



# ***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**

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### **CHAMBERSBURG OFFERS SMALL BUSINESSES NATURAL GAS LOANS**

Chambersburg – Over the last few years, the Borough of Chambersburg, one of only two municipalities in the State of Pennsylvania to operate a municipal natural gas utility, has had tremendous success participating in the Main Street Energy Efficiency Financing Program, an on-bill financing program designed to improve energy efficiency for gas customers by providing low-cost financing to residential homeowners for the purchase and installation of natural gas appliances to replace non-gas units.

Chambersburg is now expanding the program to include commercial properties, specifically benefitting smaller businesses within the Borough of Chambersburg. At the regular meeting on September 12, 2016, Town Council made available up to \$200,000 per year for an expanded program to invite small business property owners to join the Commercial Main Street Energy Efficiency Financing Program.

With clean burning Pennsylvania Marcellus Shale natural gas costing Borough customers about ¼ the price of oil or electric, significant energy savings are achieved by converting to gas. Unfortunately, small businesses often struggle to afford the up-front costs associated with converting less efficient non-gas appliances to more efficient natural gas units. The Commercial Main Street Energy Efficiency Financing Program will aid those customers in affording the conversion to more efficient and environmentally friendly gas units.

“We are pleased to expand our Energy Efficiency Financing Program to small businesses in the Borough. Small businesses drive the economy by hiring workers and bringing economic vitality to our community. We can assist putting money back into the pockets of small business owners by converting their properties to clean burning energy efficient natural gas appliances. This will ultimately grow Chambersburg and grow their businesses,” said Borough Manager Jeffrey Stonehill.

#### **Structure & Requirements of Loan for Commercial Properties**

- Maximum loan amount - \$10,000
- Loans are available for natural gas furnaces, boilers, water heaters and cooking appliances for commercial properties to replace non-gas units
- Maximum loan term – 60 months
- Loans will carry a 0% interest rate
- Each loan will carry a \$5.00 per month administrative fee
- Loan repayments will be added to customer’s monthly utility bill

Interested Borough businesses owners or property owners should first call the Chambersburg Gas Superintendent, John Leary at (717) 261-3234, or the Assistant Gas Superintendent Jonathan Mason at (717) 264-6385 for more details on how to apply for the on-bill financing program and to make sure natural gas is available in the area of their business.



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Chambersburg is a unique community. Chambersburg supplies more services than any other municipality in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. In addition to typical town functions, Chambersburg is Pennsylvania’s only municipality supplying electric & gas. Chambersburg is 1 of 35 Boroughs to operate a municipal non-profit electric utility. Chambersburg is the largest municipal electric utility in the State, twice as large as the second largest, Ephrata, Lancaster County; and, the only one to operate generation stations. Chambersburg is 1 of 2 municipalities in PA to operate a natural gas utility. The other is Philadelphia, which does not operate an electric utility. Nationally, Chambersburg is 1 of 2,000 communities to have its own electric system and 1 of 800 communities to have a natural gas system but 1 of only about 50 to operate both. Chambersburg manages a regional water system, a regional sanitary sewer system (not through an independent Authority), and a new storm sewer utility; one of the first storm sewer utilities to form under the new Federal mandate to regulate stormwater. Chambersburg currently has 20,360 residents (2012). [www.chambersburgpa.gov](http://www.chambersburgpa.gov)