



NEW PORTLANDER

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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

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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

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

Town Manager

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT

State of Maine

May 16, 2023

County of Somerset

To Stacie Rundlett, Warden, a resident of New Portland, the County of Somerset, State of Maine.

Greetings:

In the name of the State of Maine, you are hereby required to notify the voters of the Town of New Portland, in said county, qualified by law to vote in town affairs, to meet in the Community Room of the Fire Station, on Tuesday, the sixth day of June, 2023 at seven o'clock (7:00 p.m.) in the evening, then and there to act on the following articles to wit:

Art. 01. To choose a moderator to preside at said meeting.

Art. 02. Shall an Ordinance entitled "TOWN OF NEW PORTLAND MEDICAL CANNABIS CAREGIVER RETAIL STORE AND REGISTERED DISPENSARY LICENSING ORDINANCE" be adopted?

Art. 03. Shall an Ordinance entitled "TOWN OF NEW PORTLAND FIRE AND RESCUE COST RECOVERY ORDINANCE" be adopted?

Art. 04. Shall an Ordinance entitled "Amendment to the Town of New Portland Subdivision and Commercial Development Ordinance" be enacted?

The Registrar of voters hereby gives notice that she will be in session for the purpose of revising and correcting the list of voters in the Community Room, at the Fire Station at 6:45 p.m. on the day of the meeting.

GIVEN UNDER OUR HANDS THIS SIXTEENTH (16) DAY OF MAY IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD TWO THOUSAND AND TWENTY-THREE (2023).

Town of New Portland

Board of Selectmen

_____ Raymond Poulin, Chairman

_____ Tina Poulin

_____ Janet White

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

The town office 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 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.

The Town Office will be closed on Monday, June 19 in observance of Juneteenth Day. All State Offices are closed as well.

Submitted: Stacie Rundlett, Town Manager

Selectmen

Please do not forget to attend the Public Hearing and Town Meeting, on June 6, at 6:00 pm.

Three ordinances will be debated, then voted on. Copies of the three ordinances can be picked up at the Town Office or down loaded off the New Portland website. Look forward to seeing you there.

Submitted: Janet White, Selectperson

Lexington citizens have asked the citizens of New Portland to help in drawing attention to the horrible road conditions of the State owned roads. Route 146 and the East Village Bridge in New Portland, Route 16 from the center of the North New Portland village going up through Lexington TWP. A representative from Maine Department of Transportation, Senator Black, New Portland Selectmen, and Lexington leadership will be present. Other representatives will be invited to attend, along with Governor Mills. Meeting is June 12, 2023 at 6:30 pm. Meeting will be held at New Portland Fire Station in the bay. We would like to have a huge turn out. Let's let the State know the roads are ruining our vehicles, but remember tempers stay outside. Thank you.

Submitted: The Selectmen

Minutes for the Selectmen's Meeting of May 2, 2023

Roster / Selectmen: Raymond Poulin, Tina Poulin, Janet White, Town Manager: Stacie Rundlett, Ron and Lori Nunes, Kip Poulin, Brian Rundlett, Lori Alyea, James Reinhard

1. Raymond called the meeting to order at 6:29 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: None
4. Items by the Public: RSU#74 Superintendent Campbell shared with the Board budget figures for 2023-2024.
5. Department Heads: 1.) Ron Nunes updated the Board on the road conditions since the May Day storm. He informed the Board there was still a lot of clean up to do, and all roads were now passable. 2.) Kip shared with the Board he met with Rusty and discussed antenna issues. He updated the Board on issues with Engine 2.
6. Items by the Town Manager:
 - a. The Board reviewed and signed the payroll, A/P warrants.
 - b. The Board reviewed and signed Treasurer's Reports.
7. Items by the Board of Selectmen: There was a brief discussion regarding Tannery Bridge, as well as possible solar gardens in New Portland. Raymond also shared some complaints regarding how the May Day storm and repairs were handled. All of the board members voiced they were pleased with the way the new road commissioner handled everything. Janet asked for Stacie to inquire with Audra, the tax assessor, if we could get an approximate figure on what taxes would be on 20 acres of solar panels.

Raymond motioned to enter into an executive session at 7:37 pm pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. §405(6)(F) Discussion on confidential records. The Board entered back into a public meeting at 7:53 pm. No decisions were made at this time.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:54 pm.

These minutes were approved by the Board at the May 15th meeting. smr

Submitted: Stacie Rundlett, Town Manager

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.

RSU 74 / School Board

The May 3 school board meeting was held at Carrabec Community School. Peter Campbell provided brownies, which were very good. Cookies and cheese and crackers were the other food highlights.

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Adjustments to the Agenda: An item about Alternative Ed was added to the agenda.

Minutes: The minutes of the April 11 board meeting were approved.

Superintendent Report: 1.) Mark Campbell had a few things to add to the written report which he had submitted to the board members. 2.) There will be a special board meeting on June 14 to accept the results of the June 13 budget vote. 3.) There may be a special board meeting on May 10 for a student discipline issue, and other similar meetings may be held in the near future. 4.) A list of all the current and anticipated vacancies was shared. 5.) Board members were given a proposed 2023-24 board meeting schedule. 6.) There will be a board workshop on May 17 to look at school boundary lines and potentially even out class sizes at the elementary schools.

Appointment: Stacey Brown, Summer Cook Manager

Resignations (effective at the end of 22-23): Barbara Jordan, GS Interventionist; Billie Lawrence, CCS Fourth Grade; Cheryl Daigle, GS Cook Manager

Admin Reports: 1.) Robert Greene was not at the meeting. 2.) Scott Hall and Grace Cram had nothing to add to their written reports. 3.) Jaime Ela told the board the CCS second grade students created the May basket decorations at the board members' tables. She thanked Mark Campbell for covering at CCS while she was out due to illness and thanked the CCS staff for their extra effort while she was out. She announced June 14 will be the date of the CCS eighth grade Promotion Ceremony. 4.) Jean Butler said Elementary Career Days will be held for the first time since 2019. These will be held on May 5, 12 and 19. 5.) Peter Campbell commended CHS student Nevaeh Holmes. Nevaeh finished first in an SCTC cooking competition. She then went on to the state level. She finished first there as well. 6.) Athletic Director Erik Carey had nothing to add to his written report. 7.)

Former Student Board Rep William Price noted some key dates for seniors: Top Ten Banquet - May 9, Prom - May 13, Peaks Island trip - May 23, Final Student of the Month Assembly - May 26, Senior Awards/ Graduation - June 2. At the last meeting, a decision was made to let the 2023-24 senior class select a date for graduation next year. William indicated the students like the idea of a Friday graduation. 8.) Current student board rep Kayli Folco addressed what else is going on at CHS. The art classes are all doing great things. Performing arts students saw a performance at UMF on April 26. Chorus/band will perform at CHS on May 31. 35 students are preparing for AP exams. The spring sports season is underway. JMG students are working to earn their Maine Career Exploration Badge.

Committees: The Policy Committee met on April 12.

Citizens: None spoke.

Policy: The first reading of Policy IKF was approved.

6-12 Alternative Education: The board authorized the admin team to implement and develop an alternative ed program for RSU 74. For several years, some RSU 74 students have traveled to Madison to attend the alternative ed program which is shared between RSU 59 and RSU 74. The intent is to have an RSU 74 program next year.

Board Meeting Schedule: A 2023-2024 board meeting schedule was approved.

Teachers Moving from Probationary to Continuing Contract: Heather Austin; Amanda DeLeonardis; Paul Kaplan; D'Ann Luce; Valerie Pinkham; Jerzee Rugh; Lyndsay Burke-Cinsov; Rachel Layman

Teachers Moving from Probationary, Year One to Probationary, Year Two: Monique Bess, Kelsey Creamer, Chelsea Cunningham, Terrie Hoops, Melissa Miller, Jennie Mirlocca, Karen Pease, Maria Reynolds, Jessica Sales, Samantha Taylor, Christina Turner, Kalgari Reed

Warrants: Board members signed the proposed 2023-24 budget warrants.

Adjournment: The meeting ended at 6:42 pm. The next regular board meeting will be June 7 at CHS.

Submitted: Dave Ela, Carrabec Teachers Association

Citizens Corner

Greetings, On June 6, there is going to be a special town meeting. This meeting is to re-visit a vote that occurred at our annual town meeting. The voting, in question, was on three ordinances which have gone before the voters on at least two other occasions. I have always taken issue with the "special town meeting" format for what would be considered capital equipment purchases and also for revisiting a vote that went to the voters... and had an outcome. (Not on just one but, at least two previous elections). I personally feel that unless it was truly emergent capital purchases should come on the warrant for the regular town meeting. The ordinances issue is the same. I understand from what I was told by Stacy that the selectman felt the voters needed more education and information on the ordinances. Having spoken to taxpayers who attended the annual meeting, I am hearing there was discussion, questions asked, and a vote taken. It is discouraging, when you have worked on articles such as these and not have it come out the way you had hoped. I heard from the town manager, that one in particular, has been worked on for several years. In this case, if they remain passionate about their cause, perhaps some more research, taking what points were of concern to taxpayers to the table, they could come up with a product that meets all stake holders needs.

I have never, as you can tell, been a fan of the "special town meeting". The turn out for these meetings is usually very low with only concerned stake holders in attendance. My very first school board meeting had a similar scenario. The superintendent, unhappy with the board's vote on some CAD equipment wanted to "re-visit " that vote also. I don't think it is right, feels unprofessional and insulting to the people who were there for the vote.

If you attended the annual meeting, please come to the meeting on June 6. If you were not able to get to the meeting in March, please attend this meeting. The town manager has copies of the ordinances at the town office and would happily give that information to you. I believe, the ordinances are also online at the town website. Whichever side of these issues you are on, we need to have a turnout that gives us a true and clear vote. Not a one sided scenario that occurs usually at these "special town meetings".

June 6 from 6:00 pm – 6: 45 pm is the hearing followed by the meeting and voting at 7:00 pm. Thank you,

Submitted: Michelle Abbott

New Portland Community Library

Greetings, Please note, our board meeting will be held on Saturday, June 3, 2023 beginning at 9:00 am. Please stop in to share ideas or listen-in to see if our cause would be an interesting volunteer pursuit for you. Speaking of volunteering, we welcome area school students who may be looking to fulfill their community service programs. We have several areas of need but are also excited to hear your project ideas.

Upcoming fundraisers: 1.) Saturday, May 27 (Memorial Weekend), we will be at Happy Horseshoe Campground for our annual silent auction from 9:00 am – 11:00 am (drawing will start at 11:00 am). 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. Remember, we are happy to post your contact information to promote your craft or business during the auction. As always, we appreciate the generosity of Happy Horseshoe and the Pinkham family for welcoming and promoting our event. 2.) Saturday, June 10 will be our Annual Plant, Bake, and Book Sale from 9:00 am – 1:00 pm. We thank Atwood's Greenhouse as our annual major sponsor/donator for this event. We have been blessed for many years from their generosity. We also have several other people who graciously donation various herbs, perennials, and flowers to give our sale a nice variety. There will be lunch available as well as the amazing baked goods provided by our volunteers.

Upcoming Events: Saturday, June 24 10:00 am, please join us at the library for a free introductory sign language class. In this brief session you will be introduced to some basics of ASL, the language of the American Deaf Community. You will learn a few strategies to communicate in a visual language using facial, hand, and body movements. You will learn to sign your name and engage in a simple conversation. This will be a fun opportunity to learn and practice a skill which may continue to grow throughout your life. This is a great opportunity for anyone, however, we hope business owners, new parents, and grandparents, give this a try. Thank you all.

Submitted: Becky Knowles-Redlevske, Secretary

New Portland Churches

New Portland Community Church News: It's been a long, lovely, cool spring and summer is just around the corner. Our summer calendar is shaping up. We are expecting at least two work groups to stay at the church: one in July and one in August. We look forward to sharing our community with them when they are here. We are planning to ease back into community suppers with a yet-to-be scheduled harvest supper later in the year. We are also planning a yard sale sometime in the early fall. All dates are yet to be determined.

Starting June 4 (unless it's really chilly!), we will be meeting in the sanctuary of the big church. It's a beautiful space and the Sunday morning music just soars in the vaulted ceiling. As usual, plan on wearing a sweater on those first few Sundays in June. Join us for coffee hour starting at 10:30 am in the Joyce Pease meeting house, worship begins at 11:00 am.

List of those preaching for the month of June: June 4 [Communion] Rev. Stan Wheeler, June 11 Pastor MaryEllen Royce, June 18 Pastor Louise McCleery, June 25 Rev. Dick Waddell, July 2 [Communion] Rev. Stan Wheeler.

Zoom services are 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

Well, we at Western Mountains Baptist Church are very busy getting ready for our annual week of Vacation Bible School. The program runs from June 26 through June 30, 9:00 am - noon, and yes, it is free! Our theme this year is "Keepers of the Kingdom". The kids are really going to enjoy delving into knights and dragons while learning God's word/plans for our lives. You can register online at our website www.westernmountainschurch.org or you can call the church and speak with Pastor Tom at 207 265 2557. Pre-registration is not required, just preferred so we can make sure we have adequate supplies!

Our youth group (grades 8-12) is also meeting on Sunday nights from 6:30 – 7:30 pm. It is a great opportunity for our preteens and teens to form Godly friendships as well as have fun playing games.

If you are interested in learning more about our church, as well as our beliefs, Pastor Tom has a wonderful presentation on our website. And as always, our doors are open and all are welcome!

Sunday morning church service begins at 10:00 am. Hope to see you soon.

Submitted: Nanci Mahlmann

Submitted: Nan Berry



