



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..... 10am - 5pm
Thursday..... 12pm - 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: By appointment

LPI: Dan Gilbert - 207-938-3866

Assessor's Agent: Audra Swanson

Wednesday..... 10am - 2pm

Email..... newportlandassessor@gmail.com

Fire Department: Chief Kip Poulin

Animal Control Officer: Ryan Mulherin - 340-8137

Town Manager

The Town Office is closed on Monday, October 14 in observance of Indigenous Peoples' Day.

REMINDER: Election Day is on Tuesday, November 5; polls are open 8:00 am to 8:00 pm.

Submitted: Stacie Rundlett, Town Manager

Selectmen

Selectmen's Meeting for August 19

Roster/ Selectmen: Raymond Poulin, Janet White, David Veilleux; Stacie Rundlett, Town Manager, Lori Alyea, David and Lynn Cary

1. Janet White called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.
2. The Board reviewed the minutes from the previous meeting. Raymond motioned to accept the minutes as written. David seconded and all were in favor.
3. Old Business: There was a brief discussion on the 82 River Road violation. Janet would reach out to the owner again and see about making arrangements to get the property cleaned up. There was a lengthy discussion regarding the Tannery Bridge and having a special town meeting and public hearing for Tannery Bridge to be officially discontinued along with 50 feet of roadway on each side of the bridge. The Board would like this bridge to be strictly a recreational bridge.
4. Items by the Public: Lori asked about a committee being formed to research the SAD 74 budget and look at our options as a municipality. The Board members were in favor and would try and get people to get on such a committee as well as fill the vacant positions on the Municipal Advisory Committee (MAC).
5. 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: a.) Abatement requests to review and motion on: 1. Janet motioned to approve an abatement request from Richard and Barbara Parker for \$279.18. Raymond seconded and all were in favor. 2. Janet motioned to approve an abatement request from Elaine and Robert Perkins for \$50.76. Raymond seconded and all

Remember...

- **Selectmen's Meeting**
1st Tuesday & 3rd Monday of each month6:30pm
- **New Portland Fire Department Meeting**
2nd & 4th Tuesday of each month6:30pm
- **Library Board of Trustees Meeting**
2nd Saturday of the month 9am
- **Planning Board Meeting**
1st Wednesday of the month6:30pm
- **New Portland Water District**
2nd Wednesday of each month6:30pm
- **School Board Meeting**
1st Wednesday of each month 6pm
- **New Portland Community Library**
Tuesday & Friday9:30am - 12pm
Wednesday 10am - 12pm & 3pm - 6pm
Thursday 3pm - 6pm
Saturday.....9am - 12pm
- **Kingfield-New Portland Transfer Station**
Wednesday, Saturday, Sunday..... 7:30am - 4:30pm
- **New Portland Post Office Customer Service Hours**
Monday - Friday7am - 9am & 2pm - 4pm
Saturday.....7am - 10:30 am

were in favor. b.) The Board reviewed and signed a fire protection contract for Highland Plantation. c.) There was a lengthy discussion regarding the disposal of tax acquired property and the changes to the Maine laws regarding this process. Notices will be going out soon giving the tax acquired properties 90 days to make some decisions regarding the sale of the property. The meeting was adjourned at 7:17 pm.

These minutes were approved by the Board at the September 3 meeting. smr

Selectmen's Notes

We hope you all enjoyed the great New Portland Fair. Thank you to the Lions Club members for bringing this to our town every year. This autumn weather has been very nice; let's hope winter is this kind to us.

Soon you will see the grader back out and about. A few culverts will be replaced. Remember to give the road crews space and slow down. Thank you.

After much discussion with the State Bridge overseers, we have decided not to close the Tannery Bridge to all traffic. It has been decided that the bridge can hold snow mobile traffic if it is one lane, one machine at a time. The groomer will not be allowed to cross. So, with the help of the snow mobile club, barriers will be put up and it will become a one lane snowmobiling and walking lane bridge. This is the best way for right now. We have gotten a couple quotes for repairs to bring it back to all traffic, but cost is running near \$200,000. The Selectmen feel that is out of reach for our small tax base.

We would like to thank the person(s) for repairing the flag pole issue at the town office. It's wonderful to see our nation's flag fly again. Thank you very much.

Get ready for the cold weather; it's on its way. Enjoy all the beautiful fall colors first. Happy Halloween to you all. As always you are all welcome at any of our Selectman's meetings.

Submitted: Janet White, Ray Poulin, Dave Veilleux

Wire Bridge Sno-Travelers

I hope everyone had a great summer. The first meeting of the 2024-25 season will be Saturday, October 12 at the fire station meeting room, starting at 6:30 pm. We hope you will be able to join us as we make plans for the snowmobile season.

To join our club for the 2024-25 season, you can go to our club website wirebridgesnotravelers.com and fill out the membership form and send it back to me, Joyce Knowles (address on form). Thank you for your support.

Submitted: Joyce Knowles

Superintendent of Schools

September 16, 2024

Dear resident of New Portland,

Our school year has started smoothly. We have been extremely fortunate to have filled the vast majority of the positions that we had come open last spring with staff members who bring excitement and years of experience to their positions.

When you receive this, the following RSU 74 Board sub-committees will have met to discuss the following topics:

- Policy will be discussing Policy JFCK - Student use of Cellular Telephones and other Electronic Devices. Currently, the policy leaves rulemaking to administration with all buildings not allowing the use of cellular phones during school hours. The other policies are policies that have not been reviewed since 2016. Those include Chemical Hazards, Pest Management, Drug and Alcohol Testing of School Bus Drivers and procedures to follow for testing school bus drivers.

- Buildings, Grounds and Transportation will be meeting to discuss long-term plans for each of these areas. We currently have a bus replacement plan but also now have a solid base of numbers associated with repairs and maintenance to keep the fleet on the road. We will also be discussing known repairs to buildings and begin building a long-term plan to address the needed repairs.

I have been asked by the Superintendent Evaluation sub-committee to prepare information for the Board that would provide evidence of the work that their superintendent should be doing in each of the categories the superintendent is responsible for. Last school year, the Board adopted a new rating rubric for the superintendent. Our work this year will determine what we need to do to the rubric to ensure that the evaluation system once in place can be a long-term process for effectively evaluating the Superintendent of Schools.

We have made adjustments to our meeting schedule. The day (first Wednesday of the month and time, 6:00 pm remains the same), but the need for technology has prompted changing the locations around. The meeting that normally takes place in September was at Solon not New Portland. The meeting in New Portland will be April 2. The meeting for Embden, normally in October, is being held in March. The complete schedule of months and dates can be found on the district website.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Submitted: Mark L. Campbell, Superintendent

NEW PORTLANDER article submission deadline is October 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.

School Board

The September board meeting was held at the Solon School. I avoided the fruit cups, but the brownies were outstanding.

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

A new board member, Keith Plourd, joined.

Adjustments to the Agenda: Three appointments and one nomination were added to the agenda.

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

Presentation: ALICE Training - Chris Roux and Bruce Dostie discussed ALICE Training with the board.

Superintendent Report: Mr. Campbell told the board that staff will undergo NARCAN training during the November workshop day. The cost of milk will increase in the RSU 74 cafeterias.

Appointments: Debra Atkins - CHS Cross Country; Kylee Dixon - CHS Cross Country; Angela Dunton - STEAM Lead Teacher, Solon; Billie Hatfield - Girls Volunteer Soccer, CHS; Ted Brown - Assistant Football Coach; Mike Martin - boys' soccer, CCS; Kayla Oliver - girls' soccer, CCS; Erik Carey = CHS golf

Resignations: Danielle Schinzel - Special Ed, Ed Tech One, CCS; Winston (Chip) Gilbert - bus driver/cook 1

Nominations: Monique Bess - CHS Special Ed Teacher; Julie Clark - 4th Grade, GS; Emily Witham - Special Ed, Ed Tech One, GS; Nikita Scraggs-Kitchen - Special Ed, Ed Tech Three, CCS; Barbara Jordan - Learning Interventionist Teacher, GS; Jennifer Meade - CHS Social Worker

Admin Reports: A board member asked CCS Principal Geoff Case about recess. The board member was concerned that the middle school students weren't getting enough recess-time. Mr. Case stated that middle school students receive about 15-20 minutes of recess-time each day. Jean Butler thanked Mark Campbell, Chris Roux and Chris's staff for the work they did over the summer. She said the Solon parking lot looks great, and that the bell tower will once it is completed. Jean noted that the place settings and other items at the board members' table had been created by Jen LaChance and Aaron Welch's students. Peter Campbell showed the board members a cornhole board that will be raffled. He invited the board members to buy tickets. Thus far the changes to the CHS cellphone policy have not created much of an issue among the students. As of Wednesday, only four warnings had been issued. The CHS student leadership team is planning to attend a board policy subcommittee meeting to discuss cellphones. Overall, things are going quite well at CHS, and the staff seems very positive. Chris Roux told the board that the windows for the Solon belltower have arrived, and the work will be completed soon. In response to a question from a board member, he confirmed that there were new speed limit signs near some of the RSU 74 schools.

Committees: The superintendent evaluation committee met on August 7 and September 4. There will be a Buildings/ Grounds Committee meeting on September 18 at CCS.

Public: Heather McKinnon spoke. She had concerns about the cellphone policy and situations where students were not allowed to bring laptops home from school. She felt some of these restrictions could be contrary to the language in some 504 plans.

Soccer, Part One: The board approved a cooperative CHS-Madison boys' soccer team.

Soccer, Part Two: The board approved a cooperative CHS-Valley girls' soccer team.

Adjournment: I failed to write down the time the meeting ended, but for some reason I have 6:51 pm in my head.

Submitted: Dave Ela, President of Carrabec Teachers Association

New Portland Community Library

Happy Fall, New Portland! How much fun was the fair?! We had a blast, and many kiddos left with books and bookmarks in hand. It doesn't get any better than that! Thank you to everyone who stopped at the toll or by the booth to see us. A special thanks to Courtney Rogachaff, Maine Wood Concepts, and Maine Life Coffee for their donations to our weekend raffle.

Starting this month the NPCL hours are changing. Hours are as follows Tuesday 9:30 am -12:00 pm, Wednesday 10:00 am -12:00 pm & 3:00 - 6:00 pm, Thursday 3:00 - 6:30 pm, Friday 9:30 am -12:00 pm, and Saturday 9:00 am - 12:00 pm.

We are always looking for volunteers. If you have a teen who needs volunteer hours for school, we would love to have them join us at the library. The youth in our community is important to us, and we would love to hear their ideas as well!

Volunteering in the library may not be your cup of tea, but you can still support us from home or afar. Ways to help: Visit our Amazon Wish List and donate from our Wishlist. Scan the QR code at the bottom of the page or visit the link. https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/OAFR1ZV2H2YJ?ref_=wl_share You may also donate your unwanted DVDs/Books to the library or take them to Bull Moose in Waterville. We have an account, and you are welcome to help us get credit. Don't forget, you can also drop off your returnables at the Old Mill Redemption Center.

Calendar Raffle tickets are on sale until the end of October. There are many great items to win including over \$500 in cash! Tickets are \$10 each or six tickets for \$50! Don't miss your chance to win. Remember, the more tickets you buy the more chances to win. Scan the QR code or visit our Facebook page to stay updated on the raffle. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/NPCL2011>

Mark your calendars: Thursday, October 3 at 6:30 pm join Diane for our new book club! This will be an organizational meeting where we can discuss how books will be selected, when and where we will meet, and answer any questions. Bring your ideas with you! Every Friday in October from 10:00 am - 11:00 am we will have story and craft time for younger children. October 8 from 9:30 - 11:30 am Scarlett DeShong, Somerset County's Digital Navigator is joining us to provide one-on-one tech support. Feel free to bring in your device, apple, android, laptop, or tablet. She will be happy to help you out. Thursday, October 10, 17, and 24 from 4:00 - 5:00 pm join us for an Introduction to Microsoft PowerPoint. In each class, you will learn how to create a PowerPoint presentation, add and format text, insert graphics and video, and work with transitions and animations. *Requirements for this class:* A Windows or Mac computer connected to the internet and MS PowerPoint 2016 or later on your device. You may sign up in the library or by scanning the QR code with your camera or visiting the link https://digitalequitycenter.org/classes/class_category/

introduction-to-powerpoint/?class_type=onsite Saturday, October 12 is our next book and bake sale. There will be pumpkin painting for the kids and fun crafts for adults. Saturday, September 12 and 26 from 9:00 - 11:30 am Michelle is offering 15 minute Reiki sessions. Any donations given, Michelle generously gifts to the library.

Enjoy the cooler temperatures and don't be a stranger to the library!

Mindy Newman, Library Director



Facebook



Amazon Wish List



PowerPoint

Submitted: Mindy Newman, Library Director

New Portland Churches

New Portland Church news for October: Summer is over and beautiful, fall weather has blessed us with sunny days and cool temperatures. A relief from the hot and humid summer months.

MATE has finished up most of its summer housing projects by now, and we can look back at the summer with satisfaction that we were part of their efforts to help homeowners in the region with improvements in weatherization, roofing, accessibility and safety of their homes. We are proud of our links to the MATE Housing Ministry. This summer we hosted workgroups from the Boston area and New Jersey. We always appreciate the time they give from their busy summers.

The congregation has been busy with some of its annual summer outings. We attended the historic Log Church in Oquossic on a Sunday in August. It is always a pleasure to see and hear Rev. Tony McNaughton. He has, more than once, graced us with his presence in the pulpit in New Portland.

Another summer highlight is a trip up to Cobb's Camps on Pierce Pond. The day was spectacularly blue and clear and warm. It was a perfect day. Lunch was delicious, as always, and it was a wonderful, relaxing break for everyone who attended. We are deeply grateful to the entire Cobb family for extending their hospitality and making our day always extra special. Thank you!

We have also spent some time this summer, along with Fairbanks Union Church, in our search for a parttime pastor for the two churches. We have been blessed with wonderful people to fill in for services on Sunday mornings, and we know we will find a more permanent person who is a perfect fit.

Last year we put on a Harvest Supper at the church and it was a very successful event! We are going to repeat that with another Harvest Supper to be held on Thursday,

October 24 at 5:00 pm. The menu will be beef stew, rolls, salad and dessert. We are looking forward to seeing you all there!

We do move from the large and unheated sanctuary of the church into the cozy, heated space of the Joyce Pease Meeting House (adjoining the church) as the weather gets cooler. At this time of year that is somewhat on a case-by-case basis. There are some very warm and beautiful Sundays in October, but if in doubt, bring a sweater. If you are joining us for worship, our ministers for the month of October will be: October 6 Pastor Louise McCleary, October 13 Pastor MaryEllen Royce, October 20 Pastor Debby Bliss Bujnocki, October 27 TBD. Please join us for coffee hour at 10:30 am with worship following at 11:00 am unless otherwise noted. Respectfully...

Submitted: Nan Berry

Western mountain Bapstist Church: August ended with a BANG! We had the privilege of having seven people proclaim their love for The Lord by being Baptized! Such a blessing and a joy. We also delivered 72 meals through our Bridging the Gap program. Please contact the church office for more information regarding this program. It is truly wonderful!

Our new program, Serving our Seniors (SOS) had a great turn out in August (approx. 30 people) who joined us to hear about services which are available in Somerset County as well as Franklin County.

Ladies' bible study has resumed following a brief hiatus for summer. The ladies are once again meeting at the church on Wednesday mornings at 9:00 am. Our numbers have surely grown!! Come and share fellowship and feel the love God has for you!

Our website is www.westernmountainchurch.org

Submitted: Nanci Mahlmann

Kingfield Seniors Group

October is fast approaching though you would not know it from the weather we have been seeing. Hopefully, autumn will come relatively soon.

In our last meeting, September 9, Julia Bouwsma, our state Poet Laureate and current librarian (Kingfield, Webster Library) presented to our group what a Poet Laureate was, as well as services provided by the library. So much information, too much to list! Definitely should stop by the Webster Library and see all the events/ services offered.

Well, this month we have the pleasure of having one of Kingfield's own firemen giving us information as well as tips for our home *fire safety*. Our meeting this month will be on Monday October 14, (Columbus Day). As always, our program starts at 12:00 pm (noon) with a potluck at Western Mountains Baptist Church, located on Rte 27N bordering New Portland and Kingfield.

Hope you all can make it and please bring a friend! This is definitely *important information!*

Submitted: Nanci Mahlmann



**Dog License Reminder
New Portland Town Clerk's Office**

Dear Dog Owner,

It's that time again! Dog licenses can start to be issued on Tuesday, October 15, 2024. Please come to the Town Clerk's Office to license your dog(s) at your earliest convenience. **Be sure to come in before January 31, 2025 to avoid paying the late fee of \$25.00 per dog.** Any dog that remains unregistered will be summonsed to court by the Animal Control Officer.... So please do not delay! **These fines and deadlines are required by state law and cannot be waived.**

Remember if your dog(s) is here for more than seven (7) days then you need to license your dog(s). If your dog(s) is six (6) months or more in age then your dog(s) need to be licensed. In addition, if you no longer have your dog please call me at 628-4441 as soon as possible so that we may update our information.

To re-license your dog, you can to come to the New Portland Town Office. Our regular office hours are Monday – Wednesday 10:00 am – 5:00 pm, Thursday 12:00 pm – 6:00 pm. You may also re-license your dog through the mail. Please send a copy of the dog(s) Maine rabies certificate and a check payable to the "Town of New Portland" for the appropriate fee, and I will process the license and return the paperwork and the new dog tag(s) to you. **Please use the form provided at the bottom of this notice if you are mailing your information in.**

Thank you for your attention to this important notice. Dog licensing ensures rabies vaccination, which protects the health of your pet and your family.

Remember, all dogs in the State of Maine are required to be licensed.

The Licensing fee is \$6.00 for neutered or spayed dogs and \$11.00 for male or female dogs **if licensed BEFORE January 31, 2025.** The fees will be \$31.00 for neutered or spayed dogs and \$36.00 for unaltered dogs **if licensed after January 31, 2025.** Please include a self-addressed stamped envelope with your copy of the Maine rabies certificate and payment to:

Town of New Portland
901 River Road
New Portland, ME. 04961

Please clip this section and return with your check made payable to the Town of New Portland

Name of Dog Owner: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Name of Dog(s): _____

Phone Number: _____



Telephone: 207-628-4441 ■ **FAX :**207-628-4440 ■ **website:** www.newportlandmaine.com
901 River Rd. New Portland, Maine 04961

WELCOME FALL



