

## **Ashford adopts 2019 preliminary budget**

ASHFORD—After hearing a presentation from Budget Officer William King, the Ashford Town Board approved the 2019 tentative budget to be accepted as the preliminary budget during its meeting Sept. 5.

The overall budget for 2019 is set at \$1,944,987, about a four percent increase from last year. The tax levy would be the same as last year at \$435,360. While the budget is increasing in 2019, revenues for the town have also increased by around four percent.

Senator Cathy Young allocated additional payment in lieu of taxes to the town, allowing Ashford to increase its revenue in some spots. King applauded Supervisor Charles Davis, the town board and everyone who advocated for the funds.

“In the highway, we were able to put in another \$100,000 in revenue based on hard work from [the town],” King said. “I have to give [Davis] all the credit in the world for what he has done on this PILOT program. The work that has been done by all the people who have been on it, I appreciate it as a taxpayer and I certainly hope that everyone can understand what you have done and the importance of continuing it.”

Davis said the found money will allow the town to complete some recommendations from the master plan.

“We are going to be able to hold the line of the taxes, so the taxpayers are not ending up paying for what we want to do, so to me it works out all the way,” Davis said.

A public hearing regarding the 2019 preliminary budget will be Oct. 10 at 8 p.m. in the Ashford Community Center.

**New York State Energy Research and Development Agency** West Valley Program Director Paul Bembia reported demolition of the vitrification facility at the West Valley Demonstration Site should be completed by the end September and the remaining waste will be shipped off-site by the end of the year. The main plant process building stack is also planned to be taken down within the next week and later shipped off-site.

# SPRINGVILLE JOURNAL

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**CH2M HILL BWXT West Valley, LLC** celebrated a major milestone in its decommissioning contract at the Nuclear Site with the last shipment of legacy waste offsite. CHBWV has shipped 180,000 cubic feet of stored legacy waste off-site during its work at the plant.

In other news:

- The board accepted a bid from Valley Fab & Equipment, Inc. of \$51,398 for the purchase of new and unused plow equipment and dump body.
- The board approved an extension to the end of September for the completion of the town's dog enumeration.

The next Ashford Town Board meeting will be Wednesday, Oct. 10 at 7:30 p.m. at the Ashford Community Center, located at 9377 Route 240, in West Valley.