



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

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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..... 9am - 5pm
Thursday..... 4pm - 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: Lori Alyea

Email..... townofnewportland@gmail.com
Office hours: Same as the Town office hours

Town Clerk: Jacob Pinkham / Deputy Town Clerk: Brittany Rundlett

Email..... newportlandtownclerk@gmail.com
Office hours: Wednesdays 12pm - 5pm

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
- **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 of New Portland

Road Commissioner - Stipend Position

The Town of New Portland is currently accepting applications for a Road Commissioner. This position is a stipend position that requires the ability to be on call and prioritize severity of calls. The ideal candidate will have knowledge of modern principles and practices of public works administration as applied to the construction and maintenance of streets and other public works. Working knowledge of the principles and practices of civil engineering as they apply to the planning, location, construction, and operation of municipal streets, sewers, related systems, bridges, dams, and wharves.

A complete job description, requirements of work and other guidelines can be found at the Town Office.

Applicant must be a resident of the State of Maine. Must be 18 years of age or older. Must hold a clean valid Maine Class C driving license and have a reliable vehicle.

Applications are available at the New Portland Town Office. Completed applications, resumé and cover letter should be sent to the following address: Town of New Portland, Attention: Town Manager, 901 River Road, New Portland, ME 04961. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled.

Application materials may also be dropped off at the Town Office or emailed directly to the Town Manager at newportlandtownmanager@gmail.com.

Selectmen

Thank you to the citizens of New Portland who attended the annual town meeting. It is your town, and it is important to participate in the events which govern the town. We will be having a public hearing and a Special Town Meeting on June 6, 2023, on the following ordinances:

1. Town of New Portland Medical Cannabis Caregiver Retail Store and Registered Dispensary Licensing Ordinance.

2. Town of New Portland Fire and Rescue Cost Recovery Ordinance.
3. Amendment to the town of New Portland Subdivision and Commercial Development Ordinance.

The Public Hearing will begin at 6:00 pm and the Special Town Meeting will begin at 7:00 pm. Copies of these ordinances can be emailed, mailed or picked up at the Town Office. Please contact us if you are interested in obtaining copies. You can also find these ordinances on the town's website; newportlandmaine.org

We look forward to seeing you all there.

Ray, Tina, Janet: New Portland Board of Selectmen

Minutes for Selectmen's Meeting February 7

Roster / Selectmen: Raymond Poulin, Tina Poulin, Wayne Rundlett; Town Manager: Stacie Rundlett, Brian Rundlett, Kip Poulin, Kyle Handrahan, James Reinhard, Brent Davenport

1. Raymond called the meeting to order at 6:31 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 updated the Board on status of truck repairs and calls.
6. Items by the Town Manager:
 - a. The Board reviewed and signed the payroll, A/P warrants
 - b. There was a discussion on properties foreclosed on for nonpayment of taxes. The Board chose April 4 as a date to accept sealed bids for the properties; the properties will also be listed in the *New Portlander*.
 - c. There was a brief discussion on the write-in candidates and meet the candidate night.
 - d. Stacie reminded the Board that the Deputy Town Manager who resigned was also the Town Clerk until the March Municipal vote. She informed the Board that they would need to appoint a new Town Clerk until the Municipal vote takes place. Raymond motioned to appoint Stacie Rundlett as interim Town Clerk, until the Municipal vote in March. Tina seconded and all were in favor.

- e. The Board reviewed and signed the 2023 annual Town Meeting Warrant. Stacie reminded everyone the municipal vote was March 3 from 10:00 am to 6:00 pm.

7. Items by the Board of Selectmen:

- a. Raymond motioned to enter into executive session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. § 4052(6) (A) Personnel Matters at 6:51 pm. The Board entered back into the public meeting at 7:18 pm. The Board suggested making temporary changes to the Town Office hours until Stacie can hire and train someone properly. The temporary hours will be Monday - Wednesday 9:00 am to 5:00 pm and Thursdays 4:00 to 6:00 pm, and no Saturday hours until further notice.

Wayne motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:19 pm, it was seconded and the meeting was adjourned.

These minutes were approved at the February 20 by the Board of Selectmen. Smr

Minutes for Selectmen's Meeting February 20, 2023

Roster / Selectmen: Raymond Poulin, Tina Poulin, Wayne Rundlett (absent)

Town Manager: Stacie Rundlett, Brian Rundlett, Lori Alyea, Kristen Cote, Garrett Oswald

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, Raymond seconded and all were in favor.
3. Old Business: There was a brief discussion on the upcoming tax sale.
4. Items by the Public: None
5. Department Heads: None
6. Items by the Town Manager:
 - a. The Board reviewed and signed payroll warrants.
 - b. There was a brief discussion on deputy town manager position/interviews.
7. Items by the Board of Selectmen: None

Meeting was adjourned at 6:33 pm.

These minutes were approved by the Board at the March 20 meeting. smr

Submitted: Stacie Rundlett, Town Manager

NEW PORTLANDER article submission deadline is April 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.

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

RSU 74 / School Board

The March 1 school board meeting was held at CHS. Snacks included cookies and brownies. The brownies were my favorite. I may have had three of them.

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Adjustments to the Agenda: A resignation was added to the agenda, as was board action on an Outing Club trip.

Minutes: The minutes of the February board meeting were approved.

Presentation: There was no presentation.

Superintendent Report: Mr. Campbell did not add anything to the written report that he had submitted to the board. Board members did not have questions. There will be a policy committee meeting on March 15 at 4:30 pm.

Appointments: Robert Greene baseball coach, CCS; Bailey Dunphy: softball coach, CCS; Kylee Dixon: track coach, CCS; Erik Carey: baseball coach, CHS; Rob Peabody: volunteer baseball, CHS; Dave Ela: volunteer baseball, CHS; Mackenzie Baker: softball coach, CHS; Erick Baker: volunteer softball, CHS; Debra Aiken: track coach, CHS; Kylee Dixon: volunteer track, CHS; Troy Dunphy: volunteer softball, CCS

Resignation: Stacey McCluskey: 5th Grade, Solon (Mr. Campbell reported Mrs. McCluskey has accepted a job offer in the public sector.)

Admin Reports: 1.) Robert Greene said RSU 74 had received water quality reports for each school. CCS' water came back with no reports of lead. Other schools will see some water fixtures closed temporarily due to lead, but all buildings will have usable water. Parents will receive communication about this. 2.) Regarding the recent issue with the CHS shop, the fire marshall has stated that the situation is satisfactorily resolved. RSU 74 will only be required to pay \$1,000. 3.) Scott Hall had nothing to add to his report. 4.) Grace Cram had nothing to add to her report. Board member Robert Lightbody questioned the percentage of RSU 74 students with IEPs. He wondered whether we are too quick to label students, saying he thought 21% was too high. 5.) Jaime Ela had nothing to add to her report. 6.) Jean Butler commended the PE department, noting the recent grade 4-5 basketball game, the 5th grade ski trip, and Paul Kaplan's Winter Fun Day. 7.) Athletic Director Erik Carey announced end of the season athletic award recipients. Mountain Valley Conference basketball Honorable Mention: Aiyana Tibbetts, Karen Baker, Bobby Lindblom, Kolby Carpenter. Second Team All-Stars: Lindsay Hamilton, Molly Hay, Joel Gehrke. First Team: Luke Carey. Luke and Lindsay will play in the McDonald's All Star Game on March 11 at Husson College. (Mr. Carey did not mention it, but it was reported at the meeting that Mr. Carey was named Mountain Valley Conference boys' basketball Coach of the Year.) 8.) Peter Campbell submitted a written report to the board prior to the meeting. He spoke at length about Block Scheduling and Honors Courses. These have been hot topics at CHS, and board members had numerous questions. Mr. Campbell is in favor of block scheduling and eliminating Honors courses for freshmen in 23-24. He gave his

explanation for his point of view on these two subjects. He also mentioned Performing Arts will be presenting a play, "Ghost in the Machine" on March 9 at 3:30 pm and 6:30 pm at CHS, and at Skowhegan High School on March 10. 9.) Student Rep William Price reiterated Mr. Campbell's mention of the play. He also discussed CHS art classes using aluminum printing and making hoodies and pillowcases. There will be a ski trip on March 9. NHS students will volunteer at Special Olympics activities in Waterville during March. Kayliy Folco will be the student board rep next year.

Committees: The academic committee met on February 8. The sex ed curriculum was discussed. The Finance committee met recently to discuss the budget.

Public Participation: Citizens Haley Dellarma, Amy Price, Stacey Robinson, Lori Atwood, Jessica Sales, and Josh Atwood spoke about Honors classes. All of them were in favor of keeping Honors courses for 23-24 incoming freshmen.

Policies: Policies JICK and IHBA were approved for second reading.

Outing Club: The board approved an overnight trip to the Outdoor Learning Center. The trip will take place on a Thursday-Friday. (I may have neglected to write down the actual dates, so I will just guess that it will be March 9-10.) If I have those dates incorrect, I apologize for spreading "fake news".

Executive Session - Teacher Contract: The board entered executive session to discuss the proposed 2023-2026 Teacher Contract. Earlier in the day, the Carrabec Educational Association voted to approve.

Teacher Contract: The board voted to approve the Teacher Contract.

Executive Session - Administrator Contracts: The board entered executive session to discuss admin contracts.

Admin Contracts: The board voted to approve admin contracts for 23-24.

Old Business: No old business was brought up.

The End: The meeting adjourned at around 8:55 pm.

Submitted: Dave Ela, Carrabec Teachers Association

Thank You

Thank You! We can not say enough praise for the great fire department that New Portland has.

On Tuesday, March 14, about 10:30 pm we had a fire about to erupt under our kitchen cook stove hearth. With their quick response and smart thinking, they removed the stove and ripped the hearth out in order to access the smoldering beams. Some water and fire extinguishers, it was out. Our beautiful dog made us get out of bed, she's so smart. A lot of cleaning but all is good; thanks again to all the fire men who were here.

Submitted: Roger and Janet White and Aggie Blue (our dog)

New Portland Community Library

Dear New Portland Friends & Neighbors,

The New Portland Community Library moved into its current space in 2006 through the labors of residents who believed it was important for New Portland to have a library. We continue with their belief that the library is vital to many here, whether it is to read the latest book, use the computers and Wi-Fi, or stop in for a friendly chat and cup of coffee. People use and depend on our library for many things such as:

- Books and DVDs for adults and children, fiction and non-fiction for pleasure or research. We do have coffee and tea available (donations welcome).
- FREE High Speed Wi-Fi without the need of a password and 24/7 access, used by locals, vacationers, and those off-grid.
- Computer use including printing, copying, and scanning to a thumb drive.
- Meeting room that seats 8 for meetings, classes, or gatherings. Please see a librarian or volunteer to reserve.
- TV & DVD player available to use in meetings or view a movie. Again, please connect with the librarian or volunteer to schedule.
- Offer assistance with regional Maine research and genealogy research.

The New Portland Community Library has an extremely low budget at just over \$20,000.00 for 2023. At Town Meeting on March 4, the citizens generously allocated \$8,500.00 toward the budget. Thank you!

This leaves our dedicated team of *just four volunteers* to raise the remaining \$11,500.00 through fundraisers and donations. *HELP!* We can only hold so many bake sales, book sales, and silent auctions. This is money needed to provide heat, electric, insurance, Wi-Fi, books, DVDs, and a small salary for our library director.

We are asking you to make a financial donation to the New Portland Community Library to help ensure it is here for those that depend on the library.

The library is a 501c3 organization, making all of your donations tax deductible. Checks may be mailed to the library or dropped off during open hours. We truly appreciate your support and hope to see you at one of our fundraisers soon.

Please note, a generous patron has approached Old Mill Redemption Center in Kingfield about opening an account for the library. Old Mill will be accepting returnable bottles and cans and will earmark your funds for the New Portland Library.

HUGE shout-outs to Tim Dunn for installing the weather stripping on our door before the big freeze, to Steve Rogers for changing our exterior lights, and to Dean Schubert for being our winter maintenance guy! You are awesome, thank you!

If anyone is looking for a project, we have two Adirondack chairs in need of some TLC...

Upcoming fundraisers: Saturday, April 1 will be our first bake and book sale of the year. We will have soups available along with our donated baked goods. We hope to see you there.

Saturday, May 27 (Memorial Weekend), we will be at Happy Horseshoe Campground for our annual silent auction. This is always great fun for all, and we are working hard on obtaining donations. We are accepting donations for the auction at any time, please, reach out to us if you have something you would like to donate.

Please continue to share ideas with us on programs you would like to see offered here at the library such as classes, book clubs, entertainment and learning opportunities for adults and children.

We continue to offer our February Banned Book month awareness display. Each book on display has been noted with the explanation of the banned status. Remember, life and society changes, your opinions are valid and personal. We believe each book has its own merit and provides learning opportunities which may cause us to think, reflect, and hopefully make better choices for our future. Thank you all.

Submitted: Becky Knowles – Redlevske, Secretary

Sno-Travelers

The meeting was called to order with 11 members present.

The secretary and treasurer's reports were read and accepted.

Trail Master's Report: The trail master reported a section of ITS 84, just before Tuttle's Corner, has been relocated. He also reported to the club several landowners had asked to have "stay on marked trail" signs put up on their property to keep snowmobiles on the trails. Signs will be put up and a message will be posted on the club website. It was mentioned that the new brush cutter will need to be used on trails east of the river at the of beginning next season.

Old Business: The one time registration has been purchased for both groomers.

New Business: A motion was made, seconded, and accepted to have the club become a contributing member to the Flagstaff Area Business Association. Discussion was held about work needed to be done on widening and straightening ITS 84 from Friend's field toward West New Portland. Another discussion was held about the future use of the club lot. Ideas mentioned were a park and ride lot, storage units for snowmobiles and other equipment, and a groomer storage shed.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 pm. The next meeting will be April 8, starting at 6:30 pm.

Submitted: Joyce Knowles, Secretary

New Portland Churches

As usual, Western Mountains Baptist Church has been very busy. Our "Bonfire & Grill on the Hill" on March 5 was a great success. (Shout out to the Kingfield Sno-Wanderers Snowmobile Club for grooming the hill for us, so appreciated!) Approximately 60 people attended and over 100 hot dogs were served!

Our Youth Group is continuing to meet on Sunday nights at 6:30 pm. In support of our youth group (8-12 grade), the Old Mill Redemption Center located in Kingfield is accepting bottles/cans to fund their programs. (Thanks so much for the support).

So much is regularly happening at our church! For instance, did you know that "The Strong Bones Exercise Group" meets at 9:00 am on Monday/Thursday mornings? Also, there is a sewing class at 9:00 am on Tuesday mornings? As well as a Ladies Bible Study also at 9:00 am on Wednesday mornings? And in case you didn't know, the Seniors Club meets at our church on the first Monday of the month at noon for socializing, potluck and games! (Just an FYI that you should call first to confirm meeting).

HE IS RISEN!!! Come celebrate with us! Good Friday services (April 7) start at 6:30 pm. Then join us in Celebration of Easter on Sunday April 9. Our Sunrise Service starts at 6:00 am by the Cross (dress warmly), followed by breakfast and hot coffee/cocoa at 7:00 am, and The Lord's Supper and Easter Service at 10:00 am.

April 15 we are having our Women's Ministry Spring Brunch. Our guest speaker is Charlotte Sinclair from New Sharon. The program starts at 10:00 am and please feel free to bring a friend.

We look forward to seeing both old and new faces at our church. And no, you do not have to be a member to participate. For more information on church activities, you can visit our website, www.westernmountainschurch.org or call Pastor Tom at the church 265-2557 or his cell 557-3802.

For Strong Bones Exercise group, you can speak with Jane Deely 265-2406; for Seniors Club information, you can speak with Jo Bessey-Holmes 265-2785. Hope to see you all soon!! Written by Nanci Mahlmann

Submitted: Crystal Fitch and 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

NEW PORTLANDER CALENDAR						
APRIL 2023						
DOUG KEHR PHOTO						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					April Fool's Day NPCL 8:00 am - noon Town Office Closed 1	
2 WMBC Service 10:30 am NPCC Service 11:00 am	3	4 Selectmen's Meeting 6:30 pm NPCL 8:00 am-noon	5 School Board Meeting 6:30 pm CHS Planning Board Meeting 6:30 pm	6 NPCL 3:00 - 6:00 pm	7	8 NPCL Trustees Meeting 9:00 am NPCL 8:00 am- noon 5no-Travelers 6:30 pm Community Room
9 WMBC Service 10:30 am NPCC Service 11:00 am	10	11 Fire Department Meeting 6:30 pm NPCL 8:00 am-noon	12 Water District Meeting 6:30 pm NPCL 3:00 - 6:00 pm	13 NPCL 3:00 - 6:00 pm	14	15 NPCL 8:00 am - noon
16 WMBC Service 10:30 am NPCC Service 11:00 am	17 Patriot's Day Town Office Closed Selectmen's Meeting 6:30 pm	18 NPCL 8:00 am - noon	19	20 Deadline for New Portlander 4:00 pm NPCL 3:00 - 6:00 pm	21	22 Earth Day NPCL 8:00 am - noon
23 WMBC Service 10:30 am NPCC Service 11:00 am	24	25 Fire Department Meeting 6:30 pm NPCL 8:00 am - noon	26	27 NPCL 3:00 - 6:00 pm	28	29 NPCL 8:00 am - noon
30 WMBC Service 10:30 am NPCC Service 11:00 am	31					