CITY GOVERNMENT

Under the City Of Harrington Charter, the City has the authority to own and operate public property, such as the water and sewer systems, roads and buildings. The City also has the power to enforce certain activities that provide for the general public safety and benefit, such as maintenance of sidewalks, curbs and gutters, regulation of landscaping of streets, parks and other public open spaces, control of drainage and snow removal. The City has the authority to conduct intergovernmental coordination for the public good, including joint financing or joint operation of facilities with other agencies. The City also provides for public safety either directly or in cooperation with other agencies for police, fire and emergency medical services.

The Council is the highest level of the executive body. Six City Council Members are elected within designated districts and represent the residents. Redistricting was completed in 2012 with the passing of an ordinance adopting the new district map.

Cheryl Lahman
Vice-Mayor
District 4

Duane E. Bivans
District 6

Fonda Coleman
District 3

Wayne Porter
District 1

Kenny Stubbs
District 5

Amy L. Minner
District 2

Anthony R. Moyer.
Mayor

The Mayor of Harrington presides at the council meetings and civic ceremonies. The Mayor also has the authority to act on behalf of the City during emergencies.
The City also maintains a number of appointed positions and staff to perform day to day operations of the City. Departments have been formed and management staff is appointed to run their Department. The City currently has six Departments: Police, Library, Parks & Recreation, Wastewater, Public Works and City Hall.

**POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Police service in Harrington dates back to 1902 when many public safety organizations were starting to develop in Harrington. The first police chief was John Wesley Parris in 1902, according to the Police Department website. Since 1902, twenty-six (26) Chiefs have served the City of Harrington. Now, the City has a full-time police force of ten (10) officers and is located at 10 Mechanic Street.
There are four specialized units which include the Motorcycle Unit, Highway Patrol Unit, K9 Unit and Criminal Investigation Unit. This group focuses on all narcotic and criminal investigations, community policing and traffic enforcement in areas that are heavily traveled.

Since 2006, the K-9 unit has been in service and is currently under the command of PFC William F. Davis IV. “Nero” was purchased through Anderson’s Kennels from Dach Police-Dogs in Holland. Nero was certified by the Wilmington Police Department after successfully completing two-hundred fifty (250) hours of Canine Narcotics Detection Training. Nero was also awarded the degree of Police Narcotics Dog at the Eastern Police Canine Association trial on November 21, 2006. The Police Department believes that Nero’s assistance will provide an extra resource in the war against drugs.

The Police Department is very active in the community and makes a difference by participating in several programs, such as:

- Law Enforcement Torch Run
- Special Olympics Truck Convoy
Harrington Police National Night Out
Bike Safety Rodeo

The Police Department also assists with all the community events and parades, vacant house checks and Police Department tours.

The Department is concentrating on Community Outreach and Education; however, these are considered part time duties of each employee within the Department. Here are some the outreach programs:

- Neighborhood Watch-Friendship Village Apartments (Began in 2009)
- Character Counts Partnership Program
- School Announcements once a month at W.T. Chipman Middle School
- Chief’s Corner newspaper article in the Harrington News Journal once a month
- Quarterly Department information in the City newsletter
- PPP-Positive Police Presence in local schools
- GREAT (Gang Resistance Education And Training) Program

Harrington Citizens Police Academy-8 Week course (12 graduated in May 2010)

American Legion & Sons of the American Legion Halloween in Local Schools
The Department would like to focus on proactive police measures, community outreach and education in the upcoming years. Some of the outreach and education goals are:

1. Senior citizen awareness
2. Partner with local schools and expand program involvement
3. Drug awareness
4. Holiday safety and awareness
5. Continuing safety education (pedestrian, bicycle, vehicle, child restraints, seatbelts, and cell phone enforcement)
6. Local business partnership
   a. Training for fraud, theft, robbery, management, scenario training, alarms, and emergency situations.
   b. Closed business checks
   c. Building plans for emergency planning/situations
7. Expand the Neighborhood Watch program with interested sectors

If the Department has the resources, manpower and continual training, they can continue to serve the community in a preventative manner. If the resources, manpower and training are not available, it could promote the reactive response only for the community.

LIBRARY

The Harrington Public Library first opened in a small trailer in 1978. Today, the library is located in a residential neighborhood on 110 East Center Street. The library is open Monday through Saturday.

The Harrington Public Library serves the residents of the City of Harrington, as well as those living in surrounding communities. It is the only Public Library in the Lake Forest School District. The library offers a large selection of books, fiction and non-fiction, magazines, newspapers, music CDs, audio books, and movies (DVD and VHS) for children, teens and adults.

The library is a member of the Delaware Library Catalog (www.lib.de.us) which gives our library patrons access to materials in any public library in the State, as well as several colleges, museums, and schools. You may use your library card in any library in Kent, New Castle or
Sussex County. Library cards are free. The library has eight public access computers with internet access. Wi-Fi is also available.

Currently, the library employs two full time positions and two part time positions. The library continues to be a great community asset and provides many additional services, such as:

- Computer internet use
- Facebook page with events listed
- Delaware Library Catalog system
- Current newspapers and magazines
- Printing, copying and fax service
- Proctor service for online College
- Movie check out (DVD and vhs)
- Library newsletter and calendar

Listed below are pictures from some of the programs:

- Opie The Story Time Tree
- Up with Kids Program
- Water Magic Show
- Mrs. Claus Story Time
Harrington Public Library was a founding member of the City’s Heritage Day. The annual event began as a first anniversary celebration for the Public Library and the Greater Harrington Historical Society.

The library is always keeping up with the seasons and hosts several programs that have great attendance numbers as well. Some of the programs are listed below:

- Family movie night
- Book discussion gatherings
- Practice SAT tests
- Halloween party
- Story time programs
- Book sales
- Full winter/summer reading programs
- Kindergarten tours
- Wellness Program
- Animal 4-H program

The library uses every square inch of space they have in the existing building and continue to maintain the services and provide for the community. The pictures below show some of the main areas in the library.
PARKS AND RECREATION

Harrington is located less than six miles from Killens Pond State Park and Water Park. Activities at the park include a pool and slides, traditional camping, boat rentals and fishing. Ball fields and a Frisbee golf course are also available to the public year round. The park’s trails are used for hiking, biking and cross-country running.

Abbot’s Mill Nature Center, located five miles southeast of the City on Abbott’s Pond Road in Sussex County, also provides various year round arts and crafts programs for families. There is an Autumn at Abbott’s festival held every year with various types of entertainment.

The Harrington Parks and Recreation Department consists of two full time employees and is supplemented by volunteers. The Director oversees the daily operations of the Department. The Friends of Harrington Parks and Recreation are a 501(c) 3 group that supports this Department as well. Various youth sports and recreation programs are offered through the Parks and Recreation Department, which is located at 114 East Liberty Street.

The Department is a great community asset. The City of Harrington Price Community Center is operated by the Harrington Parks and Recreation Department.

Listed below are pictures from some of the programs:

- Harrington Fire Company Haunted Forest
- Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Parade
Pop Warner Football

Cheerleading

Dance

Eagle Scout Project

Soccer

Easter Egg Hunt
As you can see, the Parks and Recreation Department always keeps up with the seasons and hosts several programs that have great attendance numbers. Some of the programs are listed below:

- Adult Fitness
- Christmas Parade
- Dance (adult jazz, ballet, tap, jazz, hip-hop and Creative Movement for Tots)
- Easter Egg Hunt
- Heritage Day
- Indoor Field Hockey
- Pop-Warner Football
- Tennis
- Soccer
- Water Aerobics
- Wrestling
- Cheerleading
- Drop off location for other programs (Food bank, SPCA, People’s Place, etc.)
- Participate in events with the Senior Center and the City
- Partnership and assist in the Vietnam Veteran Association celebration
- Partnership and assist the Harrington Fire Company’s Annual Haunted Forest

PUBLIC WORKS

The Public Works Department consists of the Public Works Supervisor and five full-time employees. The Department is responsible for the following functions:

- Water/Wastewater: operates and maintains the water distribution and wastewater transmission system for customers; , which includes repairing water leaks, locating and inspecting water/sewer lines, installing new and replacing aging water services, instituting water quality programs, fire hydrant testing and repair, flushing the water systems, meter reading and inspection, and responding to customer concerns. Wastewater services: operates and maintains the wastewater transmission and pump stations for customers,
including cleaning, inspecting, and repairing or replacing sewer mains; maintaining and repairing pump stations, and responding to customer concerns.

- Stormwater management: complies with the City’s National Pollutant Elimination System (NPDES) permit and cleans catch basins
- Facilities Maintenance: maintains all City buildings and grounds
- Streets, curbing and sidewalks: Maintains 11.88 miles of streets within the City of Harrington, including road repair, black top and temporary patching, snow removal, street sweeping, sign replacement and repair, curb painting and marking, weed control on curb lines, and alley repairs.
- Animal control
- Trash container management and replacement

Money received from the State for road maintenance and rehabilitation projects is collected into a Street Funds Account. The City Engineer develops a priority list for roadwork which is updated when funding becomes available to cost-effectively proceed with projects. Contractors are selected by competitive bidding to complete roadway projects.
CITY HALL

The City Hall Department is known for its helpfulness and excellent service. It is also valued for its leadership, resourcefulness, program development, and guidance in planning, budgeting, and managing the activities of the City.

Total number of City employees: 33

Total number of utility accounts: 1300

Total number of tax accounts: 1785

The department consists of six full-time staff: City Manager, Finance Director, City Clerk, Clerk of Council, Code Enforcement Officer and Administrative Assistant. It also includes one part time Administrative Assistant. This Department is responsible for the following functions:

- Finance: performs cash management, financial reporting, payroll, human resource benefit administration, accounts payables, grant administration, loan administration, and annual audit coordination
- Budget Preparation: prepares and assembles the City’s annual operating budget and capital improvement plan
- Department Management: provides support and guidance to City Manager departments of Public Works, Library and Parks and Recreation to help achieve their goals
- Administrative Support: provides support to Council and Council committees to include preparation and posting of agendas and minutes, attendance at Council and Workshop meetings, tracking of agenda items, research, correspondence, processing resolutions and ordinances, publishing and posting of public hearings, legal notices, and assisting Council members in performance of their duties
- Records Management: provides a systematic approach in archiving records in accordance with State regulations, City Charter and City Code; researches and retrieves records for the public, Council and staff
- Customer Service: provides professional, fair, courteous, efficient, and accurate service to our customers; responds to citizen inquiries and work orders; publishes a quarterly newsletter; coordinates and maintains the City’s website
- Billing: provides accurate and timely billing for Water, Wastewater and Trash on a quarterly basis; bills for business licenses and rental licenses annually
- Collections: minimizes the City’s loss of revenue from delinquent accounts by actively pursuing past due payments
- Cash Processing: processes all payments for the City of Harrington in a timely, accurate manner
• Tax Billing and Collections: bills and collects Harrington property tax to include monitions processing of delinquent accounts for sheriff’s sale

• Code Enforcement (property maintenance, code regulations, building permits, etc.): proactively enforces City codes, including property maintenance, zoning, and other requirements of the Harrington Code of Ordinances to promote the safety and welfare of Harrington residents

• Manages the City’s contractual services, including Engineering, Legal, Planning and Trash: oversees the contractual services of the City of Harrington in a manner which is efficient and cost effective

TRASH/SOLID WASTE COLLECTION

The City has a local contractor that provides trash collection once a week and recycling bi-weekly. The City recycles paper, glass, plastic, metal recyclables, and aerosol cans. Collection is provided by an outside contractor in accordance with the City regulations. Yard waste is collected by the City at the Public Works yard on designated days with no charge to residents.