



Borough of Chambersburg

*A full service municipality in Franklin County
celebrating over 65 years of consumer owned natural gas service
over 120 years of community electric and a
regional wastewater, water, and municipal solid waste utility*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Borough of Chambersburg Receives \$1.7 Million Grant for Police Department Renovations

Chambersburg – On August 1, the Borough of Chambersburg received notice of a \$1.7 million award from the Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program (RACP). The grant will be used to partially fund the Chambersburg Police Department Renovation project – a comprehensive renovation plan to transform a portion of old Borough Hall into a facility exclusively for use by the Chambersburg Police Department.

“On behalf of Town Council, we want to express our sincere gratitude to Representative Rob Kauffman and Senator Doug Mastriano for their strong leadership and support of this project and the grant funding that will make it possible. Chambersburg has tried for many years to find a way to renovate our aging police station. Thank you to our State delegation, our staff, the Police Chief, Mayor, and Borough Manager for securing this funding. This goes a long way towards getting this important public safety project completed.” said Heath Talhelm, President of Town Council.

The renovation of the Chambersburg Police Department will transform an existing building into a state-of-the-art, secure police department. This will directly facilitate the improved service and protection of the residents, businesses, and taxpayers in the Chambersburg area. The building, located at 116 S 2nd Street, will be redeveloped with enhanced accessibility, security and functionality upgrades. Once complete, the newly renovated facility will include offices and holding cells, conference rooms, locker rooms, interview rooms, a K-9 facility, a fitness room, and ample storage.

Representative Kauffman commented “Our men and women in blue work tirelessly day in and day out to protect and serve the public, and yet they have been doing so headquartered out of a facility that is no longer adequate to meet their needs. Enhanced security of the building was a primary concern and one that the renovations will specifically tackle. I am pleased that this funding was approved, it will go a long way toward the \$4.6 million total project cost.”

Senator Mastriano added, “Police officers put their lives on the line every single day to protect and keep our communities safe. Chambersburg is the fastest growing borough in Franklin County, so this grant will give the department the tools necessary to continue its mission of providing professional police services to the area’s 23,000 residents, and its many visitors. As a person who dedicated much of my career to the United States armed forces, protection of our residents is extremely important to me.”

In addition to the improved safety and efficiency, the renovation will provide the facilities needed to accommodate existing and potential future police officer positions. Currently, 35 officers and 3 administrative employees serve a population of 23,000 in one of the fastest growing areas of the Commonwealth.

Praising the decision to upgrade police facilities, Chief Ron Camacho stated, “Increasing population and current trends in criminology, often associated with the opioid epidemic and related criminal activities, place a greater burden on our police force. This Project is focused on long-term functionality and should adequately handle the community’s police facility needs for up to 30 years. This creates greater efficiency and also plans for the future.”

RACP grant funding for this project is provided by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Honorable Tom Wolf, Governor.

Please send any questions or comments to Jeffrey Stonehill, Borough Manager, at jstonehill@chambersburgpa.gov

Chambersburg is a unique community. Pennsylvania’s only municipal natural gas utility, owned and operated by the citizens of the Borough; Chambersburg is also Pennsylvania’s largest municipal electric utility, and the only one that owns and operates generation stations. Chambersburg provides natural gas, electricity, water, sewer, parking and trash for the residents and businesses throughout most of the Borough. Under local control, rates, policies, etc., that are decided locally by the Chambersburg Town Council. Chambersburg currently has 20,878 residents (2017). www.chambersburgpa.gov