



# The Biddeford Beat

THE CITY OF BIDDEFORD WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

MONDAY, JANUARY 14, 2019

VOLUME 19.02

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## UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Meetings are located in the Council Chambers at City Hall unless otherwise stated. Live meetings can be viewed on the [City of Biddeford website](http://www.biddefordmaine.org/) or on the Public Access Channel.

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|------------------|--|
| <b>Monday</b>    | <b>January 14, 2019</b>  |
| 4:30 p.m.        | Cable T.V. Committee Meeting @ Public Access Building                    |
| <b>Tuesday</b>   | <b>January 15, 2019</b>  |
| 5:00 p.m.        | Finance Committee Meeting (Live)   |
| 6:00 p.m.        | City Council Meeting (Live)  |
| <b>Wednesday</b> | <b>January 16, 2019</b>  |
| 6:00 p.m.        | Planning Board (Live)  |
| 6:30 p.m.        | Solid Waste Management Commission @ Public Works                         |
| <b>Thursday</b>  | <b>January 17, 2019</b>  |
| 4:00 p.m.        | Historic Preservation Commission @ 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room |
| 5:00 p.m.        | My Neighborhood Network Meeting (Main Street Neighborhood) @ Flourish    |
| 7:00 p.m.        | Conservation Commission @ 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room          |

All meetings are subject to change. [Click here](#) to view updates on the full city calendar.

## SNOW EMERGENCY PARKING BAN INFORMATION

During Snow Emergency Parking Bans, the following parking lots will be open to the public **AT NO COST**:

- Community Center Parking Lot
- Clifford Park Parking Lot
- East Biddeford Little League Parking Lot (on Hill Street)
- Public Access Building Lot (located at 15 Columbus Way off of Pool Street)
- 39 Sullivan Street Lot

You may also park in the following lots during a Snow Emergency Parking Ban for a \$2 **PER STORM FEE**:

- Foss Street (Purple Lot)
- Wastewater Treatment (Brown Lot)
- Gas House (Maroon Lot)
- Washington Street (Red Lot)

As always, you will need to adhere to the parking ban notice and move your vehicle by the time stated for the parking ban so that snow can be removed from the lot. **If your vehicle is not moved by the designated time, it will be towed at the owner's expense.**

To sign up to receive an email notification when snow parking bans are announced, please [click here](#). You may also call the **24/7 Snow Ban Hotline** at **207-571-0616** to check if there is a snow parking ban in effect.



City Hall will be closed on Monday, January 21, 2019 in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Trash and recycling pickup schedules will not be affected.



## The Small Business Revolution Welcome Event

Monday, January 21, 2019

Sellam Circus School (40 Main Street, Building 13, Suite #135)

7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Heart of Biddeford invites the community to come meet Amanda Brinkman and her crew from The Small Business Revolution, as they come to learn more about what makes Biddeford so special. The crew wants to meet small business owners, residents, and community movers and shakers. We need them to see how enthusiastic we are about Biddeford's revitalization. (Remember, if we are chosen, 6 small business owners will receive business support to the tune of **\$500,000**, and Biddeford will be featured on a very positive Hulu TV show!) Show up a few minutes early to see a circus performance!

Heart of Biddeford will serve snacks and cash bar. Please RSVP to HOB's [Facebook event](#) to help them estimate the number of attendees.



MY NEIGHBORHOOD NETWORK

NEIGHBORHOOD GET TOGETHER - JOIN US!

Do you love your neighborhood? Are there things you want to change? "My Neighborhood Network" wants to hear from you! Join your neighbors for discussion and refreshments. Kids welcome, with an adult.

FLOURISH  
140 MAIN STREET  
5:00PM  
THURSDAY,  
JANUARY 17

## My Neighborhood Network Meeting for Main Street Neighborhood

Through the My Neighborhood Network initiative, residents of defined neighborhoods meet to discuss what makes them feel connected to their neighborhood and what changes they would like to see in their communities. The January 17 meeting at 5:00 p.m. at Flourish is intended for residents of the Main Street neighborhood, though all community members are invited to attend. Community Development Coordinator Linda Waters, Rev. Shirley Bowen of Seeds of Hope, and Sarah Breul of the UNE Coastal Healthy Communities Coalition will facilitate discussion. The City is specifically interested in identifying sidewalk and broadband needs in the neighborhood.

FMI, call 284-9105 or email [linda.waters@biddefordmaine.org](mailto:linda.waters@biddefordmaine.org)



Save the Date!

Find the full schedule [here](#).



## CHRISTMAS TREE PICKUP

From now until Wednesday, January 16, Biddeford residents can put their Christmas trees out by the road on the same day as their curbside trash pickup and the City will collect them. Trees may also be brought to the Transfer Station for disposal.



## DOWNTOWN COMMITTEE MEETING UPDATE

At Thursday's Downtown Committee Meeting, the committee voted to add six additional free 30-minute parking spots in the Green Lot in front of Louis Pizza. Additionally, two additional free 30-minute parking spaces will be made available in the Blue Lot for police business only. To review the agenda for the meeting or watch a recording of the meeting, please [click here](#).

## 2018 IN REVIEW – TOP 10 PROUDEST MOMENTS

Our community had a lot to be proud of in 2018! Here are some of our proudest moments from the past year, according to our departments:

10. Volunteer Support for the Recreation Department
9. Improved Employee Giving and Morale
8. Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) Abatement Program
7. Reduction in Recycling Contamination through Education Efforts
6. Recognition from Maine Real Estate and Development Association
5. Community and City Response to the Hill Street Fire Tragedy
4. Successes with the Saco Biddeford Opioid Outreach Program
3. Community Support for Waterhouse Field Renovations
2. CALEA Accreditation
1. National Recognition for Biddeford's Accomplishments

We will be including details about these accomplishments in the next few editions of the Biddeford Beat. Read about numbers 10, 9, and 8 below!

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### 10. Volunteer Support for the Recreation Department

The Recreation Department often depends on volunteers to help deliver its services. Volunteers are involved as coaches, instructors, support at special events and involved with park projects, to name a few. This past year, two projects were brought to completion to improve and add amenities to both Rotary and Clifford Parks by dedicated volunteers.

Rotary Park witnessed the addition of a nine-hole disc golf course due to the efforts and commitment of two volunteers, Zack Boston and Brad Gagnon. They raised over \$4,000 and mobilized other volunteers interested in the sport to install the course. The process to get the project off the ground took a couple years in total, and in the end a free course is now available in the community due to the efforts of these two young men.

The next project was also one of passion for skaters Andrew Syska and Ian Junkins who greatly improved the mini skate park at Clifford Park. Previously the park had some curbing for obstacles. Along with fellow co-workers, Andrew, his dad and local skaters transformed the park with concrete ramps. A rail for the park was also donated by Gloria Gregoire, who was involved in getting the initial Clifford Park Skate Park up and going while an officer in Biddeford. However, the rail ended up at the Rotary Skate Park due to the limited space at Clifford, at least for the time being. Andrew and the skaters that he has involved also have greatly improved the skate park at Rotary Park over the past few years. These efforts have saved thousands of dollars for the city while providing an improved experience for users.

No question these volunteers along with so many others give so much to this community to improve and provide services to all ages.

**-Carl Walsh, Recreation Director**

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## 9. Employee Giving and Morale

I am proud of the personal generosity of staff that I have seen since I started with the City in October. For 2019, 16 more employees pledged to donate a portion of their weekly paycheck to the United Way than had been donating in 2018, totaling a \$3,740 commitment from our staff! It is also a holiday tradition for City employees to sponsor local families in need, and this year our staff went above and beyond to grant the holiday wishes of three families.



This summer, City employees created a new group called Events 205 to work to improve employee morale by creating opportunities for staff to come together in an informal setting. The group has discovered that our staff members love good food and friendly competition, so we have been holding monthly cook-off contests. Participants bring in a certain category of dish to share, and we get together on our lunch breaks to taste-test and vote for our favorites. At the end of 2018, we also hosted a holiday decorating contest, and staff members used their personal time and resources to bring as much holiday cheer to their halls and offices as possible. The competition was so fierce that we called in an independent panel of judges that selected the City Clerk's Office as this year's winner. We hope that this new holiday tradition lives on for years to come!

**-Diana DePaolo, Deputy Human Resources Director**

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## 8. Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) Abatement Program

The Maine Department of Environmental Protection and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency require the City of Biddeford to continue working on its Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) abatement plan to reduce the discharge of untreated wastewater into the Saco River, Thatcher Brook, and other waters during periods of heavy rainfall. The CSO Program has been and will remain active for several years. During high rain events, the single pipe system that carries both household wastewater (from toilets, tubs, sinks) and street storm water cannot handle the high volume, and as a result, untreated wastewater overflows into a waterbody. Since July 1995, the City has eliminated seven outfalls and has reduced the wastewater contribution to the remaining outfalls through the ongoing sewer separation projects.

In 2018, CSO work was undertaken on South Street, Lincoln Street, Graham Street, and Main Street. The newly-constructed system was created to be a two-pipe system, with one pipe that carries the household wastewater to the treatment plant and a separate pipe for carrying storm water. The City has been very aggressive and successful at applying for grants and other non-local funds to fund the CSO Program when they are available. City staff has been very successful and will continue meeting the compliance schedule. Ultimately, the CSO Program will reduce the level and frequency of pollutant discharges into our rivers and streams, reduce basement and yard flooding, and will create a safer and cleaner environment.

**-Jeff Demers, Public Works Director**

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## Incident Type

| <u>Incident Type</u>                                  | <u>Occurrences</u> | <u>Percentage</u> |
|---|--------------------|-------------------|
| BFD FIRE IN OR ON A BUILDING                          | 26                 | 0.5               |
| BFD PROVIDE MUTUAL/AUTOMATIC AID STRUCTURE FIRE       | 20                 | 0.4               |
| BFD FIRE CONFINED TO COOKING APPLIANCE                | 14                 | 0.3               |
| BFD CHIMNEY OR FLUE FIRE                              | 1                  | 0.0               |
| BFD FUEL BURNER/BOILER MALFUNCTION, FIRE CONFINED     | 14                 | 0.3               |
| BFD TRASH OR RUBISH FIRE CONTAINED                    | 3                  | 0.1               |
| BFD VEHICLE FIRE                                      | 9                  | 0.2               |
| BFD MULCH FIRE  | 12                 | 0.2               |
| BFD BRUSH/WOODS/GRASS FIRE                            | 8                  | 0.1               |
| BFD DUMPSTER FIRE                                     | 2                  | 0.0               |
| EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury      | 2                  | 0.0               |
| BFD EMS CALL RESCUE ONLY NO TRANSPORT                 | 524                | 9.7               |
| BFD EMS CALL RES/ENG NO TRANSPORT                     | 220                | 4.1               |
| BFD EMS CALL RESCUE ONLY TRANSPORT TO HOSPITAL        | 1690               | 31.3              |
| BFD EMS CALL RES/ENG TRANSPORT TO HOSPITAL            | 1083               | 20.1              |
| BFD EMS TRANSPORT SMHC TO A MEDICAL FACILITY          | 321                | 5.9               |
| BFD RECEIVE MUTUAL AID FOR EMS CALL                   | 96                 | 1.8               |
| BFD PROVIDE MUTUAL AID FOR EMS CALL                   | 72                 | 1.3               |
| BFD MVC W/OUT INJURY                                  | 94                 | 1.7               |
| BFD MVC W/ INJURY                                     | 91                 | 1.7               |
| BFD MVC W/ EXTRICATION                                | 1                  | 0.0               |
| Motor vehicle accident with no injuries.              | 1                  | 0.0               |
| BFD ELEVATOR RESCUE                                   | 15                 | 0.3               |
| BFD SPECIALIZED RESCUE/ ABOVE/BELOW GRADE/CONFINED    | 3                  | 0.1               |
| BFD MARINE CALL                                       | 9                  | 0.2               |
| BFD WATER RESUE/ PERSONS IN THE WATER                 | 7                  | 0.1               |
| BFD HAZARDOUS CONDITION (STRUCTUAL, SAFETY, OTHER)    | 4                  | 0.1               |
| BFD HAZMAT (MINOR) (GAS OR OIL SPILL)                 | 17                 | 0.3               |
| BFD PROPANE/NG LEAK                                   | 4                  | 0.1               |
| BFD CARBON MONOXIDE                                   | 18                 | 0.3               |
| BFD CARBON MONOXIDE ALARM MALFUNCTION                 | 23                 | 0.4               |
| BFD ELECTRICAL PROBLEM                                | 18                 | 0.3               |
| BFD CABLE LINE DOWN                                   | 25                 | 0.5               |
| BFD TELEPHONE LINE DOWN                               | 16                 | 0.3               |
| BFD WIRES ARCING                                      | 22                 | 0.4               |
| BFD TREE DOWN   | 3                  | 0.1               |
| BFD POWER LINE DOWN                                   | 5                  | 0.1               |
| TREE DOWN   | 3                  | 0.1               |
| Aircraft standby                                      | 1                  | 0.0               |
| BFD ATTEMPTED BURN ILLEGALLY                          | 9                  | 0.2               |
| BFD LOCK OUT VEHICLE OR STRUCTURE                     | 18                 | 0.3               |
| BFD WATER PROBLEM                                     | 37                 | 0.7               |
| BFD INSIDE SMOKE OR ORDOR INVESTIGATION               | 42                 | 0.8               |
| BFD PUBLIC ASSIST                                     | 73                 | 1.4               |
| BFD ASSIST POLICE OR OTHER AGENCY                     | 10                 | 0.2               |
| BFD PROVIDE MUTUAL AID NON STRUCTURE FIRE             | 31                 | 0.6               |
| Assist invalid  | 1                  | 0.0               |
| BFD UNPERMITTED BURN                                  | 18                 | 0.3               |
| PERMIT/CAMP FIRE INVESTIGATION                        | 4                  | 0.1               |
| BFD STATION COVERAGE/STAND-BY                         | 1                  | 0.0               |
| Dispatched & canceled en route                        | 1                  | 0.0               |
| BFD EMS CALL CANCELLED ENROUTE                        | 88                 | 1.6               |
| BFD BFD FIRE CALL CANCELED ENROUTE                    | 47                 | 0.9               |
| CANCELLED ENROUTE MUTUAL/AUTOMATIC AID STRUCTURE FIRE | 12                 | 0.2               |
| BFD CHECK ON PERMITTED BURN                           | 7                  | 0.1               |
| BFD OUTSIDE SMOKE OR ODOR INVESTIGATION               | 35                 | 0.6               |
| BFD MASTER/SUPERVISED BOX WATER FLOW                  | 14                 | 0.3               |
| BFD MASTER/SUPERVISED BOX PULLS/SMOKES                | 182                | 3.4               |