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

WMBC SERVICE 10am
NPCC SERVICE 10:30am

NPCL OPEN
3:00-6:00pm

NEW PORTLANDLER CALENDAR
NOVEMBER 2026

DOUG KERR PHOTO

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 DAY LIGHT SAVINGS WMBC SERVICE 10am NPCC SERVICE 10:30am	2	3 VOTING - 8AM - 8PM NPCL OPEN 9:00-12:00pm SELECTBOARD MEETING 6:30pm	4 NPCL OPEN 3:00-6:00pm SCHOOL BOARD 6:00 CCS PLANNING BOARD 6:30pm	5 NPCL OPEN 3:00-6:00pm	6 NPCL OPEN 9:00-12:00pm	7 NPCL OPEN 9:00-12:00pm
8 WMBC SERVICE 10am NPCC SERVICE 10:30am	9 KINGFIELD SENIORS GROUP - WMBC 12:00pm	10 NPCL OPEN 9:00-12:00pm FIRE DEPT MEETING 6:30pm	11 VETERAN'S DAY TOWN OFFICE CLOSED	12 NPCL OPEN 3:00-6:00pm NPCL TRUSTEES MEETING 6:00 PM	13 NPCL OPEN 9:00-12:00pm	14 NPCL OPEN 9:00-12:00
15 WMBC SERVICE 10am NPCC SERVICE 10:30am	16	17 NPCL OPEN 9:00-12:00pm SELECTBOARD MEETING 6:30pm	18 NPCL OPEN 3:00-6:00pm	19 NPCL OPEN 3:00-6:00pm	20 NPCL OPEN 9:00-12:00pm	21 NPCL OPEN 9:00-12:00pm
22 WMBC SERVICE 10am NPCC SERVICE 10:30am	23	24 NPCL OPEN 9:00-12:00pm FIRE DEPT MEETING 6:30pm	25 TOWN OFFICE CLOSED NPCL OPEN 3:00-6:00pm	26 TOWN OFFICE CLOSED THANKSGIVING DAY	27 NPCL OPEN 9:00-12:00pm	28 NPCL OPEN 9:00-12:00pm
29 WMBC SERVICE 10am NPCC SERVICE 10:30am	30					

NEW PORTLANDER

INFORMATION IS THE CURRANCY OF DEMOCRACY THOMAS JEFFERSON

The Town of New Portland is an equal opportunity employer and service provider.

DOUG KERR PHOTO

E-mail: nwprtlnd@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 .....10 am - 5 pm
Thursday .....12 pm - 6 pm

Town Manager: Stacie Rundlett
Email: ..... newportlandtownmanager@gmail.com

Deputy Town Manager: Lori Alyea
Email: ..... townofnewportland@gmail.com

Code Enforcement Officer: Jeff Drew - 207-453-4258 ext 0

Town Clerk: Jacob Pinkham | **Deputy Town Clerk:** Lori Alyea
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: Stacie Rundlett - 207-491-8007

Remember. . .

- **Selectman's Meeting**
  1st & 3rd Tuesday of each month ..... 6:30 pm
- **New Portland Fire Department Meeting**
  2nd & 4th Tuesday of each month..... 6:30 pm
- **Library Board of Trustees Meeting**
  2nd Thursday of each Month..... 6:00 pm
- **Planning Board Meeting**
  1st Wednesday of the Month..... 6:30 pm
- **New Portland Water District Meeting**
  2nd Wednesday of each Month..... 6:30 pm
- **New Portland Community Library Hours:**
  Tuesday, Friday & Saturday.....9:00 am - 12:00 pm
  Wednesday & Thursday.....3:00 pm - 6:00 pm
- **Kingfield - New Portland Transfer Station**
  Wednesday, Saturday, Sunday..... 7:30 am - 4:30 pm
- **New Portland Post Office Customer Service Hours**
  Monday - Friday ..... 7 am - 9 am & 2 pm - 4 pm
  Saturday..... 7: 00 am - 10:30 am

Reminders



☑ VOTING NOVEMBER 3

New Portland Fire Station
COMMUNITY ROOM
8:00 am through 8:00 pm.

TOWN OFFICE
HOLIDAY CLOSURES

Town Office will be closed
NOVEMBER 11
in observance of Veterans Day.

Town Office will be closed
NOVEMBER 25 AND 26
in observance of Thanksgiving.

A friendly reminder. . .
November and December is the time to license your dog(s) to avoid a penalty fee.



Select Board

Select Board notes: November, the month of Thanksgiving. A month of thanks, for family, home, and community. We wish you the best of all things. Lend a helping hand where needed.

Summer road work has come to an end. The American flags which had been hung around town have been taken down and put away for winter. Snow will be flying soon. As always give road crews the space they need to do their work. Report any road issues to the town office, thank you.

With any luck, the office staff and the select board can start utilizing our new storage area that was added on to the town office soon. We are looking forward to storing vital records correctly with much easier access.

Remember, whatever you read on Facebook is someone's opinion. Articles may not be truthful. Facebook is not the reliable place to get real information. Please read the New Portlander or attend a Select Board meeting.

Meetings are held the first and third Tuesdays of every month. They are held at the New Portland Fire Station meeting room at 6:30 pm. Please bring any town concerns to a Select Board meeting, all are welcome. Be safe over he holiday season and enjoy. Thank you for reading our article.

Submitted:
Ray Poulin, Dave Veilleux, Janet White

Select Board Meetings

Meeting for August 4, 2026

Roster/Select Board: Raymond Poulin, Janet White, David Veilleux, Town Manager: Stacie Rundlett, Lori Alyea, Bobbi-Sue Harrington, Kip Poulin, Brian Rundlett

1. David 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, Janet seconded and all were in favor.

3. Department Heads: a.) Kip updated the Board that the engine is back; all repairs were completed. The rescue has an issue with the PTO generator, and we need to purchase a new one. Janet motioned to purchase a generator and for the funds to come out of the Twp & Somerset County revenue for fire coverage. Raymond seconded and all were in favor. Kip also shared with the board the flagpole needs to be replaced and there was a water leak in the hallway of the community room/fire station. b.) Raymond updated the board on summer roads projects that he had completed. Jordan's is going to be putting some reclaim down on Colegrove Road.

4. Items by the Public: None

5. Items by the Town Manager: The Board reviewed and signed the payroll and A/P warrants.

6. Items by the Select Board: a.) Bobbie-Sue Harrington was in attendance representing the Lion's Club who submitted an application for a liquor license to have a beer tent at the New Portland Fair. She also inquired if the Lion's Club could get a Noise Ordinance waiver for the 17th, 18th and 19th of September which are three of the nights the New Portland Fair will have events that may go past 10:00 pm. David motioned to approve the liquor license, Raymond seconded and all were in favor. They also determined that in the future Stacie could authorize these licenses. David motioned to grant a waiver for the 17th, 18thand 19thof September for the Lion's Club to have events going no later than 12:00 am.

The meeting adjourned at 7:12 pm.

These minutes were approved by the Board at the September 1st meeting. smr

Meeting for September 1, 2026

Roster/ Selectmen: Raymond Poulin, Janet White, David Veilleux, Town Manager: Stacie Rundlett, Lori Alyea, Kip Poulin, Peter Ford, Tom Dodd

NEW PORTLANDER article submission deadline is November 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 • 628-4201 • email: alderswamp2@gmail.com

If there are any questions or needs regarding the receiving of the *New Portlander*, those inquires should be directed to the Town Manager.

New Portland Community Library

As we enter this season of gratitude, we'd like to extend a heartfelt thank-you to our wonderful community! Our Fall Craft Fair was a success, and thanks to our vendors, volunteers, and supporters, we raised $1,115.95! Every dollar makes a difference for our small library, helping us continue to offer programs, resources, and opportunities that bring our community together. November is full of exciting events, good books, and opportunities to lend a helping hand.

New Books to Explore

Adult Books

- Exit Strategy — Lee Child & Andrew Child
- The Secrets We Hide — Karin Slaughter
- The Shadow Friends — Tess Gerritsen
- The Amateur — Chris Bohjalian
- The Family Cross — James Patterson
- Meet Me in the Garden — Nina LaCour
- The Island of Missing Trees — Elif Shafak
- How to Walk Away — Katherine Center
- The Story Keeper — Kelly Rimmer
- God's Country — William Kent Krueger
- The Hollow Bones — Jodi Picoult
- The Measure of Days — Peter Kellan
- Untamed Coast — Kevin C. Morris
- Partita — Barbara Kingsolver
- The Birthing Tree — Amanda Peters
- Other Worlds Than These — Stephen King & Peter Straub
- Peck and Peck — Bonnie Garmus
- Miss Wolcott's Ghost — Louise Penny

Children's Books

- Micro: The Wild Wonders of Microscopic Life — Jennifer Smith
- The Lights That Dance in the Night — Yuval Zommer
- Fight or Flight (Diary of a Wimpy Kid #21) — Jeff Kinney

More new titles are waiting on our shelves - stop in and browse!

November Book Club | Monday, November 9 • 5 PM
Reading The End of Your Life Book Club by Will Schwalbe. New members and snacks are welcome!

Hunters' Breakfast | Saturday, November 14 • 5–10 AM
Hunters, gatherers, early birds, and neighbors—everyone is welcome for a hearty community breakfast! Breakfast sandwiches: $5 | Adults: $10 | Kids: $5. Early Bird Tickets: $8, available at the library or online. Volunteers and donations needed! Help with cooking, serving, setup, or cleanup—even an hour helps! Donations of homemade biscuits, pastries, and breads are welcome. Scan the QR code to volunteer, purchase early bird tickets, or sponsor the event!

Make, Take & Bake Apple Pie Event | Sunday, November 22 • 10 AM–3 PM
Kids of all ages can make a FREE apple pie to take home and share with family at the New Portland Community Room. Volunteers are needed to assist young bakers, organize supplies, and help with setup and cleanup. Scan the QR code to sign up as a baker or volunteer.

November Calendar Raffle - Winners will be announced each day in November on the New Portland Community Library Facebook page. Follow along for daily results, and thank you to everyone who purchased tickets!

Homeschool Fridays: Sign Language Club (1st & 3rd Fridays), Homeschool Hangout (2nd & 4th Fridays), and LEGO Club (5th Fridays). All programs meet from 10–11 AM!

A Little Time Makes a Big Difference. Whether you can volunteer for an hour, bake for an event, or lend a hand with activities, we would love your help. Call 207-628-6561 or stop by the library.
Wishing our community a wonderful Thanksgiving!

- Mindy Newman - Library Director

New Portland Churches

Mark your calendars!

Western Mountains Baptist Church invites the community to join in a special Christmas Celebration on

Sunday, December 20, 2026 at 6:00 pm.

The celebration will feature special choir music, refreshments, fellowship, and more as we come together to share the joy and hope of Christmas. It will be a wonderful opportunity to connect with friends and neighbors and celebrate the true meaning of this special season.

Everyone is welcome! Whether you attend Western Mountains Baptist Church or are simply looking for a meaningful way to celebrate Christmas, we invite you to join us for this special evening.

Event Details: Date - Sunday, December 20, 2026; Time: 6:00 pm.
Location: Western Mountains Baptist Church, 928 Carrabassett Road, New Portland, Maine

We look forward to welcoming you for an evening celebrating the true
"Reason for the Season" - the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

Feed the Funnel is coming to western Maine!

Feed the Funnel is a community-wide effort to raise meals for local families experiencing food insecurity. Our Feed the Funnel goal is to raise $25,000, package 50,000 meals, and engage 150–200 volunteers, all while keeping these meals right here in both Franklin and Somerset County.

Our meal-packaging event is scheduled for Saturday, March 6, 2027 in New Portland, Maine. We're bringing together area businesses, churches, civic organizations, and volunteers to help provide meals to local food pantries, school back-pack programs, and other organizations serving families in need.

Community members are encouraged to join this effort to help ensure that more local families have access to meals and the hope and support they need. Together, western Maine can Feed the Funnel and make a lasting difference close to home.

Meals Today • Hope Tomorrow
Every donation, volunteer, and prayer help us Feed the Funnel and show God's love in Action!

How to Support Feed the Funnel:

SCAN QR CODE TO GIVE

BY CHECK

Make checks payable to:

Western Mountains Baptist Church
Memo: Feed the Funnel
Mailing Address:
Western Maine Feed the Funnel
C/O Western Mountains Baptist Church
PO Box 264
Kingfield, ME 04947

ONLINE GIVING

go to the wesite:

wmbcmaine.org/feed-the-funnel

Every contribution, regardless of size, will help move the campaign closer to its goal.
For further information, please contact FeedTheFunnel@wmbcmaine.org
We'd love for you to be part of this mission!

Submitted: Laurie Quinn

Select Board *(continued)*

1. David 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. Department Heads: a.) Kip did not have anything to update. b.) Raymond will be renting a skid steer/bush hog to do brush cutting. There were discussions on Gilman Pond Road work. There was conversation about the town's Hammond Lumber account. The Board asked Stacie to contact Zach Cary regarding mowing the old dump site.

4. Items by the Public: a.) Peter Ford discussed with the Board that the decals for the back of the new town signs still haven't been put on. David would reach out to sign works to see what the status was for those. b.) Tom Dodd talked to the Board about his concerns on the ditching work that had been done on the Chick Road. Raymond would go out to look at those locations and address any issues.

5. Items by the Town Manager: a.) The Board reviewed and signed the payroll and A/P warrants. b.) The Board reviewed and signed two treasurer's reports. c.) There was a brief discussion regarding the draft audit documents.

6. Items by the Select Board: a. There were discussions on the gambling license for the New Portland Lion's Club. Janet motioned to authorize the Town Manager to sign off on this document, Raymond seconded and all were in favor. b.) There were discussions on three trees to be removed at 73 Bog Road. Raymond motioned to allow these three trees to be removed, David seconded and all were in favor. c.) There were discussions regarding Claire Hubbard who had requested a waiver for the Project Freewill event. There were a number of complaints last year and some even the year before. Raymond motioned to not grant the waiver, Janet seconded and all were in favor. The Board members' decision was based on too many issues in the past and not being respectful with the neighbors. d.) The Board reviewed and discussed and abatement request for Luke Sleeper in the amount of $511.56. Raymond motioned to grant an abatement to Luke Sleeper in the amount of $511.56, David seconded and all were in favor.

Meeting adjourned.

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

Submitted:
Stacie Rundlett, Town Manager

Kingfield Seniors Group

Our November meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 2. We will be meeting at noon at the Western Mountains Baptist Church for potluck/meeting. I have had some inquiries from some of our seniors about the current situation/vote regarding the Kingfield schools and what that means to them. Kim Jordan has graciously accepted our invitation to come and speak and to hopefully answer any questions that our seniors have. Since our group consists of other towns, she will only be speaking for about 15 minutes.
We will have our own Tim White and friends playing music for us for the remainder of the meeting. Also, I am happy to say that the Merry Plinksters are back!! They are scheduled to play for our December meeting, which is December 7. So save the date!

As always, should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me Nanci Lehto Mahlmann 207 628 4461.

Submitted: Nanci Lehto Mahlmann

Superintendent of Schools

Superintendent RSU 74

October 12, 2026

Dear Residents of New Portland,

By the time you receive this letter, we will be a little over one week from the end of the first quarter of the school year. Students will have completed their fall assessments, and their teachers will have analyzed the data to begin the process of understanding the strengths and areas students in the current grades/courses will need interventions. The work being done to support our students is beginning to show solid dividends on our end-of- year assessments. Last spring, Carrabec Community School was removed from the State's list of schools whose assessment scores and attendance records were not meeting the standards. All schools are seeing their growth and achievement scores increase in English language arts and mathematics!

Since my last letter, we have had plumbing issues surface, literally, at Carrabec High School. When waste water backed up into the school on the gym end of the building, maintenance secured the services of Foss Enterprises to search for the source of the issue. Once the location was determined to be in the external pipe between the gym and main sewerage line, the district needed to seek assistance from a company capable of handling the rocks and gravel suction needed on the external line. The break was in the main entryway of the high school. Partridge and Sons were called in to dig the broken pipe out, repair the pipe, and then replace and compact the area around the pipe. All of this was done at the close of school one day and before the opening of school the following day.

Like you at home, the district is cautiously approaching the winter months with heating oil costs being as high as they are. All systems, including the pellet boilers, have been fired up to ensure we are ready for the colder days. Currently, wood pellets will be our cheapest way to heat our buildings. These budget lines, as well as our diesel
fuel lines, will be carefully watched as we move through the winter season/school year.

We will have two sub-committee meetings on October 21. The Restructure Committee will be traveling about the district to assess space availability in each of the schools. As shared previously, all three K-5 areas need space to support dysregulated students. Currently, Garret Schenck is the only building with a designated room. As well, the Carrabec Community School, because of its location in the center of the district, will need space to support the needs of our three-year olds requiring specialized services. The State has charged school districts with providing services such as speech and occupational therapy, to three-year olds as well as four-year olds identified with needs. Currently, the state agency, Child Development Services is responsible. The second committee to meet will be the Academic Committee. This committee will be updated on the work done on October 9 for English Language Arts. The Technology/Library Committee did meet on October 5 to discuss the role of the committee. That committee will meet again in January to review ISTE learning standards for technology and to hear from the district librarian as to her vision for the libraries in the district.

A reminder the RSU 74 Board of Directors meet the first Wednesday of each month and that if you have any questions regarding the information shared in this report, please do not hesitate to reach out to ask me at mcampbell@carrabec.org. Respectfully ...

Submitted:
Mark. L. Campbel
Superintendent of Schools

School Board

The October board meeting was held at the Embden Community Center. The food options included fruit and cookies from Subway. The cookies were outstanding.

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

A new member from New Portland, Harry Stout, joined the board.

Adjustments to the Agenda: One appointment was added to the agenda, and one additional action item was added.

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

Data Presentation: Scott Hall, Geoff Case, Bruce Dostie, and Tammy Wyman discussed NWEA math and reading data. They also discussed attendance trends. In the last year or two, the test scores have moved in a good direction in all schools. RSU 74 is improving at rates higher than the state averages. In the area of attendance, the news is also positive. While statewide student attendance rates are dropping, RSU 74 student attendance rates in most schools are either staying the same or improving.

Superintendent Report: Mr. Campbell thanked Rachel Merrill for filling in at Solon and GS when the principal job suddenly became vacant in September.

Appointments: Candy Lebeau - CCS Yearbook Advisor; Alicia Bedard - McKenney Vento Liaison; Call Chick - Lead Staff, Solon; Brooke Welch - JV girls' basketball, CHS

There discussion of the policy/job description of the Lead Staff position. The superintendent is going to review this..

Resignation: Amy McDaniel: Principal, GS and Solon

Nominations: Alexandria Folco - Special Ed/Ed Tech Two, GS; Savannah Frith - Special Ed/Ed Tech One, CCS; Joelle Eufusia - Special Ed/Ed Tech Two, Solon; Ryann O'Brien – Spaulding - Special Ed/Ed Tech Two, GS; Lacey Frost: Social Worker, CCS and CHS

Admin Reports: Most of the administrators chose not to add to their written board reports, though Rachel Merrill fielded questions from board members. She was asked to look into the possibility of CHS having its own indoor track team and was asked to explain the decision not to add Madison middle school students to the CCS boys' soccer team. A board member suggested that it was time for CHS to have a ski team again.

Committees: The Buildings and Grounds Committee met on September 16, and the Restructure Committee did as well. The Policy Committee met on September 23.

Public Comment: Justin Frost and James Davis spoke about their goal to "bring baseball back" at CHS. They are willing to put in their own money and/or fund-raise to get better uniforms and to improve the condition of the baseball field. They are appreciative of the job Rachel Merrill is doing. They hope there will be cooperation and communication between them and the school district going forward.

The Van: The board authorized the superintendent "to secure a van including signing all paperwork for financing the purchase."

Emergency Plan: The board approved updates.

Maine Youth in Government: The board approved a November 6 - 8 overnight trip to Augusta.

Solon/GS Principal: The board voted unanimously to approve Jean Butler as interim principal at Solon and GS.

Job Description: The board approved the job description for a Middle/High School Strength, Conditioning, and Nutrition Coach.

Two Buses: The board voted to allow the Director of Transportation to get permission from the state to purchase two buses.

Policies, First Reading: The board voted to approve the first reading of the following policies: n GAB, Job Descriptions; EBCF, Automated External Defibrillators (AED's); JFL, Child Abuse Reporting, Prevention, and Education; BDG, School Attorney; BE, School Board Meeting; Policy BEA: The first reading of policy BEA, School Board Use of Electronic Mail, was tabled.

Ed Tech Positions: The board authorized "the addition of extra ed tech positions in regular instruction to support students as needed."

Indoor Track: The board approved a cooperative high school indoor track team with Skowhegan.

Adjournment: The meeting ended at 7:55 pm.

Submitted:
Dave Ela
President of Carrabec Teachers Association