

2/18/26

First, I would like to express my appreciation for the work you do for our town. You all put a lot of time and effort into doing what you believe is best for Alna through all the obstacles you face.

As an Alna resident, it is important for you to hear from as many residents as possible to determine what is wanted by members of our town. Your time is valuable, so I will do my best to be concise in my statements.

The application process appears to be onerous for new applicants. This may deter new smaller pit owners/operators, but it will likely not be an obstacle for larger operations, which I don't believe we need more of. The size of the pits permitted should be limited more conservatively than the current requirements, by half of the current acreage allowed.

The Town Clerk, though productive in her job, is not qualified to process applications and registrations. She has plenty of work to do without adding this to her duties. The job of reviewing and managing applications should be the responsibility of the CEO and/or planning board. They are more qualified and have a better understanding of the requirements pertaining to this topic.

Regarding the taxation of the lot owned by Crooker, the taxes they are paying is comparable to what I am currently paying for my 1.34-acre lot. The value of the land they are utilizing is clearly more valuable than my personal property (considering the income they are producing from the property) and should be rated accordingly. A rate increase could relieve some of the financial burden of other residents of Alna who find the increasing taxes of our property to be stressful. I recall from the meeting at the fire station; it was stated that the rate couldn't be changed. Whitefield has been successful in taxing the pit property in their town more efficiently, there must be a way for Alna to follow suit.

My final concern is the destruction Crooker is creating to the property they currently own. What is to become of the land when they have removed all the value from the property and are finished with it? How will the land be reclaimed to meet the environmental needs of wildlife and neighbors? How will Crooker be held accountable for restoration of the land?

Thank you for your time,

Beth Foye