



# NEW PORTLANDER

INFORMATION IS THE CURRENCY OF DEMOCRACY — THOMAS JEFFERSON

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DOUG KERR PHOTO

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Visit the Town of New Portland's web page at [newportlandmaine.org](http://newportlandmaine.org)

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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](mailto:newportlandtownmanager@gmail.com)

#### Deputy Town Manager/Town Clerk: Mallory Stratton

Email ..... [townofnewportland@gmail.com](mailto:townofnewportland@gmail.com)  
Office hours: Same as the Town office hours

#### LPI: Leo Mayo - 566-7341

#### Assessor's Agent: Audra Swanson

Wednesday..... 10am - 2pm  
Email ..... [newportlandassessor@gmail.com](mailto: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  
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 Municipal Vote will be Friday, March 3 from 10:00 am to 6:00 pm at the Fire Station in the Community Room. New Portland's Annual Town Meeting will be Saturday, March 4 starting at 9:00 am in the Community Room.

You may have seen that the Town Office hours have been TEMPORARILY changed. Please bear with me. This is due to a staffing change which will require me to hire and train a new Deputy Town Manager, who most likely will have absolutely no prior municipal experience. During this time the office will be open an hour earlier 9:00 am to 5:00 pm Monday-Wednesday, but Thursdays hours are slightly shorter being only 4:00 to 6:00 pm. We understand that this may be an inconvenience for some. Contrary to what most might believe, there is a tremendous amount of information to know and retain when working for a municipality. It's clearly not just simply answering phone calls and taking money from customers, it is slightly more complicated than that. And it very well could be a few months before our office hours go back to their normal hours. I am not only doing my work as your Town Manager/ Treasurer/ Tax Collector/ GA, but I'm training someone to do all of those same duties which adds to the everyday workload as one might expect. But the Board of Selectmen and I have worked really hard to keep the office open almost as many hours, and as always, I try to work with anyone's needs even if the office isn't open. One can easily reach out to me, *and* I always try to work with customers, if I can. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact your Board of Selectmen or myself.

Also, keep in mind the Town Office will be CLOSED the week of March 6 through March 9. Unfortunately, this was a planned vacation for myself. If you have just a re-registration to do you can go online to our website, and there is a link to process this on the State's site. Otherwise please plan accordingly. Again, I apologize for any inconvenience. The Town Office will reopen Monday, March 13 at 9:00 am. Respectfully...

*Submitted: Stacie Rundlett, Town Manager*

## NOTICE OF TAX SALE

The Board of Selectmen of New Portland is accepting bids for the purchase of the municipality's interest in New Portland's tax-acquired properties. Each bid must be in writing and in a sealed envelope marked "**Tax Sale Bid**" on the outside. Each bid may be for one property only; any person wishing to bid on several properties must submit a separate bid for each one. The Board of Selectmen must receive all bids no later than **5 o'clock pm on April 4, 2023**. Late bids will not be opened or considered.

Each bid must also include the bidder's name, mailing address and phone number and must be accompanied by a deposit in the form of a certified check or money order in an amount equal to or greater than 10% of the bid price. Each successful bidder's deposit will be credited to the total purchase price for that parcel. Deposits will be returned to the unsuccessful bidders. Any bid, which does not contain the proper deposit, will be rejected.

Bids will be opened, reviewed and awarded by the Selectmen at the Town Office on **April 4th at 6:30 pm**. The Board of Selectmen reserves the right to reject any and all bids. Each successful bidder shall have 30 days from the date of the bid acceptance in which to complete the purchase. Each property will be conveyed by a quitclaim deed without covenants. In the event that a successful bidder fails, for any reason, to complete the purchase in the time stated, the bid acceptance is void and the bidder's deposit shall be forfeited to the Town. The Board of Selectmen may thereafter negotiate a sale of the property with any or all-unsuccessful bidders.

The properties for sale are described on the Towns Tax Maps as:

Map 003 Lot 047 – 25 Bennett Hill Rd. (RE # 1101)

Map 007 Lot 003 – 979 Carrabassett Rd. (RE# 957)

Map 012 Lot 028 – 133 Meadow Brook Rd. (RE#623)

Map 008 Lot 010-003 – Land Only on Carrabassett Rd. (RE#1150)

The tax maps and other public information concerning the properties may be reviewed at the Town Office during its normal business hours, which are Monday through Wednesday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Thursdays 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

*Submitted: Raymond Poulin, Chairman, Board of Selectmen*

## Selectmen

### Selectmen's Meeting Minutes for December 6, 2022

Roster / Selectmen: Raymond Poulin, Tina Poulin (absent), Wayne Rundlett; Town Manager: Stacie Rundlett, Kip Poulin, Brian, Rundlett, James Reinhard

1. Raymond called the meeting to order at 6:37 pm.
2. The Board reviewed the minutes from the previous meeting. Wayne motioned to accept them as written, Raymond seconded and all were in favor.
3. Old Business: None
4. Items by the Public: There was a brief discussion on proposed changes to an ordinance.
5. Department Heads: Kip Poulin updated the Board about his payroll status for 2022. He shared with the Board issues with truck repairs and he was still waiting to hear about repeater resolutions as previously discussed.
6. Items by the Town Manager:
  - a. The Board reviewed and signed the payroll, A/P warrants
  - b. The Board reviewed and signed the Treasurer's Report for October
7. Items by the Board of Selectmen-NONE

Adjourn the meeting at 6:59 pm.

*These minutes were approved by the Board of Selectmen at the January 3 meeting. Smr*

### Selectmen's Meeting Minutes for January 3, 2023

Roster: Selectmen: Raymond Poulin (absent), Tina Poulin, Wayne Rundlett, Town Manager: Stacie Rundlett, Brian Rundlett, Kip Poulin, Janet and Roger White, James Reinhard

1. Wayne called the meeting to order at 6:37 pm.
2. The Board reviewed the minutes from the previous meeting. Tina motioned to accept the minutes as written; Wayne seconded and all were in favor.
3. Old Business: None
4. Items by the Public: None
5. Department Heads: Kip Poulin asked Stacie if she could have Handy Andy look at a leak in the ceiling in his office.

**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.

He shared with the board work done on the trucks. There was a brief discussion regarding repeater tower options. No decisions were made.

6. Items by the Town Manager:
  - a. The Board reviewed and signed the payroll, and A/P warrants.
  - b. Stacie presented a draft budget spreadsheet for the Board of Selectmen

7. Items by the Board of Selectmen-None

Tina motion to adjourn the meeting, Wayne seconded and the meeting was adjourned at 6:58 pm.

*These minutes were approved by the Board of Selectmen at the January 18 meeting. smr*

### Selectmen's Meeting Minutes for January 18, 2023

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

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 the minutes as written, Wayne seconded and all were in favor.
3. Old Business: None
4. Items by the Public: None
5. Department Heads: Kip Poulin updated the Board on truck repairs, discussions regarding roof, discussions regarding repeater tower options.
6. Items by the Town Manager:
  - a. The Board reviewed and signed the payroll, and A/P warrants.
  - b. There was a brief discussion on the properties which had been foreclosed for nonpayment of taxes, no decisions were made
  - c. There was a brief discussion on write-in candidates and hosting a "meet the candidate night". The Board members were in agreement to do this event and Stacie would coordinate a date and time.
  - d. The Board reviewed and signed the November Treasurer's Report.
7. Items by the Board of Selectmen: The Board reviewed the 2023 budget requests and made their recommendations. The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 pm.

*These minutes were approved by the Board of Selectmen at the February 7 meeting. smr*

*Submitted: Stacie Rundlett, Town Manger*

## Citizens Corner

Hello, my name is Janet White . My name is on the up coming ballot for the open selectman's seat, and I am asking you to vote for me.

I have twelve years of experience being a New Portland selectman. While I was a selectman when I wanted to know more about a department or an issue, I went to classes and did a lot of research on the issues. I have been to assessing classes, Maine Department of Transportation classes, leadership classes, grant and ordinance writing classes, and other useful meetings.

I worked on other boards within the county and state, bringing back important information to the New Portland selectmen board. For three years I was also a member of the Maine Municipal Associations Executive Board, that helped New Portland to stay in touch with all the towns in the state.

I am now retired from work and thought I could assist my home town by running for selectmen again. I will once again do my very best for our beautiful town. Listening to all and being fair to all. Please vote for me on March 3. Let's all think spring and wishing all the best.

*Submitted: Janet White*

## RSU 74 / School Board

The February school board meeting was held at CCS. Mrs. Lawrence's fourth grade students created the place settings that adorned the board tables. The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Adjustments to the Agenda: There were none.

*Minutes: The minutes of the January 4 regular board meeting and the January 18 special board meeting were approved.*

Presentation: There was no presentation.

Superintendent Report: 1.) Mr. Campbell noted the cost of electricity at both CCS and CHS had increased by about 50%. He had submitted his report to the board in writing, and he asked the board members if they had any questions or comments about that written report. 2.) Board member Robert Lightbody expressed an interest in having a special board meeting to discuss classroom space issues at CHS. He also thanked the superintendent and administrators for the information they provided about IEP services in their reports.

Nomination: The nomination of Chelsea Cunningham for the vacant CHS math position was approved.

Admin Reports: 1.) Robert Greene updated the board about a recent diesel spill in the CHS metal shop. The DEP

is involved, and the hope is that students can be back in the shop early in the week of February 6. 2.) Scott Hall will learn more about the new state assessment soon, as he will attend a training soon. 3.) Jaime Ela welcomed the board to CCS, and she commended Billie Lawrence and her students for the place-settings which they had created. She noted she was pleased with how students behaved at the Academic Awards assemblies which were held earlier in the week. 4.) Grace Cram and Jean Butler had nothing to add to their reports, and board members did not ask any questions. 5.) Peter Campbell was not present, as he traveled to Boothbay to watch the CHS girls' basketball team defeat Boothbay 57-28. 6.) AD Erik Carey invited board members to attend the Thursday boys' basketball game against Boothbay. The game would also feature a jersey retirement. At the time, the boys' basketball team was in the midst of a long winning streak, and the girls' basketball team has been playing very well.

**Student Report:** Student Board Rep William Price updated the board about what is happening at CHS. The art classes are doing great work. They are creating digital comic books and re-creating famous paintings. The sculpture class is producing interesting creations. Hoodies and pillowcases are being made, and they will be donated to the Solon Women's Shelter. Band and Chorus students are preparing for the spring performance. Performing Arts students will participate in the One Act Play competition, performing *Ghost in the Machine*. Seven or eight students will take the ASVAB test soon. AP Stats students are working hard to master challenging content. Many CHS students would like to see an ice skating area outside CHS. Winter Carnival is coming up, and there is a tentative plan to have four days of academics in the morning, followed by outdoor activities in the afternoon. Finally, there are hopes of a Sugarloaf ski trip for CHS students.

**Committees:** 1.) The Library/Technology Committee met on January 4. Five year plans for both Library and Technology were discussed. 2.) The Restructure Committee met on January 9. Restructuring has been placed on hold for now. It may resurface in the future as part of a ten-year plan. 3.) The Buildings/Grounds committee met on January 11. 4.) The Policy Committee met on January 18.

**Public Participation:** Board Chair Troy Dunphy showed pictures he had taken of the good work that had been produced in the CHS shop.

**Policies:** Two policies, JICK and IHBA were approved for first reading.

**Executive Session:** The board entered executive session at 7:08pm. The topic of the executive session was contract negotiations. The executive session lasted more than ninety minutes.

**Adjournment:** Following the executive session, the board meeting ended.

The next school board meeting is scheduled for March 1. It will be at CHS.



## New Portland Churches

The Western Mountains Baptist Church hosted a Cabin Fever Reliever event for children ages ten and under. The church was filled with fun activities for all to enjoy: face painting, jumping around in the bounce house, decorating cookies, giant bowling game and making puppets. In addition, families got introduced to the upcoming Vacation Bible School (VBS) to be held the week of June 26 to June 30; more information to follow in the upcoming months.

March 5, church members have planned another family fun event for all ages, titled, "Bon Fire and Grill on the Hill". The public is invited to gather at Gilmore Hill in Kingfield (1/2 mile on the left from WMBC) for a sledding party. There will be free hotdogs for everyone. Be sure to dress warm and bring your own sleds, snowboards, tubes, etc. Immediately after the 10:00 am church service, participants will head to the hill at 11:00 – 11:30 am. Meet at church then head to the hill together or meet on top of the hill. You know what they say, "the more the merrier".

Youth Group for 8 -12 graders continue to meet Sunday evenings at 6:30 pm. The Kingfield Old Mill Redemption Center (located down behind Longfellows) has an account set aside for the WMBC Youth Group. If you want to donate the cash from your returnable bottles and cans, let the staff at the Old Mill Redemption Center know when you drop off your returnables. The money will be used to help fund outside activities for the Youth Group. If you know of a teenager who would like to be in community with other teens, please call the church at 265-2557 for more information.

Western Mountains Baptist Church has a website, [www.westernmountainchurch.org](http://www.westernmountainchurch.org) that you can visit to see a calendar of events, to learn more about specific ministries inside and outside of the church, and to submit a prayer request to Pastor Tom DuBois. Pastor Tom can also be reached on his cell phone at 557-3802 or by calling the church at 265-2557.

*Submitted: Crystal Fitch*

New Portland Community Church News - March already! Time just keeps marching on. Soon the grass will be green again, and the local greenhouses

buzzing with customers ready to fill their gardens for the 2023 growing season. Even as we think about spring we're happy to enjoy what the winter has to offer. Get out and do some snowshoeing or enjoy some beautiful spring skiing.

It is still mid-winter, but the MATE Housing Ministry is starting to schedule their summer work groups and projects. We will be hosting at least two work groups at the New Portland Community Church this summer, and work groups will be busy in the area all summer long. If you are in need of some home repair, please fill out the MATE application in the newsletter or pick up an application from the church or the town office. Applications are due April 30.

Warming Wednesdays at the meeting house of the church have been a lot of fun. More people are starting to drop by, and we have had many lively conversations from New Portland history to snowmobiling, and everything in between. Bring your own lunch or enjoy whatever soup and sandwich is offered, plus coffee, tea and cocoa. Join us March 1 and March 15 for our Warming Wednesdays. If you are in need of a ride on any given Wednesday, please contact Nan Berry at 628-6061.

Join us on Sundays in the Joyce Pease Meeting House adjoining the New Portland Church. It's a warm and cozy place to meet and worship. Coffee hour starts at 10:30 am, worship begins at 11:00 am. List of those preaching for the month of March: March 5 [Communion] – Rev. Stan Wheeler, March 12 – Pastor Louise McCleery, March 19 – Phyllis Blackstone, March 26 – Rev. Stan Wheeler, April 2 – Rev. Stan Wheeler.

Zoom services are again being offered by the Fairbanks Union Church at 9:00 am on Sunday mornings. The service can be found at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87009696278> or open Zoom and use the meeting ID: 870 0969 6278. If you are interested in receiving a copy of the bulletin, please call Nan Berry at (207)-628-6061.

As a general reminder, if you wish to use the church buildings for any meeting or event please contact Marilyn Gorman at 628-3532 or Dick Salmon at 628-3631 for details on the use of the building. Respectfully...

*Submitted: Nan Berry*



# 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

<div>NEW PORTLANDER CALENDAR</div> <div>MARCH 2023</div> <div>DOUG KEHR PHOTO</div> 						
SUNDAY						26 WMBC Service 10:30 am NPCC Service 11:00 am
MONDAY					27 Deadline for New Portlander 6:30 pm 4:00 pm	19 WMBC Service 10:30 am NPCC Service 11:00 am
TUESDAY				28 Fire Department Meeting 6:30 pm NPCL 8:00 am - noon	21 NPCL 8:00 am - noon	12 WMBC Service 10:30 am NPCC Service 11:00 am
WEDNESDAY	1 School Board Meeting 6:30 pm CHS Planning Board Meeting 6:30 pm NPCC WarmWednesday 11:00 am - 2:00 pm	8 TOWN OFFICE IS CLOSED Water District Meeting 6:30 pm NPCL 3:00 - 6:00 pm	15 NPCC WarmWednesday 11:00 am - 2:00 pm	16 NPCL 3:00 - 6:00 pm	17 St Patrick's Day	13 WMBC Service 10:30 am NPCC Service 11:00 am
THURSDAY	2 Recreation Committee Community Room 6:30 pm NPCL 3:00 - 6:00 pm	9 TOWN OFFICE IS CLOSED NPCL 3:00 - 6:00 pm	10 TOWN OFFICE IS CLOSED NPCL 3:00 - 6:00 pm	11 NPCL Trustees Meeting 9:00 am NPCL 8:00 am - noon Sno-Travelers 6:30 pm Community Room	18 NPCL 8:00 am - noon	5 WMBC Service 10:30 am NPCC Service 11:00 am
FRIDAY	3 Town Municipal Vote 10:00 am to 6:00 pm Community Room	10 NPCL Trustees Meeting 9:00 am NPCL 8:00 am - noon Sno-Travelers 6:30 pm Community Room	17 NPCL 8:00 am - noon	24 NPCL 8:00 am - noon	25 NPCL 8:00 am - noon	19 WMBC Service 10:30 am NPCC Service 11:00 am
SATURDAY	4 Annual Town Meeting 9:00 am Community Room NPCL 8:00 am - noon	11 NPCL Trustees Meeting 9:00 am NPCL 8:00 am - noon Sno-Travelers 6:30 pm Community Room	18 NPCL 8:00 am - noon	25 NPCL 8:00 am - noon	31 NPCL 8:00 am - noon	26 WMBC Service 10:30 am NPCC Service 11:00 am