



The Biddeford Beat

THE CITY OF BIDDEFORD WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2019

VOLUME 19.06

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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 | February 11, 2019 |
| 6:30 p.m. | Policy Committee (Live) |
| Tuesday | February 12, 2019 |
| 4:30 p.m. | School Committee (Live) @ BHS Little Theater |
| Wednesday | February 13, 2019 |
| 4:00 p.m. | Historic Preservation Commission |
| 7:00 p.m. | Shellfish Committee Meeting @ Biddeford Pool Fire Station |
| Tuesday | February 19, 2019 |
| 5:00 p.m. | Finance Committee Meeting (Live) |
| 6:00 p.m. | City Council Meeting (Live) |

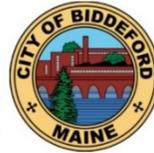
All meetings are subject to change. [Click here to view updates on the full city calendar.](#)



MAIN STREET

SmallBizRev is announcing their Top 5 communities on **February 12 at 8:30 am.**

If Biddeford makes the list, we'll be in a week-long online vote to compete for the \$500,000 of small business support. Join HOB at Reilly's Bakery to watch the livestream!



The City of Biddeford is using Polco's civic engagement software to get input from the community.

polco.us/biddeford

Visit Polco to create an account and share your thoughts, feedback, and ideas.



The City of Biddeford is looking for your feedback on your use of our public parks! **To begin anonymously answering questions from City officials and leaving comments, visit polco.us/biddeford or download the Polco app for iOS or Android.** These questions about public parks will be available until February 16, 2019.

If Polco is anonymous, why am I asked for my personal information?

Citizens are asked to enter their name, zip code, and email address to register for an account. Polco asks for this information to verify if participants are registered voters in Biddeford, although *you do not have to be registered to vote to answer questions on Polco.* Residents' individual information is never shared and cannot be accessed by the City or other users. Registering for an account on Polco will also ensure that you receive a weekly email letting you know when the City has posted new questions that we need your input on.

COUNCIL MEETING UPDATE

At Tuesday's City Council meeting, the Council approved a lease purchase agreement for the 2 Water Street property. The entrepreneur behind the project grew up in Biddeford and returned here to start this business, which will be titled Magnus on Water. The plans for the property are to create a new upscale cocktail establishment with food availability, as well as green space that will be a gateway entrance into the city. You can take a look at the design below (click the picture for an expandable version).



The Council voted on a first reading of an ordinance to increase the free parking period in the Yellow Lot to the first two hours that a car is parked each calendar day. Currently, the first hour of parking in the Yellow Lot is free.

Additionally, the Council voted on a first reading of a parking waiver moratorium to address parking congestion issues in the downtown.

NEW EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

The City of Biddeford's new Field Lister, David Radcliffe, started with us last week and will share his responsibilities with the City of Saco. We got to know David in a new employee spotlight video that you can watch on our Facebook page. Welcome to the team, David!

What made you want to work for the cities of Biddeford and Saco?

When I first started looking around for employment down here, the things that are going on Biddeford and Saco with the downtown improvements and such made it seem like it would be a really good place to work. There's some pretty exciting stuff going on in the area right now!

Tell us a little bit about your work history.

I worked in education for 11-12 years in special education and as an athletic director and a coach as well. I decided to make the move down here and try something a little bit different.

What would you say is your biggest achievement?

Probably my children, and raising a family of good human beings.

What are some of your hobbies and interests outside work?

I like to work out, sports, hunting and fishing. Anything to do with the outdoors!



ICE SAFETY TIPS

Each year, the Biddeford Fire Department conducts Ice Rescue Training on the Saco River. Deputy Fire Chief Kevin Duross explains how the BFD practices techniques for saving someone who has fallen through the ice and shares some tips about how to stay safe on ice in the winter.

Q: How can I tell if ice is safe to walk on?

A: Ice can be thick in some areas and thin in others and it can be hard to tell when looking at it or even standing on it. First, always take note of what the environment is, especially seasonal changes from warm to cold or cold to warm weather. If you are venturing onto ice, make sure you know for sure how thick the ice is – give or take, ice that is 3-4 inches thick is a safe, walkable area, but if you are unsure, don't go out onto the ice. If there are open areas on the ice, don't go out.



Rescuers are attached to rope when they walk out onto the ice, and some members of the rescue team stay on shore to pull the ropes in.

Q: What should I do if I fall through ice?

A: Always keep your head above water. To self-rescue, try to get your arms and elbows up onto the ice shelf.

Kick your legs to be able to get your body up onto the shelf and roll away, onto thicker ice if possible. Depending on how cold the water is, your body can actually start to shut down on you within three to thirty minutes. Initially your heart rate and respiratory rate will increase, but in a short time they will start to decrease and your muscles will start to get fatigued, making it that much more difficult for you to rescue yourself.

Q: How does the Fire Department conduct an ice rescue?

A: The Fire Department wears buoyant Mustang Ice Commander Rescue Suits during a rescue. The suits cover head-to-toe and provide enough insulation that if the rescuers are in the water for a long period of time, they will still stay dry and protected from the cold water. The suits can be hooked up to onshore devices such as ropes or other equipment, and they have ice picks in their sleeves so that the firefighters can pull themselves back up onto the ice shelf after the rescue is complete.



Duross demonstrates how to use the rescue ring to assist a victim.

The Fire Department has two different lengths of rope rails (660 ft and 400 ft) that can be used depending on how far out the victim is. The rope rails are attached to the rescuers themselves or to an inflatable boat called a Polar 75. The rope floats on the water so that it stays visible and doesn't get caught in any obstacles.

Rescuers try to enter the water from upriver and work their way with the current toward the victim. Entering in front of the victim could cause the ice shelf to break and cause more harm. The rescuer will wrap their arms around the victim while pushing them up against the ice shelf and sweeping their legs out from underneath it.

When the rescuer in the water is ready, he will give a pat on the head and the onshore rescuers will begin to pull the rope to get them back to shore. It takes a good team effort to complete an ice rescue, and annual training helps us practice the best methods so that we can keep community members safe in an emergency situation.

Winterfest 2019 was a success!

The sledding hill at the heart of the event was curved this year, which was an exciting twist enjoyed by all. Thank you to all of the volunteers and sponsors who were integral to planning and putting together the weekend. Check [here](#) for more photos of the event!



Biddeford Fire Department
Incident Analysis
From 01/01/2019 Thru 01/31/2019

Page: 1
Printed: 02/05/2019

Incident Type

| <u>Incident Type</u> | <u>Occurrences</u> | <u>Percentage</u> |
|---|--------------------|-------------------|
| BFD PROVIDE MUTUAL/AUTOMATIC AID STRUCTURE FIRE | 3 | 0.8 |
| BFD FIRE CONFINED TO COOKING APPLIANCE | 2 | 0.5 |
| BFD FUEL BURNER/BOILER MALFUNCTION, FIRE CONFINED | 2 | 0.5 |
| BFD VEHICLE FIRE | 2 | 0.5 |
| BFD EMS CALL RESCUE ONLY NO TRANSPORT | 31 | 7.8 |
| BFD EMS CALL RES/ENG NO TRANSPORT | 16 | 4.0 |
| BFD EMS CALL RESCUE ONLY TRANSPORT TO HOSPITAL | 146 | 36.7 |
| BFD EMS CALL RES/ENG TRANSPORT TO HOSPITAL | 76 | 19.1 |
| BFD EMS TRANSPORT SMHC TO A MEDICAL FACILITY | 23 | 5.8 |
| BFD RECEIVE MUTUAL AID FOR EMS CALL | 9 | 2.3 |
| BFD PROVIDE MUTUAL AID FOR EMS CALL | 9 | 2.3 |
| BFD MVC W/OUT INJURY | 5 | 1.3 |
| BFD MVC W/ INJURY | 5 | 1.3 |
| BFD MVC W/ EXTRICATION | 1 | 0.3 |
| BFD ELEVATOR RESCUE | 1 | 0.3 |
| BFD HAZMAT (MINOR) (GAS OR OIL SPILL) | 2 | 0.5 |
| BFD CARBON MONOXIDE ALARM MALFUNCTION | 2 | 0.5 |
| BFD TELEPHONE LINE DOWN | 2 | 0.5 |
| BFD LOCK OUT VEHICLE OR STRUCTURE | 2 | 0.5 |
| BFD WATER PROBLEM | 5 | 1.3 |
| BFD INSIDE SMOKE OR ORDOR INVESTIGATION | 2 | 0.5 |
| BFD PUBLIC ASSIST | 2 | 0.5 |
| BFD ASSIST POLICE OR OTHER AGENCY | 2 | 0.5 |
| BFD PROVIDE MUTUAL AID NON STRUCTURE FIRE | 4 | 1.0 |
| BFD EMS CALL CANCELLED ENROUTE | 10 | 2.5 |
| BFD BFD FIRE CALL CANCELED ENROUTE | 5 | 1.3 |
| BFD CANCELLED ENROUTE MUTUAL/AUTOMATIC AID STRUCTURE FIRE | 2 | 0.5 |
| BFD MASTER/SUPERVISED BOX PULLS/SMOKES | 6 | 1.5 |
| BFD MASTER/SUPERVISED BOX TAMPER OR TROUBLE | 1 | 0.3 |
| BFD FALSE ALARM MASTER/SUPERVISED BOX SYSTEM MALFUNCTION | 1 | 0.3 |
| BFD FALSE CALL-GOOD INTENT | 1 | 0.3 |
| BFD PULLS/SMOKE DETECTOR ACTIVATION RESIDENTIAL | 5 | 1.3 |
| BFD RESIDENTIAL ALARM MALFUNCTION | 12 | 3.0 |
| Alarm system activation, no fire - unintentional | 1 | 0.3 |
| TOTAL | 398 | 100.0 |

For Districts: All
For Situations: All
For Jurisdictions: All
For Street(s): All
For Location: All