

COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2023
6:30 PM - TOWN OFFICE CONFERENCE ROOM

Community & Economic Development Committee
Thursday, February 2, 2023
6:30 PM - Town Office Conference Room

AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER

MINUTES

January 5, 2023

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

REPORTS

January 2023 Financial Report
Planning and Development Report

COMMUNICATIONS

Androscoggin County Sheriff's Office Invoice
Grassroots Graphics Invoice
Letter from CAI Technologies
LA Metro Chamber Invoice

OLD BUSINESS

Winterfest
CLUC Amendment (Downtown Design Standards)
Barber Shop Ribbon Cutting Recap
Triathlon

NEW BUSINESS

CEDC Newsletter

OTHER BUSINESS

ADJOURNMENT

CEDC ACTIVE LIST

SOP For New Businesses
Banner Replacement

MINUTES

Community & Economic Development Committee
Thursday, January 5, 2023
Town Office Conference Room - 6:30 PM

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

The Poland CEDC meeting for January 5, 2023, was called to order at 6:30 pm, by Chair Cyndi Robbins. Vice Chair Sheila Foley and members Stacey Bsullak, Norm Davis, Chrissy Kimbal, Mike Ellis, and Rob Dwyer are present.

Public Attendance: Recording Secretary Alex Sirois, Charlie Foley, and Selectboard Member Nate McNally.

MINUTES

December 1, 2022

- Vice Chair Sheila Foley makes a motion to accept the minutes for December 1, 2022, as presented, seconded by Mike Ellis. No discussion.
VOTE YES - 4 NO - 0 Abstained - 3 (N. Davis, C. Kimball, R. Dwyer)

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

Cyndi introduces the newest member of the Committee, Rob Dwyer. He is the owner of Freedom Fire Protection, a Poland business. Cyndi would like Alex to send him the TIF cheat sheet.

REPORTS

Financial Report - November 2022

- The unknown transaction from the November 2022 report was the annual website service subscription.

Financial Report - December 2022

- A bill for \$1,900 was for the November Business After Hours event.
- Member Stacey Bsullak makes a motion to accept the financial report for November and December 2022, as presented, seconded by Vice Chair Sheila Foley. No discussion.
VOTE YES - 6 NO - 0 Abstained - 1 (R. Dwyer)

Planning and Development Report

- No new business registrations were received by the Planning and Development Office since the last meeting.
- No new applications were approved by the Planning Board since the last meeting.

- The following commercial building permits were received by the Code Enforcement Office since the last meeting:
 - Charles & Sheila Foley submitted a permit to build a 4,500 square-foot two-story type B retail building, at 1220 Maine Street. Project cost of \$750,000.

COMMUNICATIONS

Business After Hours Bill - Cyndi's Dockside

- This bill was not able to be approved last month, since Cyndi was not able to vote on this agenda item.
- Member Norm Davis makes a motion to pay the bill from Cyndi's Dockside for expenses related to the Business After Hours event, seconded by Member Stacey Bsullak. No discussion.
- VOTE YES - 6 NO - 0 Abstained - 1 (R. Dwyer)

Binnie Media Advertisement

- The Committee reviews advertisement materials from Binnie Media.
 - Chair Cyndi Robbins thinks this doesn't seem to be an excellent option for us. The billboard or the radio ad might not produce great results.
 - The Committee agrees

Job Openings

- The Committee reviews an email from Nikki Pratte.
- They think a Poland job bank on the website would be a great idea, however, they will need a complete business list.
- This could be posted on the website.
- Selectboard Member Nate McNally suggests an entry form online so that business can send their jobs directly.
- Recording Secretary Alex Sirois will work on this.

OLD BUSINESS

CLUC Amendment/Subcommittee Formation

- The Committee reviews the submitted amendment draft from Jim Seymour of Sebago Technics.
- The Committee would like to do a joint meeting with the Planning Board to discuss and get their opinion. Jim Seymour should also be at this meeting.
- Chair Cyndi Robbins would like to have a Google document that can be available to everyone with track changes so that people can add comments and make changes.
- Alex will email Sarah to get on the second Planning Board meeting for February.

Christmas In Poland/Parade

- Member Chrissy Kimball did the parade and it was a success. It was a lot of fun, and they had a great turnout.
- Chair Cyndi Robbins also notes that the tree lighting was a great event.

Barber Shop Ribbon Cutting

- Chair Cyndi Robbins has a banner, balloons, and a plaque that she paid \$65 for.
- The ribbon-cutting event is Saturday at 3 pm.
- Cyndi will bring water and cookies.

Business Recognition Award Press Release

- The Committee thinks it looks good and would like it posted on Facebook.

NEW BUSINESS

Maine Business 2 Business Trade Show

- Chair Cyndi Robbins explains that the Committee used to do this show every year pre covid. It is a one-day event strictly for businesses. We have a backdrop. A single booth is \$595.
- The Committee thinks it is a good idea to get back into doing this trade show.
- Cyndi will fill out the application. We will need to have something to hand out and work on updating our information.
- Member Norm Davis makes a motion to attend this year's Maine Business to Business Trade Show, seconded by Member Chrissy Kimball. No discussion.
- VOTE YES - 7 NO - 0

Winterfest

- Chair Cyndi Robbins informs the Committee that Winterfest will be moved downtown this year.
- They will be creating a spot for sledding.
- Cyndi will do whatever is needed to help support the event.
- Renee Strange is running the event this year and she is doing a great job.

Triathlon

- Chair Cyndi Robbins informs the Committee that the Dennis Sampson run is not going to be held on Heritage Day weekend this year.
- Vice Chair Sheila Foley has a few other people who may be interested in serving on a committee to organize a triathlon. We would need to coordinate with the Park Ranger. Spring may be too cold for the water. She will reach out to them to discuss a date.
- The bottling company would likely get involved somehow.

Town Sign Landscaping

- Chair Cyndi Robbins would like to approach businesses near the signs and see if they will take over the periodic maintenance of landscaping, she just has not had the time.
- Member Mike Ellis reminds the Committee that we can select plantings that don't need as much maintenance.

OTHER BUSINESS

- Chair Cyndi Robbins was asked if the Committee would like to do another ad in the LA Metro Chamber brochure. A full-page ad costs \$900. There is no way to know how many impressions it gets or if it gets any results. She thinks we should add a QR code to track if anyone uses it.
 - The Committee thinks we should do it again.
 - Cyndi asks everyone to email her pictures or ideas for what to use.
- Member Mike Ellis suggests public radio for advertising.
- Vice Chair Sheila Foley asks about the mailboxes that have been installed on the sidewalks, and how that is possible. She also thinks lighting needs to be considered.
 - Selectboard Member Nate McNally can bring this up to the Selectboard. The question is what do we propose we do? Should we try to refocus and go for a grant?
 - Cyndi thinks we can spend a little money on sidewalks or lighting.
- Selectboard Member Nate McNally brings the Committee up to speed on the Range Pond public access developments. The footprint there is very small, but the State of Maine is looking at developing or expanding access to Upper Range Pond. It could take several years for something to happen.

ADJOURNMENT

- Vice Chair Sheila Foley makes a motion to adjourn at 7:59 pm, seconded by Member Norm Davis. No discussion.

VOTE: YES - 7 NO - 0

Recorded by: ALS

Accepted on: February 2, 2023

REPORTS

Expense Detail Report

Department(s): E 400-07-6000-60 - E 400-07-6000-60
January

Account-----				Current			Unexpended
Date	Jrnl	Desc---		Budget	Debits	Credits	Balance
400 - TIFS				56,500.00	17,671.53	0.00	38,828.47
07 - TIF 2				56,500.00	17,671.53	0.00	38,828.47
6000 - TIFS				56,500.00	17,671.53	0.00	38,828.47
60 - CEDC				56,500.00	17,671.53	0.00	38,828.47
01/26/23	P 0517	01/26/23 Payroll (Dist)			463.94	0.00	
		January		0.00	463.94	0.00	38,364.53
		Object.....		56,500.00	18,135.47	0.00	38,364.53
		Expense.....		56,500.00	18,135.47	0.00	38,364.53
		Division....		56,500.00	18,135.47	0.00	38,364.53
		Department..		56,500.00	18,135.47	0.00	38,364.53
Final Totals				56,500.00	18,135.47	0.00	38,364.53



**TOWN OF POLAND, MAINE
COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

January 30, 2023

Re: **January Planning and Development Report**

Dear Committee Members,

The following new business registrations were received by the Planning and Development Office since the last meeting:

1. Animal Acupuncture of Maine, a Holistic Veterinary Practice, at 1484 Maine Street, Suite 2.

No new applications were approved by the Planning Board since the last meeting:

The following commercial building permits were received by the Code Enforcement Office since the last meeting:

1. Joseph Cimino submitted a permit to replace an existing 24" x 48" sign with a 40" x 18" LED electric display, at 481 Maine Street. Project cost of \$1,200.

Sincerely,

Alex Sirois
CEDC Administrative Assistant
Town of Poland, Maine

COMMUNICATIONS



1600 Main Street, Suite #5
Oxford, Maine 04270

Phone: (207) 743-5118
Fax: (207) 743-2720

Invoice

Date	Invoice #
1/9/2023	26032

Bill To
Town of Poland

Job #	PO #
18297	

Quantity	Description	Rate	Amount
1	Sign - Poland CEDC 36x48 full color double sided corrugated plastic	65.00	65.00

Total	\$65.00
Date Paid	
Cash / Chk / CC	



11 Pleasant Street, Littleton NH 03561
P (603) 444-6768 / (800) 322-4540
F (603) 444-1366
cai-tech.com

AXISGIS PRICING MEMO

January 5, 2023

Dear AxisGIS Client:

You recently received via email your annual invoice for the renewal of the AxisGIS web based GIS service we provide to you. We also previously sent an email notifying you of the exciting changes and improvements coming to AxisGIS that you will see as your service is transitioned in the coming year. The continued opportunity to provide this valuable and important service is greatly appreciated by everyone here at CAI Technologies.

CAI Technologies has been working hard to develop effective and efficient tools that prove to be valuable to our clients. In a continuing effort to ensure that the AxisGIS service we provide is the best and most cost effective web based GIS available, we have been hard at work updating the technology behind the application as well as developing additional functionality and capabilities. We will soon begin transitioning all our AxisGIS clients to the new platform. The transition will be seamless and there will be no interruption in service. We anticipate starting to transition clients in June, but because there are so many local and regional governments using this service and each transition must be done individually, the transitions will take place over time. You may not see a change in your service for several months.

Advantages to the new upgraded version include, but are not necessarily limited to:

- Updated technology to improve responsiveness and security
- Expanded functionality on mobile devices
- More responsive search experience
- Improved visualization of search results
- Labeling capabilities added to public access of site
- Search capability expanded to layers
- ArcGIS Online Integration tools opened to public access

Those are just a few of the improvements you will see with the new AxisGIS site. There are others, and improvements and functionality will continue to occur throughout the life cycle of the application. We are committed to continual improvement and advancement of GIS utility in a cloud based environment.

These changes and improvements come at a cost and this letter is sent as notification of the future increase for your service. In 2019 we announced the increase of the base annual cost of AxisGIS to \$3000.00 for all clients that were set up with a new service. However, any clients who had the service previous to the increase were grandfathered and the annual cost remained \$2400.00. That included your service. After your current renewal, all clients will be increased to the \$3000.00 annual base price. Although transitions to the new service will take place over the next several months, this price increase will not take effect until next year so you have the opportunity to budget for the change. If you have any existing Add-On functionality such as AxisGIS Editor or Document Upload tools, there will be no change in those annual renewal fees.

We anticipate beginning the transition of client sites in June of 2022 and the process of transitioning all clients will take several months, potentially a year. The transition will be seamless and you will not encounter any interruption of service. Any external links such as from your municipal website will continue to work as they have been, as will any bookmarks or shortcuts that individuals may have. We do not have a specific schedule for your transition but it will be completed prior to your next renewal. There will be no cost to you for that transition. Since we do not want to support outdated and/or unsupported technology, staying on the existing AxisGIS version will not be an option.

We are very excited about the AxisGIS upgrade and are confident that after your transition is complete and you have had time to get accustomed to the new interface and utility, you will also recognize the value the new functionality provides to you and your community of users. It's difficult to anticipate all the questions that a transition like this will give rise to. Please don't hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or concerns you would like to discuss.

Thank you again for being a valued CAI Technologies client. We're looking forward to continuing our long term and mutually beneficial relationship.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Franco Rossi". The signature is fluid and cursive, written in a professional style.

Franco Rossi
President



Lewiston Auburn
METROPOLITAN
CHAMBER of COMMERCE

**Lewiston Auburn Metropolitan Chamber
of Commerce**

415 Lisbon Street Suite 100
Lewiston, ME 04240
(207) 783-2249 | fax:
info@lametrochamber.com

Invoice

Invoice Date: 1/31/2023
Invoice Number: 32517
PO Number:

Town of Poland
Cyndi Robbins
1231 Maine St
Poland, ME 04274

Terms	Due Date
Due on Receipt	3/1/2023

Item	Description	Amount
Explore + Discover Guide Ad	Member Pricing: Full Page Ad	\$1,150.00
	Total:	\$1,150.00
	Payment/Credit Applied:	\$0.00
	Balance:	\$1,150.00

OLD BUSINESS

Updated 1/29/23		Received		
Winter Festival Budget 2023			Anticipated	Anticipated
Committee	Date	Item/Donor	Revenue	Expense
Rentals	11-Feb			
		Will be split between Rec and PCS PE		1,000
		Snow shoes		
		Ice Skates		
		Skis		
Advertising				
Radio		WOXO (Covered by CEDC)	500	500
Marketing/Signage		Grassroots-Banner and Signs		442
Misc				
DJ		Alex Sirois(Covered by CEDC)	400	400
Sheriff		6 hrs x \$100 (Covered by CEDC)	600	600
Parking attendants		6 HS students		500
Port-a-potty		GA Downing- 1 handicap unit		75
Fire Pits		Firewood (leftover from Xmas in Poland)	0	0
Generators (2)		Harbor Freight (Covered by CEDC)	1,440	1,440
Sponsors				
	1/26/23	Poland Spring Resort & chili, paper goods, other	500	
	1/26/23	Poland Spring Bottling	500	
		Northlight Electric	250	
		Representative Boyer	250	
		Realtor Smith	?	
		Christmas in Poland	500	
		Learned Brothers	250	
		Integrity Services	?	
		KBS Builders	?	
		Live Life Family Practice	200	
		Maine Community Bank (and hot choc, heat warmers)	200	
		Mainely Stoneworks-Fire pits		
		Cindy Powell-Team Next	400	
		Kimball & Sons Logging/ The Log Yard Dairy Bar	200	
		The Dirt Store	250	
Yeti and cardboard sled races				
Prize Donations				
Cyndi's Dockside	1/26/23	Free Pizza Gift Certificates (10)		
Poland Parks & Rec	1/22/23	Gift Certificates (6) \$15.00 off, 1 camp connor week; 3 skate rentals, 2 snow shoe rentals,		
Dirt Store				
Saddle Feather Farm		Gift bag of soaps		
Martha Stone		2 yoga passes		
Gathering Wind Farms		Gift certificate for apple picking		
Shakers		Gift set		
Vendors				
Paper goods				250
Cotton Candy machine		John		
			6439.98	5,207

Buy Local, Listen Local



Poland's Winter Festival

Saturday February 11th

Receive

-(30) :30-Second Messages on WOXO

-(30) :30-Second Messages on WIGY

*Messages will run Monday January 30th - Saturday February 11th

Bonus No Charge Messages

-(20) :30-Second Messages on WOXO

-(20) :30-Second Messages on WIGY

-1 Live Interview on the WIGY Breakfast Club.

-1 Live Interview with Stan on the WOXO Morning Show.

*Total of 100 :30-Second Messages

Investment: \$500

Approved by: _____



Bennett Radio Group, locally owned and Operated

FW: REVISED WINTER FEST PROPOSAL 107.5 FRANK FM & 99.9 WOLF

Matt Garside <mgarside@polandtownoffice.org>

Tue 1/31/2023 8:14 AM

To: Poland CEDC <PolandCEDC@polandtownoffice.org>;Cyndi Robbins <psicyndi@gmail.com>

 1 attachments (31 KB)

POLAND ME WINTER FEST 23.pdf;

FYI

Matthew Garside
Poland Town Manager
998-4601
mgarside@polandtownoffice.org

From: Norm Karkos <nkarkos@binniemia.com>

Sent: Tuesday, January 31, 2023 6:49 AM

To: Matt Garside <mgarside@polandtownoffice.org>

Subject: REVISED WINTER FEST PROPOSAL 107.5 FRANK FM & 99.9 WOLF

ATTN: COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC COMMITTEE

All,

Good Morning and hope all is well with Town of Poland.

I wanted to provide a revised version of a proposal to help you further promote the Town of Poland's upcoming Winter Fest, should you have an interest.

Given we are quickly approaching February, this would keep event top of mind with a flight date begin air thing coming weekend, through next Friday.

If interested, we would need to be in communication to quickly turn this around and begin airing.

As previously mentioned, overall, our (6) radio signals attract 200,000 weekly listeners.

Again, as someone who has lived in the area for nearly 30 years and now works for media company which has a massive audience and reach, I am trying to help promote the Town of Poland as a great four-season destination, through events such Winter Fest.

I have two (2) Poland businesses currently on air with me, and currently looking at others in the coming weeks.

Regardless your decision for this proposed Winter Fest proposal, there are numerous opportunities to further promote the Town of Poland and supporting businesses, through on-air advertising, promotions, Digital Billboard and Digital Media.

Also, please feel free to forward my contact information to local businesses you might think benefit from a radio campaign.

Norm Karkos

Marketing Consultant



207-233-0687

nkarkos@binniemia.com

Sales Order

Stations: WFNK-FM, WTHT-FM
 Contract Name: WINTER FEST
 Contract#: (none)
 Start Date: 2/04/23 End Date: 2/10/23
 Revenue Type: _____ Type: Cash
 Advertiser: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
 Product Name: POLAND WINTER FEST 23
 Competitive Code: _____

Buyer: _____
 Tax Schedule: _____ (None)
 Agency Commission %: 0
 Billing Cycle: Standard
 Salesperson: 501654nkark Comm %: 0
 Makegood Policy: Within Contract Dates

WFNK-FM

No	DATES		Alt wks	TIMES		LEN	DISTRIBUTION								RATE	TOTALS		PTY	
	START	END		START	END		M	T	W	T	F	SA	SU	Per Wk		D/W	SPOTS		\$\$
1	2/04/23	2/05/23		8:00 AM	5:00 PM	60						4	4	8	D	35.00	8	280.00	
2	2/06/23	2/10/23		6:00 AM	7:00 PM	60	2	2	2	2	2			10	D	78.00	10	780.00	
3	2/06/23	2/10/23		5:00 AM	12:00 AM	60	1	1	1	1	1			5	D	0.00	5	0.00	
4	2/06/23	2/10/23		12:00 AM	12:00 AM	60	1	1	1	1	1			5	D	0.00	5	0.00	

TOTAL GROSS \$1,060.00, NET \$1,060.00

WTHT-FM

No	DATES		Alt wks	TIMES		LEN	DISTRIBUTION								RATE	TOTALS		PTY	
	START	END		START	END		M	T	W	T	F	SA	SU	Per Wk		D/W	SPOTS		\$\$
1	2/04/23	2/05/23		8:00 AM	5:00 PM	60						4	4	8	D	35.00	8	280.00	
2	2/06/23	2/10/23		6:00 AM	7:00 PM	60	2	2	2	2	2			10	D	68.00	10	680.00	
3	2/06/23	2/10/23		5:00 AM	12:00 AM	60	1	1	1	1	1			5	D	0.00	5	0.00	
4	2/06/23	2/10/23		12:00 AM	12:00 AM	60	1	1	1	1	1			5	D	0.00	5	0.00	

TOTAL GROSS \$960.00, NET \$960.00

Billing Projections: By Month

Feb 23
 CA 2,020.00
 ST 2,020.00

Print Spot Prices

TOTAL SPOTS 56
 GROSS TOTAL \$ 2,020.00
 ADJUSTED SPOTS 56
 ADJUSTED TOTAL \$ 2,020.00

APPROVE DECLINE

- General Manager
- Sales Manager
- National Sales Manager
- Local Sales Manager

Fwd: Updated Winter Festival budget 2023

Cynthia Robbins <crobbins@fairpoint.net>

Wed 1/25/2023 4:59 PM

To: Poland CEDC <PolandCEDC@polandtownoffice.org>

add to agenda

Begin forwarded message:

From: Scott Segal <ssegal@polandtownoffice.org>

Subject: Updated Winter Festival budget 2023

Date: January 25, 2023 at 4:57:54 PM EST

To: Renee Strange-Farnham <strangeevents207@gmail.com>, Stacey Bsullak <gatheringwindsfarm@gmail.com>, Cyndi Robbins <psicyndi@gmail.com>

Taking what Renee put together, I have made some modifications. I just sent this to Renee, Stacey and Cyndi. If you have anything to add, please let me know!

Estimated Expenses:

\$75.00 Port-a-potty

\$250.00 Paper goods

\$400.00 Marketing/signage

\$500.00 Radio advertising

\$400.00 DJ

\$500.00 Parking attendants

\$500.00 Activity Prizes

\$600.00 Sheriff

\$1,000.00 Rentals

\$ 0.00 Fire pits (3 borrowed by Mainely Stoneworks-Mike Ellis),)Firewood left over from Christmas in Poland

Total Estimated Expenses: \$4,225.00

Revenues:

\$600.00 Sheriff (Covered by CEDC-Will be transferred via accounts)

\$400.00 DJ (Covered by CEDC-Will be transferred via accounts)- Waiting for CEDC committee vote

\$500.00 Radio Advertisement (Covered by CEDC-Will be transferred via accounts)-Waiting for CEDC committee vote

\$500.00 Poland Spring Resort (Received)

\$500.00 Poland Spring Bottling (Received)

\$500.00 Offered from Christmas in Poland

\$250.00 Offered from Learned Brothers

Total anticipated Revenues thus far: \$3,250.00

Looking for at least \$975.00 more.

NOTE: CEDC is looking into covering the cost of 1 Inverted generator. Cyndi and I spoke today. I am going to buy at least one unit because the sales price ends today. IF CEDC can not cover the cost, I will buy it for the rec. dept.

Total CEDC contribution if all four items are approved = \$2,220.00 (DJ, Radio advertising, Sheriff and Generator)

Planning for next winter, would recommend planning for a budget of \$5,000.00-\$6,000.00

NEW BUSINESS

Ribbon Cutting and Grand Opening for a New Poland Business!



A lots of the community showed up for the Ribbon Cutting in January, to welcome a new business to Poland! Starting off the new year with a new look just got a little easier in Poland, with the opening of the Maine Street Barber Co. at 1251 Maine St., formerly The Chop Shop.

MSBC is owned and operated by Lauren Veau, Jacob Michaud and Zach Veau. All three have worked together barbering in the Portland area and collectively have over 20 years of experience in the hair industry. They are excited to join the Poland community and bring you a modern barbershop with an old school feel.

“Here at MSBC our mission is to provide you with the best service and best quality haircuts possible. We understand that when you’re looking for a barber, you’re looking for a person—a person who cares about your hair and how it looks and feels. That’s why we do our job with care. It’s going to be a modern barbershop with a classic feel, we’re going to offer straight razor shaves, haircuts, and beard trims. Also, we will be offering color services and waxing services.” Veau said they’ll offer kids cuts and serve men and women. We recommend people book on-line or call for an appointment, but walk-ins are welcome too. The number is 207-998-9279.



Hours will be from 8 AM to 6 PM Tuesday through Saturday.



Poland's Community Economic Development Committee



Winter Newsletter 2023

Whether you are a new business to Poland or have been here 200+ years, we would like share information about the Poland Community Economic Committee and what we are up to.

One of my favorite quotes is “It takes a Village...” And that’s what CEDC is up to. We work with the selectpersons to advise them on economic and community matters. Our budget comes from TIF Funds. All committee members live and have a business in Poland, and all want to make Poland a better place to work, live and play. We do have one seat available on CEDC and one alternate spot.

We need help!

CDEC would like to have new plants planted at the “Welcome to Poland” signs around town. The problem is we have no one to water them. Would your business take on the job of watering them during dry weather?

We would hire a landscaping company to have the plants planted in May and from then to the end of the fall you would water the one closest to your business!

Please Help!
Keep Poland beautiful!
Please email
PolandCEDC@
polandtownoffice.org for
more information.



CDEC can help you!

- You are welcome to attend our monthly meeting and bring us your ideas! First Thursday at 6:30 PM at the Conference Center at the Town Office.
- New to Poland we will do a ribbon cutting ceremony and help you with Marketing your business
- We will promote your business at Trade Shows
- We will share (GOOD) news about your business on Facebook
- Promote your business on our new website
- We help sponsor events in Poland that show how wonderful it is to live, visit, and work here. Last year we co sponsored Heritage Days, Winter Festival, Christmas in Poland and the Apple Picking in the Orchard events.
- We have hung banners in the town showing off our history and various activities
- We are members of the Androscoggin and Oxford Chamber and will represent you to them
- We provide digital mapping of Poland for the Town Website
- Provide signage for historic landmarks.
- Host a Bi-Annual Business After Hours events at various locations - let us know if you would like more information or to host
- Honor the Business of the Year
- Assist the select board and planning board with business related subjects including TIF funding and grants

2022 BUSINESS OF THE YEAR THE DIRT STORE

The Poland Community and Economic Development Committee is pleased to announce that The Dirt Store has been selected as the Town of Poland 2022 Business of the Year.

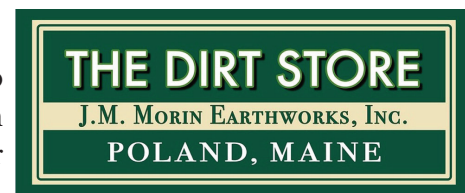
The Dirt Store—located at 112 Mechanic Falls Road in Poland, Maine—is more than just what the name says it is. Owner Jeff Morin moved to Poland as a young adult from Lewiston, Maine, and has since found the town and community within it to be all the reason to stay. After discovering a knack for sales and delivery in his teens, Morin graduated to trucking and excavation soon after living on his own. This experience led him to go self-employed with his first business, J.M. Morin Trucking, in 2000. Just a few years later, he started J.M. Morin Earthworks, Inc. in 2003, and officially incorporated the business in 2013.

Having been jokingly referred to as “The Dirt Store” for years, Morin tells us, when it officially came time to name the retail location in 2021—the answer was obvious. The Dirt Store, as one would expect, specializes in, well—dirt. Garden soil, super soil, compost, bark mulch, sand, gravel, and more are offered to those looking to complete home & construction projects of all shapes and sizes. “We love that our customers range from experienced contractors who need materials for their customers to great-great-grandmothers who need mulch for their churches. We treat them all like friends (many of them become friends!) and enjoy seeing people come back project after project, year after year.”-Jeff Morin, President of J.M. Earthworks Inc, & The Dirt Store

Having had a history of being close with his family and their family-run businesses growing up, Morin says that The Dirt Store is very much a “family-oriented business.” Many of the team members there have been family members and those who are not are treated as though they always have been. “Employees are one of the most important aspects of this business; they are not just team players but true ‘Dirt Store’ and community advocates.” And as a result, the staff at The Dirt Store delivers excellent, knowledgeable customer service. They pride themselves on helping their fellow community members with their projects, no matter the season, and make informed decisions when necessary to ensure the customer is on the best path toward success. This has led to long-lasting friendships among Dirt Store employees and the community they serve year-round. “Even those who have retired or moved on have remained friends and stop in frequently.”

The Dirt Store donates materials to local school groups (fundraisers, school gardens, community projects), as well as many non-profit organizations such as churches, summer camps, trail clubs, nutrition centers, and more. Most recently the business sponsored the Town of Poland’s Christmas tree for the Christmas in Poland festivities.

The Dirt Store is open Monday through Friday, 8:00 am to 4:30 pm, 8:00 am to 12:00 pm on Saturdays, and is closed on Sundays. They can be contacted directly at (207) 689-3478, or at jmmorin.com.

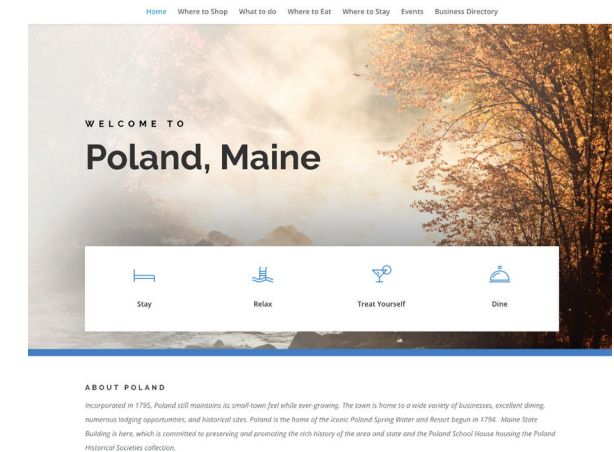


NEW POLAND WEBSITE

VisitPoland.org is a new site that will promote why it’s good to be here to work, open a business, visit our town, buy a home or go to school in Poland. We would like to promote every business in Poland. Currently your business may or may not be on the town website, but we want to be sure it is listed on our new site!

Please email to Alex at PolandCEDC@polandtownoffice.org

1. Business name:
2. Contact info:
3. Your name:
4. Phone number to be published:
5. Address:
6. Fax:
7. Email:
8. Website:
9. Facebook info:
10. Your logo:
11. Favorite picture of your business:
12. And 150-250 words about your business:



Please send as soon as possible! We hope to launch May 1st!

Business After Hours!

Bi-Annually we host an informal get together, Spring and Fall. It’s a great way to meet your fellow business leaders and our town selectpersons. Here’s some photos from this past fall’s event.

This May’s event will be at Fairlawn Golf Course, date to be announced.

