

**TOWN OF WINTHROP
ORDINANCE EXTENDING THE MORATORIUM
ON MINERAL EXPLORATION, MINERAL EXTRACTION,
ROCK QUARRY EXCAVATION, AND SAND AND GRAVEL PIT ACTIVITIES**

WHEREAS, on April 3, 2023, the Town Council adopted a 180-day Moratorium on the location, operation, permitting, approval, or licensing of any and all mineral exploration, mineral extraction, rock quarry excavation, and sand and gravel pit activities within the Town of Winthrop (the “Town”); and

WHEREAS, the Town is currently in the process of revising and developing appropriate land use regulations concerning mineral exploration, mineral extraction, rock quarry excavation, and sand and gravel pit activities; and

WHEREAS, during the term of the Moratorium, the Town has continued to review and develop adequate regulations to prevent serious public harm from the development of mineral exploration, mineral extraction, rock quarry excavation, and sand and gravel pit activities in the Town; and

WHEREAS, the Moratorium will expire on Sept. 30, 2023; and

WHEREAS, State law requires a moratorium to be of a definite term of not more than 180 days, which may be extended for additional 180 day periods, upon a finding that:

- A. The problem giving rise to the need for the moratorium still exists; and
- B. Reasonable progress is being made to alleviate the problem giving rise to the need for the moratorium; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council finds that the problem giving rise to the need for the moratorium still exists; and

WHEREAS, during the term of the moratorium the Town has made reasonable progress to alleviate the problem giving rise to the need for the moratorium but requires an additional

amount to develop regulations governing the location and operation of mineral exploration, mineral extraction, rock quarry excavation, and sand and gravel pit activities; and

WHEREAS during the period of this extension of the Moratorium, the Town will continue to diligently work to develop and adopt appropriate land use regulations concerning mineral exploration, mineral extraction, rock quarry excavation, and sand and gravel pit activities; and

NOW THEREFORE, pursuant to the authority granted to it by 30-A M.R.S. § 4356, be it hereby ordained by the Town Council of the Town of Winthrop, Maine, as follows:

The Ordinance Establishing a Moratorium on Mineral Exploration, Mineral Extraction, Rock Quarry Excavation, and Sand and Gravel Pit Activities adopted by the Town Council on April 3, 2023, is hereby extended for an additional 180 days until March 9, 2024, unless earlier extended, repealed or modified by the Town Council.