

## Ashford board discusses options with cannabis local law

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**Editor**

The Ashford Town Board, at its April 21 meeting, started preliminary discussions on possible options for a cannabis local law for onsite consumption or dispensary within the town.

As of Dec. 31, 2021, the town must decide if they want to opt out of allowing dispensaries and/or onsite consumption for cannabis, subject to permissive referendum. While the town did not have to make any final decisions at this meeting, Supervisor John Pfeffer brought up a discussion on the town's options and asked for feedback from other board members.

With dispensaries, there is a four percent tax imposed on sales from retail dispensaries to the consumer. If Ashford were to opt out for dispensaries, the town would not receive the four percent tax from the sales. Home growth for cannabis will be allowed no matter what, but the law can restrict the number of plants at home at a local level. The home grown cannabis is for personal use only and cannot be sold. The town will also look into holding a public hearing about the cannabis issue and hear the options from residents.

In other board news:

– Pfeffer reported the first calls with the new CodeRED Emergency Notification System have been successful so far and the town will continue to find more ways to use the system.

– Communications Manager for CH2M HILL BWXT West Valley, LLC Joe Pillittere reported crews at the **West Valley Demonstration Project** have worked over 1 million hours without a work time accident or illness, which is around 749 days.

The next Town of Ashford board meeting will be Wednesday, May 12 at 7:30 p.m.