

**Lamoine Planning Board**  
March, 2014

**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO GRAVEL ORDINANCE**

Dear Neighbors,

We are proposing three revisions to the Lamoine Gravel Ordinance. They will be voted on at our annual Town Meeting, March 12 at 6 p.m. at the Lamoine School. We hope the information provided here will help you to make a sound choice when you vote at Town Meeting.

**Why more revisions now?** The 2013 Town Meeting approved a set of revisions aimed at three goals: 1. Simplifying the application process; 2. Strengthening protection of groundwater quality and quantity; and 3. Creating wider buffer zones between pit operations and neighbors. After the town passed the Gravel Ordinance, the Planning Board identified three areas of concern to them and to community members that warranted further revision.

**What is the purpose of each of these revisions?**

1. Revision of the Appeals process. Purpose: To clarify language so that the Appeals Board would deal only with errors of administration and interpretation of the Gravel Ordinance. The town's lawyer developed and recommended the language to achieve this goal. (See Section 7G on page 2.)

2. Revision of the Setback section dealing with the new 100' buffer zone from neighboring properties. Purpose: to give current operators a way to extract sand and gravel within the buffer zone (to the old 50' setback) with the agreement of neighbors and the stipulation that any such extraction would be followed immediately by restoration (See Section 8A, page 3.)

3. Revision of the Restoration section dealing with Gravel Pit Restoration Accounts. Purpose: to clarify the depositing and use of funds in Gravel Pit Restoration accounts to ensure that funds will exist for restoration regardless of changes of ownership, financial distress of an operator, etc. (See Section 8D, page 4.)

We, your Planning Board, voted to recommend these revisions for adoption (without a dissenting vote cast). We continue to consider improvements to this ordinance, as we do with all ordinances. The wording of each revision is on the following pages. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have questions or need more information.

The Lamoine Planning Board

John Holt, Don Bamman, Gordon Donaldson, Chris Tadema-Wielandt, Jim Gallagher, Perry Fowler, and Charles Webber