



State of New York County of Broome Government Offices

Office of the Broome County Executive
Jason T. Garnar, Executive

EMBARGOED UNTIL 11AM, May 25, 2018

Town of Maine Submits Application to County Executive's Small Community Fund

Applicant: Natural Gas Pipeline Will Save Money, Attract New Development & Benefit School

(TOWN OF MAINE, NY) Broome County Executive Jason Garnar joined Town of Maine and school districts officials today to announce the Town of Maine has applied for funding from the Broome County's Small Community Grant Fund to bring natural gas into the hamlet of Maine.

County Executive Garnar included the Small Community Fund in the 2018 county budget, which was approved unanimously by the Legislature. This fund is designed to help rural communities in Broome County with grant money to spur the economy, business development and create jobs.

County Executive Jason Garnar was joined for this announcement today by Jim Tokos, Town Supervisor, members of the Town Board and Jason Van Fossen, Superintendent of Maine-Endwell School District.

According to the Town's submitted application, for over 10 years, the Town and residents have been attempting to bring natural gas into the hamlet of Maine.

New York State Electric and Gas (NYSEG) is proposing a natural gas line extension into the hamlet of Maine, approximately 11,954 feet long. The extension route would run between Shadowbrook Road and Maine Memorial Elementary School on Route 26. This extension would continue before the school off Rt. 26 to Church Street to Maple Street, onto Lewis Street and to the end of McGregor Road.

The stretch of roadway in the Town of Maine is home to many businesses including retail, restaurants, storage and warehouse locations and Maine Memorial Elementary School, which is a part of the Maine-Endwell School District.

Town of Maine Councilman Ernest Palmer said "Bringing natural gas would help these businesses to substantially reduce their heating, cooking and hot water costs. This savings to our restaurants and small stores will help to retain our current businesses in the hamlet of Maine."

The total project cost is \$950,000. The Town is requesting \$60,000 from the Small Community Fund. The Town of Maine states in its application that the \$60,000 request for grant money will be used to reduce the surcharge for each customer connected to the natural gas line.

Palmer also stated, "I have a vision to promote and attract businesses to locate in the hamlet of Maine... I feel that this natural gas line would attract more businesses because of the substantial savings toward business overhead costs."

Applications to the Small Community Fund must be considered and approved by the county's Hotel-Motel Committee then drafted into a resolution to be considered by the Broome County Legislature.