

2/15/26

To the members of the Select Board:

I am very concerned about the issues that other citizens brought up at the last meeting about the mining ordinance. It sounds like there is still quite a bit of work to do to bring it inline with voter's concerns.

- It is important that there is a maximum size cap of 10 acres for future gravel pits, so we don't end up with another huge operation like Whitefield has.
- Applicants registering existing operations should have to provide a site plan right away and the exact size in acres and location of their pits, so a baseline is established.
- A working-pit maximum of 5 acres is much too large! This should be reduced to 2 acres or less to keep operations small.
- It is important that we look at why we are not taxing these operations at a higher rate in line with the value of their operations, the profits that they are making, and destruction of Alna's land. It seems obvious that they should be taxed at a rate similar to other businesses in Alna.
- The CEO or planning board are the appropriate people to review registrations, rather than the Town Clerk, who has no training in land use.

Thank you for taking the time to consider these important matters.

Sincerely,

Sherry Lyons