

SPRINGVILLE JOURNAL

Friday, October 19, 2018

Fee schedule changes proposed in Ashford

Max Borsuk Staff Reporter

Members of the Ashford Town Board made suggestions to change some of the building permit rates and fees at its Oct. 10 meeting. Jean Bond and William Heim met with Code Enforcement Officer Larry Feldman to review town licensing fees. The proposed changes would add a \$50 fee to apply for a variance and removing the fee for demolition of a building, but requiring a permit. The remainder of the fees would be kept the same.

“We looked at the rest of [the rates] and we are just in the middle ... higher on some things and lower on others,” Bond said. “We are real close to what all the other towns are doing, and we didn’t think it was enough ... to get into it a lot.”

Supervisor Charlie Davis asked Feldman for a finalized copy of the rates so they can be approved and added to the 2019 organizational meeting agenda.

Residents have started fixing up properties, according to Bond and Heim, who hope other residents will follow suit. Earlier this year, the town urged residents to maintain their properties and clean up dilapidated buildings. The board passed a resolution at its May 9 meeting to set up a committee to work with Feldman to identify properties with dilapidated buildings or junk cars that need to be remedied to comply with state laws.

“Things are happenings in town ... there are some things being cleaned up,” Bond said.

The New York State Energy Research and Development Agency board approved an agreement to lease property between the Western New York Nuclear Service Center and the town for the community solar project, NYSERDA West Valley Program Director Paul Bembia said.

Since NYSERDA is leasing the property to the town at less than market value, NYSERDA was required to notify the New York State Comptroller, Director of the Budget, New York State Legislature and the Public Authorities Budget office. The lease cannot take effect until around mid-December.

In other board news:

- The board adopted the 2019 annual budget of \$1,944,987.
- Bond announced the annual Christmas tree lighting will be Dec. 7.
- The board approved the Halloween curfew for 9 p.m.

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