

SPRINGVILLE JOURNAL

Serving Springville, Concord, Ashford, West Valley, Collins, Colden and East Concord

Ashford board discusses roundabout at Peters Road

09-22-2017



ASHFORD—The possibility of a roundabout at the Route 219 and Peters Road intersection was discussed at the Sept. 19 Ashford Town Board meeting. Justin Booth, from Complete Streets, will be attending the next Planning Board meeting to discuss the intersection, reported planning board member Andrea Mellon.

Supervisor Charles Davis said Complete Streets was the company that pushed for roundabouts in Hamburg and was interested in the idea at Peters Road.

Councilman Richard Bernstein questioned whether a roundabout would work for the number of tractor trailers that drive that section, Mellon said the roundabout can be made large enough to handle big trucks. Councilman William Heim agreed with Mellon, citing a roundabout in Irving, which has worked for tractor trailers and helps keep traffic moving.

“With the semis, it works amazing ... it’s amazing how much it increases the traffic flow,” Heim said.

Along with helping with traffic, Mellon said adding a roundabout would be a positive piece in the future betterment and development of the Town as the Ashford, as the Master Plan continues to get closer to completion.

SPRINGVILLE JOURNAL

Serving Springville, Concord, Ashford, West Valley, Collins, Colden and East Concord

“The roundabout there would help us not only from a traffic and vehicular standpoint, if we are looking at the long term goals for the Township of Ashford, how does it help the traffic pattern of 219, how does it slow the traffic, make it safe, how does it make it more aesthetically pleasing for the people living in the area ... it’s all part of that master plan growth and development,” Mellon said.

In trying to help grow the Town of Ashford, Davis shared a letter the town sent to Congressman Tom Reed asking for assistance in helping the town get past the hardships that the West Valley Nuclear Plant has caused. Some of the areas of help include getting \$1.5 million in direct impact aid for the town, continuing funding to complete the mission of the West Valley Demonstration Project Act, reclassifying transuranic waste to defense waste at the WVDP and continuing to support cleanup efforts from the United State Department of Energy Environmental Management at the WVDP.

“The presence of this facility continues to be a black mark on our town and community,” the letter to Reed’s office reads, in part. “While the rest of Western New York enjoys an improved economy, we continue to see massive declines in population, homes sales continue to be stagnant and the perception and image of our town is still mocked as waste valley.”

Councilman John Pfeffer added to the comments from Davis, asking residents to get in contact with Congressman Reed’s office for support of H.R. Bill 2389, which would reclassify waste at the WVDP to waste resulting from atomic energy defense activities. This reclassification would help open a path for early removal of high level waste from the facility and help decrease the burden on taxpayers for high level waste disposal fees.

In other news:

– Budget Officer William King presented the tentative 2018 budget to the board. The total appropriations for the 2018 budget will be \$1,867,008 and the tax levy is set to be at a zero percent increase at \$435,360. The board later approved the tentative budget to be adopted at the preliminary budget.

– The board held a public hearing and later passed a local law for the “Town of Ashford, West Valley Water District Rules and Regulations.”

The next Ashford Town Board meeting will be held on Wednesday, Oct. 11 at 7:30 p.m. at the Ashford Community Center, located at 9377 Route 240, in West Valley.