



NEW PORTLANDER

INFORMATION IS THE CURRENCY OF DEMOCRACY — THOMAS JEFFERSON



PUBLICATION VOLUME 18 NUMBER 2

Visit the Town of New Portland's web page at newportlandmaine.org

AUGUST 1, 2011

E-mail for town business: nwprtlnd@tds.net | The Town of New Portland is an equal opportunity employer and service provider.

TOWN OFFICE HOURS

The Town Office hours are as follows:

Town Manager: Stacie Rundlett 628-4441

Tax collecting, registrations, hunting & fishing licenses

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 11:00 am - 5:00 pm
Thursday 2:00 pm - 7:00 pm
First Saturday of each month 8:00 am - noon
(except Holiday weekends)

Town Clerk: Becky Taylor

Vital statistics & dog licensing

Monday 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm
Thursdays 3:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Deputy Town Clerk: Marilyn Gorman

Monday 12:00 pm - 3:00 pm

CEO:

First and third Tuesday 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm

Assessor's Agent:

Every other Monday 10:00 am - 2:00 pm
or call to schedule a meeting

Remember...

- **Selectmen's Meeting**
1st Tuesday of each month at 6:30 pm &
3rd Monday of each month at 6:30 pm
- **New Portland Fire Department Meeting**
2nd & 4th Tuesday of each month at 6:30 pm
- **NP Community Library Hours:**
Mon, Wed, Thurs 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm
Saturday 10:00 am - noon
- **Library Board of Trustees Meeting**
2nd Tuesday of the month at 6:00 pm
- **Planning Board Meeting**
1st Wednesday of the month at 6:30 pm
- **New Portland Water District**
2nd Wednesday of each month at 7:00 pm
- **School Board Meeting**
1st Wednesday of each month at 6:00 pm
- **Wire Bridge Thrift Shop** open every Saturday
- **Firemen's Auxiliary**
2nd Wednesday of each month at 6:30 pm

New Portlander deadline is August 25 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: bigd@tdstelme.net

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

Selectmen's Minutes

SELECTMEN'S MEETING MINUTES FOR JUNE 20, 2011

Selectmen Present: Wayne Rundlett, Doug Archer, Andrea Reichert;
Present: Stacie Rundlett, Bert Dyer, Terri Lamontagne, Brian Rundlett, Kip Poulin

Meeting called to order 6:30 pm.

Andrea motioned to accept minutes from June 5 Selectmen's meeting; Doug seconded and all were in favor.

Bert Dyer, interim assessor's agent, brought to the Boards' attention a Tree Growth violation that had occurred in 2008. He reviewed with the Board the State Statutes regarding Tree Growth Laws. There was a brief discussion. The Board asked Bert to send a letter to the property owners regarding the Tree Growth violations, asking them to meet with the Board to discuss the matter further. Bert also briefs the Board on the assessing work and the status. The tax maps have been updated and Bert and Terri have started the field work that needs to be done.

Kip discussed with the Board that the options for purchasing fire truck for water. He found a truck that met the Board's prior authorized amount and his requirements in Florida. He reviewed expenses for retrieving the truck. There was a brief discussion about the matter.

Stacie discussed with the Board her findings after a conversation with the attorney at MMA regarding the County Commissioners ruling on an abatement request from Ronald Pinkham and the old Central School building.

There was a discussion about the Town Clerk's office and reporting issues involving the State of Maine Vital Statistics. She also briefed the Board on changes within the State of Maine Vital Statistics office and how it changes procedure in the Town Clerk's office.

The Board reviewed and signed Payroll and Accounts Payable Warrants.

Stacie discussed with the Board options for locking in fuel prices for the heating season of 2011-2012. The Board agreed for Stacie to call the School District to see who they might be going with this year. And then to make some calls to see pricing differences for heating fuel.

Stacie also briefed the Board about the town sign and putting it back up. Longer posts were ordered and deeper holes needed to be dug to ensure that it would not be blown over again.

The Board had a brief discussion with Brian about the informational meeting the Planning Board had on Wind Towers.

Stacie discussed with the Board the meetings she had with Douglas Marble and Peter Gardner dealing with the Transfer Station.

There was a discussion briefing the Board on the playground and the Recreation Committee. Currently, the Recreation Committee are working towards putting up a fence around the playground area next to the Fire Station.

Andrea motioned to adjourn the meeting, Wayne seconded. Meeting adjourned 8:10 pm.

smr

SELECTMEN'S MEETING MINUTES FOR JULY 5, 2011

Selectmen Present: Wayne Rundlett, Andrea Reichert; Present: Stacie Rundlett, Ed Boyer, Duane Ricker, Kip Poulin, Gary Agren, Jamie Eck, Mike Denticio

Meeting called to order 6:32 pm by Andrea Reichert as Doug Archer was not present.

Kip discussed with the Board that the fire truck which was discussed at the last meeting was no longer for sale. It seems the Department who owned it decided not to sell it. So he is still searching for a truck to meet New Portland's water needs. He also discussed with the Board that the small generator that is behind the Fire Station appears to have been hit by lightning. Parts were ordered and one of the department members who works on generators was going to install the new parts to save money on labor. There was a brief discussion on putting in an insurance claim for the damages. It was decided to not do that as the repairs and parts were not that much more than the Town's deductible with the insurance company.

Gary gave the Board some pricing from Fine Line Paving for possible tarring projects throughout the community. There was a brief discussion on the proposed projects. There was a discussion on culvert projects on Hancock Pond Road and the slip line project on the Gilman Road. After discussions on the proposed projects the Board decided to table the matters until the next meeting. Gary briefed the Board on some gravel work that was being done throughout the town.

The Board reviewed and signed the payroll and accounts payable warrants.

Andrea motioned to update the Town's website with funding to come from the TIF account, Wayne seconded and all were in favor.

There was a discussion for the Town to participate in the InfoMe-Rapid Renewal with the State of Maine. Stacie provided some information regarding the matter to the Board members. This would allow residents to renew their vehicle registrations online with the State of Maine. Stacie pointed out to the Board members that one of the downfalls to this was the loss of the revenue from the Agent Fee collected when this is done at the Town Office. She informed the Board that it would provide a convenience to the Town's residents, and she needed to get more information on matter. The Board decided to table the matter until she could do so.

Stacie discussed with the Board the option to participate in a program that would allow residents to pay for transactions by credit/debit cards. This was approved in the past by previous Board members but has not yet been implemented due to scheduling issues. The current Board members agreed that if no costs would be incurred by the Town and the residents wanted this option to go ahead and try to get this active as soon as Stacie could schedule it.

There was a discussion regarding changing the Town's mailing address. Last year it was authorized to change from a post office box to a regular mailbox at the Town Office. The Board decided it was still in favor of that, and Stacie informed them that she was going to try and have that accomplished before tax bills were issued so there would not be any confusion where to mail tax payments.

Wayne brought before the Board a complaint made by residents exiting Chick Road onto Route 27. It was proposed to him to put up a mirror so it would be easier to see the oncoming traffic around the bend of Route 27. The Board discussed the matter and asked Stacie

to contact the Department of Transportation to see how to go about doing something to resolve the issue.

Andrea motioned for the meeting to be adjourned, Wayne seconded. Meeting adjourned at 7:24 pm.

smr

Submitted: Stacie Rundlett, Town Manager

New Portland Community Library

The Spring Art Show at the New Portland Library, which brought so much color and vibrancy during those last shorter days in April, has come down, and has been replaced with . . . the OFFSPRING Show! Seven family units, whose work "springs off" each others' work, will be showing their paintings, photographs, prints, poetry and fiber art throughout the summer. A delightful study of relatedness within various family groups - mothers and children, fathers and daughters, brothers, husband and wife. The works of each family help to define their connections, while each individual family is so different in its expressions from the others. Take the time to ride over to the New Portland Community Library to see this amazing show. You'll be pleased that you did. The artists include Lynne Harwood and her daughter Faith Gilbert; Henry and Joan Braun; Patty Ritzo and her offspring - Jolie, Molly and Johnny; John Bunker and his daughter Phoebe; John Alsop and his daughter Ellen; brothers Abbott and Forrest Meader; and Chansonetta Stanley Emmons and her daughter Dorthy Stanley Emmons. Library hours - Monday, Wednesday and Thursday from 4:00 - 6:00 pm and on Saturday morning from 10:00 am - noon. You'll have a chance to meet the artists at the reception scheduled for Sunday August 14 from 4:00 - 6:00 pm. Everybody welcomed.

Submitted: Lolly Phoenix

Be sure to stop by the New Portland Community Library and check out the great new book selections in our adult fiction and young adult fiction sections! We have the new James Patterson novels and several others. Did you know that John Grisham has started a young adult series? We have them both!

Our Children's section desperately needs some new material! I've been making lists of books that the library should have available. I know that money is tight for lots of us so I'm proposing an idea. I'd like to ask anyone with a little money to spare to send a donation of \$15 or \$20 to the library. Write on the check "Children's Book Fund." With this money, I will purchase a book in your name. Inside the cover of the book will be a tag that says, "Donated by...". Send checks to: New Portland Community Library, 899 River Road, New Portland, ME 04961-3536. Thank you for all your support in helping our library grow and have more to offer when you stop by!

Submitted: Shelby Newell

Want to pull that novel or memoir out of the drawer? Looking for new inspiration for your poems or stories? Always wanted to try your hand at writing but never found the time? Looking for a supportive environment and helpful feedback? Then you need...

The Writers Group at the New Portland Community Library
Tuesdays 5:00 - 6:00 pm.
All ages and genres welcome!
Bring previous work or just paper and a pen.

Friends of the Library

On July 13 we held a very successful Ice Cream Social, and we also strawberry shortcake. Thank you to everyone who donated materi-

als and time. Also, we want to thank all of you who attended. We had terrific time visiting with everyone. Sundaes and shortcake were delicious, too.

On August 10, 2011, we will hold another Ice Cream Social at the Fireman's Meeting Room from 5:30 – 7:00 pm. Prices for sundaes are: 1 scoop - \$1.50, 2 scoops - \$2.50, 3 scoops - \$3.50, banana splits - \$4.00 and blueberry shortcake - \$4.00. All money raised will go toward new books for the library. We also are conducting a raffle of several items this month until the Ice Cream Social. Tickets are \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00. Tickets are available during regular library hours or at the Social. Hope to see more hungry people in August. We had a wonderful time eating and being social. It's always nice to chat with neighbors.

Submitted: Kay Michka

Recreation Committee

Recreation Meeting was held July 20, 2011; Meeting started at 6:30 pm.

Members present: Jessi Campbell, Stacie Rundlett, Judi Wills. Selectmen Wayne Rundlett, and Planning Board member Brian Rundlett.

First discussion was the final planning for the playground. It was decided at the last meeting to use all the equipment that is in the field. The committee had looked at the equipment and found pieces that were missing. So, we are trying to find replacement parts. Jessi will call the company who makes this equipment and price the parts. It was decided not to use the soccer nets, due to space. These will be given back to the individuals who donated the equipment. The committee reviewed money available and decided to purchase a new swing set. (There was not one in the items donated.). The swing set was ordered by Stacie according to the requirements stated in the Playground Safety Handbook.

Measurements were taken to plan the placement of the equipment following the safety rules for spacing. The area was stacked out.

Next, we discussed the work that needed to be done and a time frame. Jay Luce was contacted to see if he was interested in digging the holes needed for the equipment. (He had said a year or more ago he would do this). Jay requested we marked where all the equipment would be going, mark the areas for digging. This has been done with what equipment that is there; we have to wait until the swing arrives to make sure we get measurements according to the size of the equipment. Each piece of equipment will be set into cement.

The construction plan for the playground will be done in phases/stages to make sure all requirements are being met. We are planning a work day for August 27 to move the equipment and pour the cement. We are also hoping to have ground fabric to cover over the area, followed by wood chips. This is the acceptable material in our playground handbook. The material will be the depth required for "fall factors" from the equipment. This sounds like a busy day, but the committee feels with the right lifting equipment and helping hands this can be accomplished. The committee is working on getting this all organized for that day, meeting at 8:00 am at the Fire Station / Community Room on the 27th of August. Next phase will be the fence that has been requested by citizens for the safety of children running out into the parking lot. There is a gravel pad in place for parking right next to where the equipment will be going. The fence will go around the entire play area with a gate at one end. At that end we hope to put a picnic table, benches, and trash cans. The fence will be purchased from a local business. A donation was made to the Recreation Committee to help purchase this fence; also, we have received money from community businesses and families to have a plaque with their names on a section of fence to help fund this purchase. The wood chips will be purchased from

a local company, which have the chips, that meet the guidelines in our handbook. The fire department has an interest in the basketball hoops to set up. More discussion will be held to determine if this is still something they want to do.

Discussion and plans for future events were held. We will be doing a Harvest Festival in October to go with the Scarecrow Contest. We are in hopes to have a few activities to draw people here and have fun. Also, the committee talked about the "wagon" ride singing car-olers. We would like to do this again in December. More discussion on these subjects will be held at our meeting August 10, 2011 at 6:30 pm at the Community Room. We have room for more people to join our committee, or just attend the meeting if you wish to share ideas. If you would like to suggest an idea, you are welcome to call Judi Wills or Jessi Campbell to discuss them.

Next Meeting: August 10, 2011

Work on playground: August 27th at 8:00 am at the Fire Station/Community Room. BBQ will be provided for lunch.

HELPING HANDS NEEDED!

Please consider sparing a few hours to help construct the playground for the children of New Portland.

Plan on meeting at the playground site by the fire department at 8:00 am on Saturday, August 27, 2011.

We will have all equipment needed and a plan of what we need to do. The Recreation Committee will have a BBQ planned! So just bring a pair of gloves, a willingness to work and a smile!!! "We'll GET-R-DONE!" Thank you - the Recreation Committee.

Submitted by Judi Wills

Announcement

I want to take a little space here, to say Thank You to everyone who helped put the flags up in New Portland. This started with just a few flags during our Bicentennial to show our pride as a town and a country. People in New Portland chose to continue to raise the flags and many have supported the tradition. To have the freedom to have the flag wave and as citizens to raise it, in honor of all the soldiers (men and women) who fought and fight now for all of our rights and freedom. We stand strong as a community in doing this.

So, why is it a few people, choose to continue to destroy a symbol such as the flag, just because they can. In the dark of night when no one can see you. Three flags have been put onto the East New Portland Bridge and each one has been destroyed. Flags cut off the pole, then when the flag was replaced the pole snapped off and everything thrown into the river. So a stronger pole was made, same thing happened again. This year we made the pole with heavy metal, raised it a little higher. Then the morning on July 4 the pole was twisted and bent down, and the flag cut off because they could not remove it from the pole. (It took more than 1 or 2 people to do this.)

I wonder if you know what the flag is a symbol of? Do you know how you remain being free to make choices to live, work, not work or play? If you have that much time on your hands become part of the town and help us keep the flags waving. Take the time to help someone in the community that could use a hand up. Volunteer in the community, your energy is needed in many places. You have the choice to do what you want, but please allow the citizens in New Portland, our choice to support our men and women who choose to keep this town and country free.

A thank you to the people who keep untwisting the flags and letting them wave freely.

Submitted: Judi Wills

NEW PORTLAND MAINE 04961
 POSTAL PATRON

The New Portlander
 Established July 1994



BULK RATE
 US POSTAGE
PAID
 New Portland, ME
 Permit No. 1



NEW PORTLANDER CALENDAR
AUGUST 2011



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2 Selectmen's Meeting 6:30 pm Writer's Group - NPCL 5:00 - 7:00 pm	3	4	5	6 Town Office Open 8 am - noon
7 Summer Services North Village Church 11:00 am	8	9 Writer's Group - NPCL 5:00 - 7:00 pm	10 Annual Ice Cream Social NPCL 5:30 - 6:30 pm Rec Committee Meeting 6:30 pm	11 Knitwits 10:00 am NPCL	12	13
14 Summer Services North Village Church 11:00 am	15 Selectmen's Meeting 6:30 pm	16 Writer's Group - NPCL 5:00 - 7:00 pm	17	18	19	20
21 Summer Services North Village Church 11:00 am	22 Town Office CLOSED	23 Writer's Group - NPCL 5:00 - 7:00 pm	24	25 Knitwits 10:00 am NPCL	26	27 Rec. Committee Playground Work Day 8:00 am Fire Station
28 Summer Services North Village Church 11:00 am	29 Town Office CLOSED	30 Writer's Group - NPCL 5:00 - 7:00 pm Town Office CLOSED	31			