



NEW PORTLANDER

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DOUG KERR PHOTO

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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

Dog licenses have started for the 2023 year. Please license your dog(s). For a neutered or spayed dog(s), it is \$6.00. For non neutered or spayed dog(s), it is \$11.00. Late fees are imposed after January 31st. If you have any questions, you can contact the town office at (207) 628-4441 or by email at townofnewportland@gmail.com

The Town Office will be CLOSED Monday, January 2 in observance of New Year's Day and Monday, January 16 in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. Also, please note that due to winter hours, the Town Office will not be open on the first Saturday of the month.

Submitted: Stacie Rundlett, Town Manager

RSU 74 / School Board

The December 7 school board meeting was held at Garret Schenck. Board chairman Troy Dunphy noted that it was the 81st anniversary of Pearl Harbor. He spoke about how the nation came together after the attack and seemed to imply that it would be good if something similar were to occur at this time.

Adjustments to the Agenda: Agenda item eight was removed from the agenda.

Minutes: The minutes of the November meeting were approved.

Presentation: There was no presentation this month.

Superintendent Report: Mr. Campbell thanked Jean Butler for the place-settings at the board's table and also for the snacks. (Editorial comment ... The chex mix was outstanding.) Mr. Campbell attended the GS Christmas show on Tuesday, and he commended Jean, her staff, and the students for a great performance. He noted that Lesa Weggler was the recipient of the December Staff Spotlight Award. He said she is involved with SAT and teacher mentoring. Mrs. Weggler models various teaching strategies which help her students learn. Mr. Campbell shared financial info with the board.

Appointments: Kate Cooley - CHS girls JV basketball, Brooke Welch - CCS girls basketball, Jonathan Ladd - custodian, GS

Resignations: Maureen Simpson - custodian, GS; Jonathan Ladd - custodian, GS; Bruce Dostie - CHS math

Admin Reports: 1.) Neither Mr. Greene nor Mrs. Cram had anything to add to their written reports. 2.) Mr. Hall was not present, as he had a family commitment. 3.) Jaime Ela reported that the CCS RTI/behavior committee met last week. The meeting went well and some short term adjustments were made. Green Cobra Stamps are being used to reward k-5 students for good behavior, and Candy and Jenah created a behavior themed bulletin board. Mrs. Ela commended staff members who have decorated classroom doors or other areas of the building as the holidays approach. She was enthusiastic about today's grade 4-12 chorus/band rehearsal at CCS. She said that the kids did a great job, and so did Lindsay Burke and Samantha Taylor in preparing the students. The performance is December 8. 4.) Robert Greene added his crew had done a great job setting up the CCS gym in preparation for the rehearsal and the Thursday performance. 5.) Jean Butler welcomed the board members to Garret Schenck. She said that the candy cups at the board table were prepared by Valerie Pinkham's pre-k students. Students and staff are busy with holiday related activities. She was pleased to be able to host the first Christmas show in three years. 5.) Athletic Director Erik Carey said the CHS boys basketball trip to Aroostook County went well. He thanked Mr. Greene for helping to make the trip possible. The CHS girls' basketball team opens up on Friday, and the boys' basketball team will play its season opener on Saturday. 6.) Peter Campbell said that improving the school culture is still a focus at CHS. He hopes to get large crowds at home sporting events and will offer cash prizes to students who can hit half court shots during halftime. He invited the board members to attend basketball games. He said that the November Dinner Theater performance was a success. Mr. Campbell has been visible in the community, visiting local businesses and running in the Turkey Trot. He answered a question from a board member regarding differentiated instruction.

Student-rep William Price said CHS students are enthusiastic about the winter sports season and Christmas. Bowling practice has begun. William showed a slideshow of recent student activities including the Performing Arts team's meal at Governor's.

Committees: A board committee will meet on Jan 4 to discuss the superintendent's salary and benefits. On Jan 11, the policy committee will meet.

Public Participation: No one spoke.

Policies: Policies AC, ACAA, ACAB, and GCFB were approved for second reading.

Procedures: Procedures ACAA-R and ACAB-R were approved

Policy ACAA: This item was in the agenda, but it was removed from the agenda at the outset of the meeting.

January 2: The school calendar lists Monday, January 2, as a school day. The board voted to change the calendar. After vacation, school will now resume on Tuesday, January 3. The last student day will be on Monday, June 12. After School Nutrition Program: The board opted out of this, as has historically been the practice.

Breakfast After the Bell Requirements: The board opted out of these requirements, as has been recent practice.

Budget Timeline: The board adopted a budget timeline. I did not see the timeline, but if it is similar to the budget timelines from as far back as I can remember, there will be several budget meetings in March. Most usually fall on Wednesdays.

Adjourn: I forgot to check the clock, which I normally do - whoops. I believe, the meeting ended a little bit before 7:00 pm.

Submitted: Dave Ela, Carrabec Teachers Association

A Thank You and an Announcement

On December 7, I was awarded a Spirit of America Award from the County Commissioners for my volunteer work for the Town of New Portland. I would like to thank the Selectmen and Stacie for their nomination and their kind words.

The award reads as follows: "Janet is a former Selectmen who provides much leadership to the Town of New Portland. In addition, she has graciously performed gardening and landscaping for the Town and helps maintain town property out of the goodness of her heart. She makes New Portland's Town Office cheerful and bright, and we are thankful for her work and the time she donates to make New Portland a more beautiful place to be." Thank you again; I am very honored.

I have turned in my nomination papers for the open Selectmen seat. I would like very much to come back to the Board of Selectmen, offering any aid I can to the betterment of our beautiful Town of New Portland. Please vote for me on March 3, 2023. Happy New Year to all.

Submitted: Janet White

NEW PORTLANDER article submission deadline is January 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.

Wire Bridge Sno-Travelers

December Minutes for the Wire Bridge Sno-Travelers: The meeting was called to order with 13 members present. The secretary and treasurer's reports were read and accepted.

Trail Master's Report: 1. The trail master was not present, but it was reported a new bridge had been built and another one needs to have running planks added. 2. Some of the stakes for the bridge number signs have been put up. 3. Both of the groomers have been serviced and are ready to go. One of the drags needs to have some work done and then it will be ready. I guess, all we need now is SNOW!!

The meeting was adjourned at 6:59 pm. With the annual Christmas party held afterwards. One of our members should be donning a much fuller and healthier head of hair by our January meeting.

I would like to thank everyone who helps support our club. Without the willingness of members who volunteer their time and all of the people who join to support our club, we would not be able to have the amazing trails that we all so enjoy riding on.

Happy holidays to all and safe riding.

Our next meeting will be held on Saturday, January 14, starting at 6:30 pm at the New Portland Meeting Room.

Submitted: Joyce Knowles

New Portland Churches

New Portland Church News: By the time the New Portlander rolls off the press and into everyone's mailboxes the holidays will be over, and we will be ready to face the new year, whatever it brings.

At the New Portland Church last month we met on December 18, the fourth Sunday of Advent, for a quiet service with no power or heat at the church. The congregation enjoyed hot chocolate and tea, cookies and wonderful cranberry/orange bread while wearing our coats and hats. It was really very nice. Doug Dunlap led the abbreviated service, and we sang our hymns a cappella. Peaceful and worshipful. We had a Christmas stocking giveaway following the service.

Our warming Wednesdays were not well attended, but December can be a busy month for everyone, and we will see what happens in January. Join us on January 4 and January 18 from 11:00 am – 2:00 pm for conversation, games and puzzles, and a light lunch in a warm and cozy space. With warm and cozy friends and neighbors!

As usual, services are held at 1:00 am in Sunday mornings in the meeting hall of the North New Portland Church. Please join us for coffee hour at 10:30 am.

The list of ministers for the month of January is January 1 - (communion Sunday) - Rev. Stan Wheeler, January 8 - Rev. Stan Wheeler, January 15 - Rev. Dick Waddell, January 22 - TBA

Have a warm and happy January. See you on a Sunday morning! Respectfully...

Submitted: Nan Berry

New Portland Community Library

Happy New Year. We, all the members of the library group, would like to send out sincere thanks to all of our patrons and supporters and hope you had the very best of the holiday season. We have worked very hard this year to raise awareness and funding. We appreciate all of you supporting our cause by donating prizes, baked goods, books and DVDs, and by making purchases and donations. We are also thrilled to report our patron visits have resumed to pre-pandemic levels.

Our recent budget booster raffle was a great success and again we thank our amazing sponsors, purchasers, and winners. Our own Nora West won the grand prize of the Yeti cooler and \$200.00 in gift cards to Mainely Provisions & Mainely Convenience. This package was sponsored by Maine Timber Mats. Stephen Boivin won the 110 Qt. Line-X Truck Gear cooler which was sponsored by Hight Ford/Line-X of Skowhegan. The third prize of a \$200.00 gift card to Hannaford was won by Debbie Brown and was sponsored by Poland Springs, Kingfield Plant. Finally, the fourth prize of two rounds of golf sponsored by Diadema Golf Course of North Anson was won by Tiger Pinkham. Again, we thank you all! We can't wait to see what we can come up with in 2023!

As many know, Joan Moes has been a huge part of the library for some time. However, did you know that she has created a Christmas card each year for a very long time! Joan allowed the library to showcase many of the cards in the library this season. Lolly Phoenix graciously placed the cards for viewing and then came forward with an amazing idea which we fully support. Lolly will be hosting a "show" at the library on Tuesday, January 3 from 1:00 – 3:00 pm. We invite you to view Joan's work which is all about pun-fun. Joan will be attending, please stop in for some fun and a chat.

Please keep in mind we are now running into Maine winter weather. During inclement weather it may be best to call ahead, 628-6561 as your safety and that of our staff is of great importance. If you or someone you know would be interested in cleaning out and sanding our walkway, porch, and gas tank path, please reach out to any of the library staff for information and expectations: Becky Knowles-Redlevske, Secretary; Wenda Spooner, President; Valencia Schubert, Treasurer; Beth Perera, Board Member & Volunteer; Sheila Atwood, Library Director.

Submitted: Becky Knowles-Redlevske



The New Portlander

Established July 1994

901 River Road
New Portland, Maine 04961

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NEW PORTLANDER CALENDAR JANUARY 2023 DOUG KERR PHOTO						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 NPCC Service 11:00 am WM/MBC Service 10:30 am	2 Town Office Closed	3 Selectmen's Meeting 6:30 pm NPCL 8:00 am-noon	4 School Board Meeting 6:30 pm CHS NPCC WarmWednesday 11:00 am - 2:00 pm NPCL 3:00 - 6:00 pm	5 Recreation Committee Community Room 6:30 pm NPCL 3:00 - 6:00 pm	6 NPCL 8:00 am - noon Town Office Closed	7 NPCL 8:00 am - noon NPCL Trustees Meeting 9:00 am NPCL 8:00 am-noon Sno-Travellers 6:30 pm Community Room
8 NPCC Service 11:00 am WM/MBC Service 10:30 am	9 Fire Department Meeting 6:30 pm NPCL 8:00 am-noon	10 Water District Meeting 6:30 pm NPCL 3:00 - 6:00 pm	11 NPCC WarmWednesday 11:00 am - 2:00 pm NPCL 3:00 - 6:00 pm	12 NPCL 3:00 - 6:00 pm	13 NPCL Trustees Meeting 9:00 am NPCL 8:00 am-noon NPCL 8:00 am-noon Sno-Travellers 6:30 pm Community Room	14 NPCL Trustees Meeting 9:00 am NPCL 8:00 am-noon NPCL 8:00 am-noon Sno-Travellers 6:30 pm Community Room
15 NPCC Service 11:00 am WM/MBC Service 10:30 am	16 Town Office Closed Selectmen's Meeting 6:30 pm	17 NPCL 3:00 - 6:00 pm	18 NPCC WarmWednesday 11:00 am - 2:00 pm NPCL 3:00 - 6:00 pm	19 NPCL 3:00 - 6:00 pm	20 Deadline for New Portlander 4:00 pm	21 NPCL Trustees Meeting 9:00 am NPCL 8:00 am-noon NPCL 8:00 am-noon Sno-Travellers 6:30 pm Community Room
22 NPCC Service 11:00 am WM/MBC Service 10:30 am	23 Fire Department Meeting 6:30 pm NPCL 8:00 am - noon	24 NPCL 3:00 - 6:00 pm	25 NPCL 3:00 - 6:00 pm	26 NPCL 3:00 - 6:00 pm	27 NPCL Trustees Meeting 9:00 am NPCL 8:00 am-noon NPCL 8:00 am-noon Sno-Travellers 6:30 pm Community Room	28 NPCL Trustees Meeting 9:00 am NPCL 8:00 am-noon NPCL 8:00 am-noon Sno-Travellers 6:30 pm Community Room
29 NPCC Service 11:00 am WM/MBC Service 10:30 am	30 NPCL 3:00 - 6:00 pm	31 NPCL 3:00 - 6:00 pm				