for 2022-23, and he mentioned communication with board members, academic improvements, attendance, and curriculum work. Board member Eric Ewing suggested that it also made sense for the board's superintendent evaluation committee to set some goals for the superintendent.

Admin Reports: 1.) Robert Greene said all is going well with maintenance/custodial. The work order system has been a success with a roughly 99% rate of positive reviews. Portland Glass will be in the week of October 17. Mr. Greene has met with Mechanical Services to discuss the pellet boilers. Transportation is also going well. Mr. Greene said like all districts, we could use more drivers. The drivers we have are very positive. The buses and vans are being washed frequently. Three buses are currently at O'Connor for repairs. It has been necessary on occasion to borrow a bus from a neighboring district. There have been some student discipline issues on the buses, and there has been one bus expulsion and several suspensions. 2.) Jean Butler said the first month had been a success. The GS and Solon fourth and fifth graders went on a field trip to UMO recently, and the Solon students made an appearance on the WABI news. Her students will be honoring bus drivers in the coming weeks. 3.) Athletic Director Erik Carey praised Robert Greene and his staff. He has attended numerous soccer games both home and away, and the fields in RSU 74 are in the best condition. He commended Peter Campbell for a successful Spirit Week at CHS.

There has not been a CHS golf team this year, but Mr. Carey has regularly taken three CHS students to Diadema, and he said that has been a success. In response to a board member question, he answered there are currently twelve girls on the CHS girls' soccer team. 4.) Peter Campbell said CHS students had a great time during Spirit Week, and the senior class came from behind to win. The Homecoming Dance went well. 97 students attended, and there were no discipline issues. Mr. Campbell attended a soccer game and a math meet the night of the board meeting, and a senior recorded the highest Math Team score ever for a CHS student. He believes the student culture is improving, though there have been some discipline issues, many of them involving vaping. He has asked students to change and will be expecting teachers to change as well, in hopes of bringing students as far along as possible. He has been on some home visits to find students who are no longer enrolled, but once were part of the enrollment. He commended the great job that Foreign Language teacher Terri Hoops is doing. There will be a Dinner Theater performance in November. Mr. Campbell has met with students and teachers to discuss possible changes to the Student Handbook. 6.) Student Representative William Price echoed Mr. Campbell's words, and said Ms. Hoops class is enjoyable. He described her as being energetic and engaging. Foreign Language students at CHS will travel to CCS to work with elementary students in the coming weeks. Students are doing exciting work in art classes. He mentioned the success of the Math Team, and said members of the Student Leadership Council have lots of ideas about how to maintain a positive environment at CHS.

Committees: The policy committee met prior to the board meeting. They will bring some policy changes to the November board meeting. The Buildings/Grounds/Transportation Committee met recently.

Citizens: None spoke.

Flagstaff Lake Trip: This trip was postponed due to inclement weather.

Youth in Maine Government: The board voted to approve the November 11-13 Youth in Maine Government event. Students will learn about government, write bills, debate, vote on bills at the statehouse in Augusta.

New School Bus Bid: The board approved a bid on a new school bus.

To see if the RSU #74 Board will authorize the Director of Operations to work out details for training an RSU 74 employee on preventative maintenance for the bus fleet as well as secure supplies and equipment necessary to perform said maintenance. The board approved.

Adjournment: The meeting ended at 8:01 pm.

Submitted: Dave Ela, Carrabec Teachers Association

New Portland Community Library

Hello. We hope you are enjoying the beautiful, fall weather. The October 8 weekend was fun and successful for us. Thank you for all who supported our sale Saturday, and the Wire Bridge toll bridge on Sunday. It is always fun to converse with old friends, meet new people and enjoy the input and support for our cause. It is with great excitement we announce the number of visitors is now equal to or exceeds pre-pandemic numbers. We are thrilled so many people are venturing out to see us for their entertainment and educational needs.

NEW PORTLANDER article submission deadline is November 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.

The Board of Directors has been working diligently on a number of housekeeping items and thoughts for the future. A major project would be drafting and executing a comprehensive plan for the library. We welcome any input you may have concerning your library needs, the areas you would like to see developed, your opinions on services and event suggestions. Our board and volunteers consist of a small number of dedicated individuals; therefore, we could really use your assistance with this project. Our board meetings are held on the second Saturday of each month at 9:00 am. If you have ideas or experience to share but prefer to remain "low key," please reach out to us by e-mail or a method of your choosing.

Upcoming events: Saturday, December 3 will be the annual Holiday Fair. We will be offering tables in the library and the community room next door. Please contact us to reserve a table for your selling space; tables will be \$15.00. The prizes for our awesome raffles will be drawn at the end of the fair! To refresh your memory *First Prize*: Yeti Tundra cooler with \$100 gift cards to both Mainely Provisions and Mainely Convenience in Kingfield (sponsored by Maine Timber Mats of New Portland). *Second Prize*: 110 Qt. Line-X Truck Gear cooler (sponsored by Hight Ford/Line-X of Skowhegan). *Third Prize*: \$200.00 Gift Card to Hannaford (sponsored by Poland Springs of Kingfield). Finally, *Fourth Prize*: Two 9 Hole Rounds of golf at Diadema Golf, North Anson (sponsored by Diadema Golf of North Anson). It would be fun to win one of these for yourself or to give it as a gift! Many thanks to these wonderful sponsors. Tickets are \$5.00 each or three tickets for \$10.00 and are available at the library or from any of the board members.

Our contact information is phone 207-628-6561, e-mail newportlandcl@gmail.com, or via Facebook. 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.

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

We hope you continue your fun fall adventures and enjoy a happy and healthy Thanksgiving.

Submitted by: Becky Knowles-Redlevske, Secretary

Wire Bridge Sno-Travelers

The first meeting of the 2022-23 Wire Bridge Sno-travelers was called to order by the vice president with 13 members present. The secretary and treasurer's reports were read and accepted.

Trail Master: The trail master reported the grant applications have been sent into the state and have been approved. The groomers' hourly rate will increase with the 2022-23 grants. It was also reported a bridge on the Millay Hill Trail has been repaired and trail markers will be put up in fields soon. In addition to the grants received last season, the club also received a fuel reimbursement check.

Old Business: 1.) A motion was made, seconded, and approved to purchase an Otter Sled to tow behind a snowmobile to carry items needed for trail maintenance. 2.) The new brush cutter has been installed on the groomer and is ready to be used. 3.) A motion was made, seconded, and approved to purchase two storage boxes and to purchase metal stakes for bridge signs.

New Business: 1.) Discussion was held about whether to do a registration for the groomers with Inland Fisheries and Wildlife. It will cost \$35 per groomer, a one-time fee, for as long as we own the groomers. A motion was made, seconded, and approved to pay the fee. 2.) The club voted to pay an annual fee to Maine's Northwestern Mountains free guide which advocates and advertises for businesses, ATV and snowmobile clubs in this area. 3.) A club member expressed

an interest in helping with the maintenance of the groomers. 4.) A motion was made, seconded and approved to pay a club member to use his equipment to destump and derock some trails. 5.) Oil and filters will be purchased for the groomers. 6.) The club liability insurance has been paid.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 pm.

The next meeting will be November 12. It will be held at the Community Meeting Room, starting at 6:30 pm.

Submitted: Joyce Knowles

New Portland Churches

The Western Mountains Baptist Church had a busy October with a Drive-In Movie Night, followed by a Family Game Night the following week. Both events were well attended. Going forward, Family Game Night will be held the second Friday of each month at 6:30pm. Everyone is invited, there is no charge and no age limits. Snacks are always welcomed but not necessary; just come and spend time with friends.

Did you know a group of active seniors meets weekly at WMBC for an exercise class? Strong Bones is a set of strengthening exercises to help older people increase stamina as well as balance. Both men and women attend on Mondays and Thursday mornings at 9:00am. For more information call Georgie at 265-4971 or Jane at 265-2406, or show up.

The Women's Fellowship Ministry is asking for donations for the New Hope Women's Shelter. Donation items for which we are asking include shampoo, soaps, nail polish, and other personal care items. Lap robes, socks, slippers, mittens, gloves and hats are also suggested items to give to the women at the homeless shelter in Solon. For more information about getting involved before the Thanksgiving deadline, call Pat at 684-2158. Or, show up on a second or fourth Tuesday, at 1:00 pm to attend a Women's Fellowship get-together.

A few upcoming events include: 1.) A Thanksgiving potluck dinner on November 20 after the WMBC church service, 11:00ish. Attend the service at 10:00 am, then stay or come at 11:00 am to get a great meal. Everyone is welcome. 2.) Mark your calendar for December 23 at 6:30 pm. A "Christmas Eve Eve" is planned to include a hymn sing, a Christmas message and refreshments.

WMBC holds weekly office hours on Thursdays from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. Drop by to say hello, pick up a WMBC quarterly newsletter, a CD of the Sunday message or a Bread of Life devotional. There is space for quiet time or check out the library. Various activities are held throughout the week. To see what's happening, go to the WMBC website: www.westernmountainschurch.org pastorwmbc@gmail.com. Prayer requests are always welcomed.

Submitted: Crystal Fitch

New Portland Community Church News: It's been a lovely, colorful fall! I hope everyone is ready for what comes next. It's one of my favorite seasons, but I know I'm in the minority when I say a like winter.

Sunday services have now moved to the Joyce Pease Meeting House adjoining the New Portland Church. It's a warm and cozy place to meet and worship. 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 November: Nov 6 – Rev. Stan Wheeler (Communion Sunday), Nov 13 – Rev. Dick Waddell, Nov 20 – Pastor MaryEllen Royce, Nov 27 – Pastor Louise McCleery. At this time we will not be offering a real time Zoom service; a recording of the service should be available to view.

If you are interested in receiving a link to view a recorded service, 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



The New Portlander

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901 River Road
New Portland, Maine 04961

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NEW PORTLANDER CALENDAR NOVEMBER 2022						
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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
6 NPCL Service 11:00 am 9:00 am ZOOM/Facebook WMBC Services 10:00 am	7 Election Day Vote Community Room 8 am - 8 pm Fire Department Meeting 6:30 pm NPCL 8:00 am-noon	8 School Board Meeting 6:30 pm CHS Planning Board Meeting 6:30 pm NPCL 3:00 - 6:00 pm	9 Water District Meeting 6:30 pm NPCL 3:00 - 6:00 pm	10 NPCL 3:00 - 6:00 pm	11 Veterans Day	12 NPCL Trustees 9:00 am 8:00 am - Noon NPCL Sno-Travelers Community Room 6:30 pm
13 NPCL Service 11:00 am 9:00 am ZOOM/Facebook WMBC Services 10:00 am	14	15 NPCL 8:00 am-noon	16	17 NPCL 3:00 - 6:00 pm	18	19 NPCL 8:00 am-noon
20 NPCL Service 11:00 am 9:00 am ZOOM/Facebook WMBC Services 10:00 am Deadline for New Portlander Submissions 4:00 pm	21 Selectmen's Meeting 6:30 pm	22 Fire Department Meeting 6:30 pm NPCL 8:00 am - noon	23 Town Office Closed NPCL 3:00 - 6:00 pm	24 Thanksgiving Town Office Closed	25	26 NPCL 8:00 am-noon
27 NPCL Service 11:00 am 9:00 am ZOOM/Facebook WMBC Services 10:00 am	28	29 NPCL 8:00 am - noon	30			