



# The Biddeford Beat

THE CITY OF BIDDEFORD WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

MONDAY, JANUARY 21, 2019

VOLUME 19.03

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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.

**Monday January 21, 2019**

Holiday – City Hall CLOSED

**Tuesday January 22, 2019**

7:00 p.m. School Committee @ BHS Little Theater

**Thursday January 24, 2019**

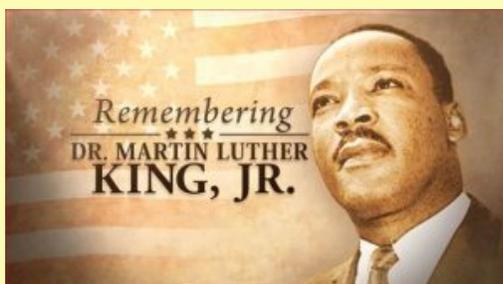
6:30 p.m. Airport Commission Meeting (Live)

**Thursday January 31, 2019**

5:30 p.m. Public Hearing: CDBG Entitlement Program Year 2 Action Plan

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

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.



## THERE WILL BE A SNOW EMERGENCY PARKING BAN FROM JANUARY 19 AT 8:00 P.M. TO JANUARY 21 AT 7:00 A.M.

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.



## 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.



Get ready for a fun, cabin-fever busting weekend in Biddeford, Feb. 1 – 3, 2019 with something for everyone! This year, the sledding hill right in the midst of the downtown is being designed with a giant curve. [Click here](#) for a full schedule of events, and check out a selection of Saturday's events below!

### Saturday, Feb. 2, 2019 "Winter Fun Time" Schedule

**10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Winter Fun Time!** This is the true "heart" of WinterFest! Come on out for a FREE day of fun for families in the center of downtown!

**10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Sledding** (on Adams Street). Sleds provided!

**10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Snow Golf & Snowshoeing**, provided by Biddeford Recreation Dept.

**10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Fat Bike demos** w/Community Bicycle Center

**10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Snow person building!** If the weather permits, fill the park with snow people! Plus – Hill decorating! Decorate the sides of the sledding hill – drawing tools provided!

Noon – 2 p.m. Free pony rides!

**Noon – 2:30 p.m. Take a ride** in a horse-pulled wagon!

**Noon – 2 p.m. Winter Wonderland Art Exhibit** in City Hall

*New Life Church will also provide delicious snacks, hot dogs, and cocoa! All for FREE!*

Follow along at <https://biddefordwinterfest.org/> for a complete schedule and updates!



## CITY COUNCIL MEETING UPDATES

- The cost of a parking ticket for failure to purchase a parking permit has been reduced to \$35.
- The clock in the City Hall clock tower will tell time once again! As you may know, this fall Heart of Biddeford won a \$150,000 grant from American Express and the National Trust for Historic Preservation to begin restoration work on the clock tower. The City Council has approved using part of the funds to return the clock to working condition. No City funds will be used to complete this work.
- The Council approved the option to offer "gift cards" for the downtown parking kiosks as an alternative method of payment for cash-only households. These will be available for purchase in the City Clerk's office in the future.
- A portable toilet has been installed in Mechanics Park for those who may be in need of a public restroom facility.



## 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 7, 6, and 5 in this week’s edition!

### 7. Reduction in Recycling Contamination through Education Efforts

For many years, source separation was the primary method for recycling. However, technology has changed how recyclables are collected and processed. China, the largest importer of materials for recycling, began strictly enforcing regulations on importing contaminated recycling materials into the country in 2018. China’s Operation Green Fence puts restrictions on what material China will accept, rejecting materials that do not meet higher standards of cleanliness; that means rejected materials get buried in a landfill instead of being recycled. Regardless of the type of recycling program, the biggest challenge here in Biddeford is minimizing contaminated recycling material.

Educating the community about proper recycling methods has been ongoing for the Public Works Department’s solid waste department for the last 6 months. It has been very time-consuming for staff, but necessary to achieve high diversion with clean marketable material. **Biddeford has gone from a 40% contamination level to around 18% through educating the community on how to properly recycle.** Casella Inc., the City’s recycling contractor, has given Biddeford high praise on the efforts that have been made over the recent months. Public Works staff will continue to educate the public about the issue to try to achieve about an 8% contamination rate in the months to come.

-Jeff Demers, Public Works Director

**ZERO-SORT® RECYCLING**  
No sorting on your end makes recycling quick and easy! Just focus on tossing **ONLY** the Zero-Sort recyclables listed below into your recycling bin and Casella takes care of the rest.

CARDBOARD/PAPER		
Corrugated Cardboard (Wavy center layer)	Boxboard (Dry-food boxes, paper bags, egg cartons, toilet paper and paper towel rolls)	Junk Mail, Periodicals & Office Paper (Catalogs, envelopes, soft cover books, shredded paper if contained in a paper bag)
PLASTIC	METAL	GLASS
Rigid Plastic Containers (#1 - #7, 5-gallon pails)	Metal & Food Cans (Aluminum, tin, foil)	Glass Bottles (Food jars, beverage bottles) <b>NO broken glass!</b>

**Remember...**

- ✓ All containers are empty, rinsed & dry
- ✓ No items smaller than 2"

**Recycle Properly!**

- ✓ Cardboard is flattened and broken down
- ✓ There are no items from the NOT ACCEPTED list in the recycling bin

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## 6. Recognition from Maine Real Estate and Development Association



In 2018, Biddeford (and Saco) became a focal point for investment in Southern Maine. At the Maine Real Estate and Development Association (MEREDA) annual forecast meeting, various markets were identified for future growth. The Biddeford area was cited for its new downtown restaurants, for its successful infill of vacant properties, its redevelopment of downtown buildings and the continued revitalization of the Biddeford Mill complex. The business parks are filled and vibrant; the medical community developing around Southern Maine Health Center continuing to expand. Staff are proud of the accomplishments of local businesses and their investments and look forward to assisting them further in 2019.

**-Mathew Eddy, Planning and Development Director**

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## 5. Community Response to the Hill Street Fire Tragedy

On April 2, 2018, a fatal fire broke out at 45 Hill Street which completely destroyed that apartment building as well as one side of the neighboring apartment building, thus displacing numerous tenants for an extended period of time. Due to the extremely challenging nature of this fire, the Biddeford Fire Department worked with a total of 13 other agencies in a coordinated effort to address the incident. The Biddeford Police Department and Code Enforcement Office were also on hand to assist. Within hours of the fire, the Red Cross had set up in City Hall, and with the aid of the City General Assistance Office, assisted displaced tenants with vouchers, replacing medications and finding temporary housing.

Over the next few months, the General Assistance Office continued working with the tenants of these buildings to ensure they were securing more permanent housing and were getting food and personal care items. The GA Office also worked with volunteers from our community to organize an item drop off, which included a large range of clothing, houseware items, furniture, bedding and food. A local school, civic organizations and folks from our community and surrounding communities brought in an overwhelming amount of items to help replace all that had been lost in the fire. The tenants who were affected by the fire were then invited to go through all the donated items and take what they needed/wanted. All items that were not taken were then given to the Salvation Army. The collection and donation of these items was a huge undertaking in which many City employees and some citizens volunteered their time to help organize and distribute.

In an on-going effort to help replenish the Fire Fund, which is maintained through the City's General Assistance Office, a Portland radio station held a fundraiser, as did Biddeford's own Dirigo Brewing, in coordination with the Biddeford Firefighters. The outpouring of kindness and generosity by so many was truly awe-inspiring in the face of such a tragic event.

**-City Clerk Carmen Morris and Fire Chief Scott Gagne**

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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
BFD MASTER/SUPERVISED BOX TAMPER OR TROUBLE	26	0.5
BFD FALSE ALARM MASTER/SUPERVISED BOX SYSTEM MALFUNCTION	18	0.3
BFD FALSE CALL-GOOD INTENT	68	1.3
BFD REPORTED FIRE UNFOUNDED	3	0.1
BFD PULLS/SMOKE DETECTOR ACTIVATION RESIDENTIAL	54	1.0
BFD RESIDENTIAL ALARM MALFUNCTION	90	1.7
ANIMAL RESCUE	1	0.0
BFD CITIZEN COMPLAINT	8	0.1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5395</b>	<b>100.0</b>