



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

James L. Seward

Seward Joins Homer Officials to Announce \$150,000 Grant for New Fire Engine

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| ISSUE: **FIRE SAFETY, LOCAL TAX RELIEF, LOCAL GOVERNMENT**



HOMER, 10/15/18 – State Senator James L. Seward (R/C/I/Ref-Oneonta) today joined Village of Homer officials to announce a \$150,000 grant for a critically needed fire engine. The funds secured by Senator Seward will be used to help purchase a new engine truck with a total cost of \$550,000.

“It is imperative that our first responders are properly equipped – to protect life and property and to ensure their own safety,” said Senator Seward. **“This new fire truck will help the brave**

individuals who risk their lives to protect the Village of Homer and surrounding communities and the state funding eases the burden on the village budget and local property taxpayers.”

Village of Homer Mayor Hal McCabe said, “The safety of our citizens is our number one priority. However, the village is also on a tight budget making it difficult to afford major expenditures. This grant from Senator Seward is a real difference maker and will protect lives and property in the Village of Homer. This grant was originally designated for use for a new village hall, but with our move back into the town hall, we reached out to Senator Seward and asked if he would consider repurposing it for our desperately needed new fire engine, and he instantly agreed. We cannot thank him enough for his help.”

Village of Homer Fire Chief Mahlon Irish said, “When an emergency call comes in and our crews are dispatched they are never certain exactly what they will encounter, so it is vital that they are equipped to face all circumstances. The village’s new engine truck will be a major asset to our firefighters’ ability to keep the public safe as they meet the many challenges and dangers they encounter. Senator Seward’s steadfast support of our department is greatly appreciated.”



The \$150,000 grant secured by Senator Seward through the State and Municipal Facilities Program is being used to help with the purchase of a new engine truck. The new truck will replace the department's Engine 503, a 1996 model, which has reached the end of its operational use. Officials anticipate taking delivery on the new fire engine in 2020.

“This new engine truck will improve the department’s ability to respond when emergency calls comes in. I am proud to partner with the Village of Homer and am confident this state grant will lead to a safer community,” Seward added.

The village fire department serves the Village of Homer, the Towns of Homer, Scott, and Summerhill as well as parts of Cortlandville.