

2/16/26

Dear Selectman,

Any mining will bring lasting impact on our small, rural town. Public hearings, select board meetings, planning board meetings and letters on the town website have helped identify townspeople's' priorities in regulating mining in Alna. It appears at least four widely supported proposed provisions still need to be included in the draft mining ordinance.

1. A definitive site plan for grandfathered mining operations should include lot lines, baseline mining perimeter and depth dimensions, mining location distance to public roads and abutters.
2. One of the driving forces in preparing and evaluating a mining ordinance is to prevent another Crooker sized operation. The obvious key to doing this is to limit the maximum size of the affected land for all operations. An eight acre limit would be a generous concession it seems.
3. No one- time expansion allowance as outlined in Article VI section B should be granted. This seems to have popped up without any public discussion or support.
4. A limit on the size of a working pit is essential. As now written the draft would allow for an unreclaimed and non-vegetated 5 acre crater. Not an ideal neighbor! Would not a 1/2 - 1 acre be a more realistic standard?

Your combined commitment to this ordinance has been immense and I and many others thank you!

Respectfully,

Debby Hughes
Hollywood Blvd.