



CITY CHATTER

The Chatter that Matters

April 2014

City Hall
106 Dorman St.
398-3530

Police Department
10 Mechanic St.
398-4493

Harrington Public Library
110 Center St.
398-4647

Parks & Recreation
114 E. Liberty St.
398-7975

Public Works After Hours On-Call Phone Number 632-8827

City's Website <http://harrington.delaware.gov>

City Manager's Message

New Rates to be Discussed at Informational Public Meetings in April

As most of you know by now, Harrington has been working for the past year or more to develop and design water and sewer rates based on usage. Harrington's goal in the design of these new rates is to set and maintain utility rates and fees that are FAIR and ADEQUATE to sustain our utility systems.

The proposed rates will adequately cover our water and sewer system costs and enable the system to build reserves. The rates will be fair to all ratepayers by being proportional to usage versus the flat rates that Harrington is now using.

Water and sewer rates were last changed in June 2010. These increases were part of a five year phase in process. Rates have not changed since then although there have been significant changes to operations and capital costs since that time.

Since 2010, several factors have impacted the ability of the current rate structure to fully support the water and sewer systems. Implementation of a contract with Kent County to treat our sewer has had a significant cost impact. The force main to connect to Kent County created additional debt service. These two factors alone increased annual debt service and operating costs by approximately \$405,000.

City Council recently held workshops to discuss setting the new rates. City Council and staff would like to discuss these changes with the public. The City of Harrington is hosting a series of informational sessions on proposed water and sewer rates. Specific customer types will be covered in each of the meetings:

In City Residents – Thursday, April 3 at 6:30 pm

Out of City Residents – Wednesday, April 9 at 6:30 pm

Farmington – Wednesday, April 16 at 6:30 pm

Businesses – Wednesday, April 23 at 6:30 pm

Delaware State Fair – Wednesday, April 30 at 6:30 pm

All meetings will be held at City Hall, 106 Dorman Street. The public is encouraged to attend these meetings to learn more about the water and sewer rates and to ask any questions.

Please plan to come, your input is important to us.

Library Needs Assessment Town Hall Meeting
Monday, May 12, 6:30 pm at Price Community Center

Message from the Harrington Police Department



We would like to welcome Patrolman Shawn Jacobs to our department. Officer Jacobs graduated from the police academy on March 7, 2014 and is now finishing his FTO with our officers. With the addition of Officer Jacobs, the Harrington Police Department now has 11 fulltime officers, 1 Police Resource Manager, and 1 part time Administrative Assistant.

Freedom Park is almost completed. The signs, landscaping, and lighting are done, and we are looking forward to planning some events there this summer for the community.

Spring is here, and we are looking forward to warmer temperatures. Please remember to watch out for children.

Reminder to parents: if you have children riding bicycles, make sure they are wearing a helmet.

This winter has been especially cold, and our Public Works staff has been called out many times to turn water off because of broken water lines. The City of Harrington urges all home owners to install a shut off valve for water lines inside of their house. This not only saves the City in overtime costs, but benefits the home owner with a quick means of turn off in an emergency and an easy way to check for leaks after a repair.

Harrington Municipal Election

For Districts 5 & 6
Tuesday, May 6, 2014, 12 pm-7 pm
Price Community Center,
103 Dorman Street

More info available on the City's website or call City Hall

Senior/Disabled Citizen Partial Tax Relief applications are available in City Hall and due by June 2, 2014. This form must be completed every year to be eligible for the discount.

Spring Clean Up Week – May 5-9

Harrington residents can take unwanted items to the Public Works Yard, 102 Franklin Street, for disposal. Hours for drop off are 7 am to 3:30 pm with hours extended to 6 pm on Wednesday, May 7.

Photo ID required as proof of residency. Tires, paint, and batteries will not be accepted. Appliances must have the Freon removed by a technician certified to do so and tagged as such. Take advantage of this opportunity to get rid of old furniture, mattresses, or junk in your garage! Call City Hall if you have any questions.



Library Events

Visit our website and Facebook page or call for info

Regular Monthly Events:

- 2nd Thursday, 6 pm – Family Fun Night with activities for kids and Reading to the Dogs
- 3rd Thursday, 6 pm – Read Em' and Eat Book Discussion
- Job Center every Friday, 1-4 pm (except April 18 & 25)
- Storytime every Wednesday, 10:45 am
- Computer Classes on Mondays, 12:15 pm, sign up at the front desk

Special Programs and Events:

- Books and Brownies Sale – Saturday, April 5, 9 am to 1 pm – Sale in the garage behind the library
- Visit from Easter Bunny/Family Fun Night/Reading to the Dogs – Thursday, April 10, 6 pm – Free children's craft night and improve children's reading skills by reading to volunteer dogs Tank, Daisy, and Becca
- National Library Week – Monday, April 14 – Pick up a bookmark & contribute to the dream library poster board
- Teen Reads – Thursday, April 17, 6 pm – Discussion on the titles of Annette Curtis Klause & refreshments served
- Shakespeare Film Festival – Tuesday, April 22 – In honor of Shakespeare's 450th birthday; cupcakes will be served; kids' movie at 4 pm and movie for adults at 6 pm
- Shakespeare Book Talk – Thursday, April 24, 6 pm – Recent reads and featuring "Fool" by Christopher Moore
- Skull Study Nature Program – Saturday, May 10, 11 am – Identify a variety of skulls from local mammals, birds, and reptiles and their function
- Read em' and Eat Book Group – Thursday, May 15, 6 pm – Recent Reads and featuring "The Professor and the Madman" by Simon Winchester
- Teen Meeting – Tuesday, May 20, 6 pm – Free food
- Teddy Bear Sleep Over – Thursday, May 22, 6 pm – Kids can watch a movie with their stuffed animal before the teddy bears spend the night
- Books and Brownies Sale – Saturday, May 31, 9 am to 1 pm – Sale in the garage behind the library
- Mike Rose Magician – Thursday, May 5, 6 pm
- Kick Off Party with DASEF – Saturday, June 7, 10 am – Make a craft with DE Aerospace Education Foundation and decorate a cupcake, sign up for Summer Reading
- Family Movie Night – Tuesday, June 10, 6 pm – Free popcorn and lemonade
- ILC Dover – Tuesday, June 17, 6 pm – Presentation and display about space suits for astronauts
- Sciencellers – Tuesday, June 24, 6 pm – Science experiments used to tell stories
- Salisbury Zoo 2 You – Thursday, June 26, 2 pm – Learn about 4 mystery animals the zoo will bring to the library

"Fizz, Boom, Read"

**Sign up for the Summer Reading Challenge
beginning Thursday, June 5**

Utility Bills Due

May 10



City of Harrington Closings

April 18 Good Friday
May 26 Memorial Day

City Council Meetings & Workshops

April 7	6:30 pm	Workshop
April 21	7:00 pm	Meeting
May 5	6:30 pm	Workshop
May 19	7:00 pm	Meeting
June 2	6:30 pm	Workshop
June 16	7:00 pm	Meeting

Parks & Recreation Events

More info at hprnews.com – Like us on Facebook

- Pop Warner Football and Cheer Signups will be on Saturday, April 12, 2014, from 5 pm to 7 pm at HPR. Bring your child's birth certificate and a photo ID. You will need to fill out the Harrington Parks & Recreation Registration Form. You will also need to fill out the following forms found on the Pop Warner website: Pop Warner Contract, Consent Form, Permission and Waiver Form, and Medical History Form. Beginning July 1, 2014, we will need a copy of your physical, the fourth marking period report card, and payment.



- Golf Tournament on Friday, May 16, at Jonathan's Landing in Magnolia; registrations for foursomes are being taken, limited to the first 25 teams; deadline is May 9; cost is \$300 per foursome and includes golf cart, open range, luncheon, awards, and prizes.
- Heritage Day will be Saturday, August 23; vendor registrations are being accepted for craft, food, and information booths. Planning meetings are held the first Tuesday of every month at 5:30 pm; everyone is invited to attend.
- Tai Chi every Wed. at 10 am; no pre-registration required.
- Yoga Mon. at 10 am, Wed. 9 am, Fri. 10:45 am, first class is free, \$8 per class or 10 for \$70.
- Multi-participant Yard Sale at HPR on Sat., May 10, 7 am-1 pm; spaces are \$10/individual or \$15/business.



Farmers' Market begins May 17, open Saturdays 9 am-1 pm

Report Water, Sewer, and Public Works Issues

Harrington is asking for your assistance. From time to time problems arise of which we are not aware. Should you encounter a water, sewer, or public works issue, please contact us.

If you have an after-hours water, sewer, or public works emergency, please call the after-hours number, (302) 632-8827. During normal working hours (8 am to 4 pm), please call Harrington City Hall at (302) 398-3530.

It is important to report problems to City Hall or the after-hours emergency number even if you have reached out to a public official or staff member. If an issue is not reported in this manner, valuable time may be wasted in resolving the matter.

Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 19, 10 am at St. Bernadette's Church, corner of Dixon & Liberty Streets, for kids 1-10.



Who's Who in the City?

Anthony R. Moyer, Mayor

City Council:

Cheryl Lahman, Vice Mayor, District 4
Wayne Porter, District 1
Amy Minner, District 2
Fonda Coleman, District 3
Ken Stubbs, District 5
Duane E. Bivans, District 6

Teresa Tieman, City Manager
Norman Barlow, Chief of Police
Alan Moore, PW Supervisor
Christine Hayward, Library Director
Bill Falasco, Parks & Rec Director

