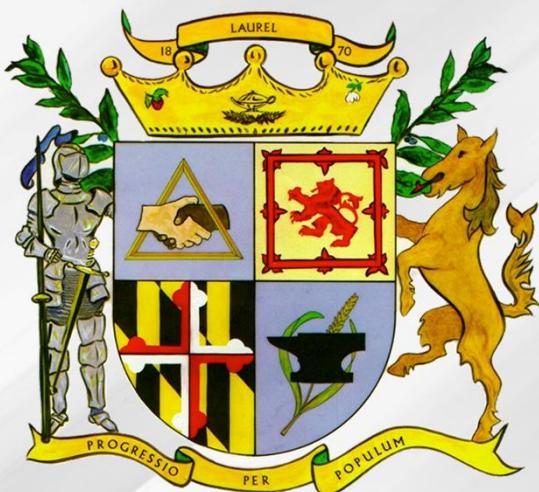


City of Laurel 2015 Annual Highlights



Laurel Municipal Center
8103 Sandy Spring Road
Laurel, MD 20707
301-725-5300
cityoflaurel.org

Message From The Mayor



Dear Fellow Citizens:

I am pleased to provide the City of Laurel community the 2015 Annual Highlights Report.

It details a record number of accomplishments, but it's really just an overview.

You can find the full report and the City's comprehensive Operating Budget at our website at cityoflaurel.org.

There are more opportunities than ever for citizens to get involved in Laurel City government, and I encourage you to take the plunge.

With your help, we can continue to thrive, and be the kind of community that makes Laurel such a great place to live, work, and play.

Best wishes in 2016 and beyond.

Thank you,
Craig A. Moe
Mayor

Message from the City Council



Valerie M. A. Nicholas,
City Council
Ward I



H. Edward Ricks,
Council President
Ward I



Michael R. Leszcz,
City Council
At Large



Frederick Smalls,
City Council
Ward II



Donna L. Crary,
City Council
Ward II

Dear Residents and Business Owners:

This publication is a true testament to just how hard your City Leaders and Staff have worked to make sure that the Citizens of Laurel receive the finest services they so richly deserve.

As your Council President, it's my job, along with my City Council Colleagues, to continue the forward progress we have fought long and hard for this year. We will also continue to support and share the vision of Mayor Craig A. Moe in his work with the City of Laurel. Though our shared vision for the City is an ambitious one, with your continued support, we will continue to meet our goals.

This year we have worked very hard to "Save Our Stop" and keep The Laurel Regional Hospital from closing. It can't be done without you, so keep letting your voices be heard!

This Council is very proud of each and every accomplishment revealed herein and we want to thank those responsible for all their hard work. We also would like you to know, that as your Elected Officials, we are making every effort possible to make sure that great things continue to happen in 2016 and the years to come.

Sincerely
H. Edward Ricks
Council President

CITY OF LAUREL DEMOGRAPHICS



Total Square Miles
4.6

2015 Population
26,160

Number of Businesses
1,000+

Dwelling Units
11,707

Single Family
6,014

Multi-Family
5,693

Office of the Mayor



Craig A. Moe
Mayor

301-725-5300 ext. 2124
LaurelMayor@laurel.md.us
Twitter: @LaurelMayor



LouAnn Crook
Chief of Staff

301-725-5300 ext. 2124
lcrook@laurel.md.us

As the leading elected official of the City, the Mayor is empowered to approve or veto legislation, provide an annual budget for City services and have direct supervision of government administration for all citizens and businesses of the City.

Office of the Mayor

Accomplishments

- ✓ Went to Annapolis to support legislation for Laurel and other municipalities;
- ✓ Meetings with Legislators at the Local, County, State and Federal levels;
- ✓ Attended Neighborhood Watch Programs and Homeowner's Association meetings throughout the City;
- ✓ Hosted "City Hall in the Park" town meetings and "My Time with the Mayor" Programs at City parks and facilities;
- ✓ Attended numerous meetings with community leaders, elected officials and others regarding the Laurel Regional Hospital;
- ✓ Attended Prince George's County Municipal Association Chapter Meetings and Annual Legislative Dinner;
- ✓ Employed 12 students for 8 weeks, ages 14 – 16, through the Annual Mayor's Summer Jobs Program;
- ✓ Provided support for hiring process to all City Departments;

Office of the Mayor

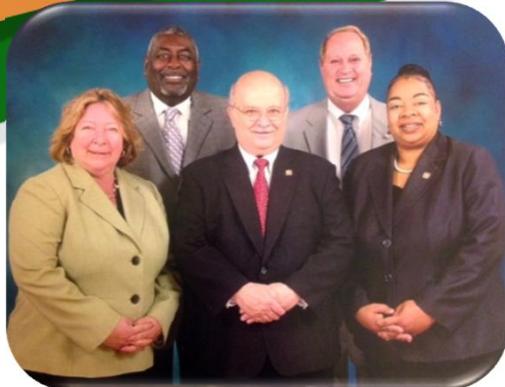
Accomplishments

- ✓ Prepared and distributed the monthly “Mayor Gram” to all City employees;
- ✓ Attended Maryland Municipal League Annual Convention;
- ✓ Executive Assistant was elected President, Maryland Municipal Clerk’s Association, and appointed to the Maryland Municipal League’s Board of Directors; and
- ✓ Mayor Moe received the prestigious “Lifetime Achievement Award” from the Maryland Municipal League at the Annual Convention in June.



Office of the City Council

301-725-5300 ext. 2120



Valerie Nicholas
vnicholas@laurel.md.us
Twitter: @roanokeva20

Donna Crary
drary@laurel.md.us
Twitter: @DonnaCrary

Michael Leszcz
mleszcz@laurel.md.us
Twitter: @LMikeStamp

H. Edward Ricks
ericks@laurel.md.us
Twitter: @ed_ricks

Fred Smalls
fsmalls@laurel.md.us
Twitter: @fredsmalls1

The City Council is the legislative body of the City of Laurel and as elected representatives of the citizens, consider and enact resolutions, regulations, and ordinances for the protection of rights and privileges, peace and good government, and safety and health of all citizens.

Office of the City Council

Accomplishments

- ✓ Councilmember Donna Crary was re-elected to the Maryland Municipal League (MML) Board of Directors;
- ✓ Councilmember Donna Crary attended MML Board of Director's Retreat on September 10, 2015, in Annapolis, Maryland;
- ✓ Attended the Maryland Municipal League Annual Convention;
- ✓ Councilmember Michael Leszcz reappointed to the National League of Cities Transportation and Services Steering Committee for 2016;
- ✓ Councilmember's Crary, Ricks, Leszcz and Smalls attended the Maryland Municipal League Fall Conference in Cambridge, Maryland;
- ✓ Councilmember H. Edward Ricks elected Council President on November 9, 2015. He appointed Councilmember Michael R. Leszcz his pro tem;

Office of the City Council

Accomplishments

- ✓ **Councilmember Michael Leszcz re-elected Chair of the Patuxent River Commission by the Commissioners;**
- ✓ **President Ricks and Councilmembers Crary and Leszcz lead the effort to keep the MARC Train Commuter Stop in the City of Laurel – “Save Our Stop.”**



Office of the Clerk



Kim Rau

301-725-5300 ext. 2121

krau@laurel.md.us

Twitter: @LaurelClerk

It is the responsibility of the Clerk to the City Council to provide assistance to the City Council and to maintain and preserve all required legislation in accordance with State, County and City Codes. The Clerk's Office also provides administrative and reporting coverage of the Mayor and City Council meetings.

Office of the Clerk

Accomplishments

- ✓ **Municipal Government Works Month was November 2015.** Since 1993, cities and towns throughout the state have been celebrating Municipal Government Week in an effort to educate citizens about the role and function of the government closest to them. This was the second year the celebration was in the month of November;
- ✓ **Kimberley Rau, MMC, Clerk, attended the 69th International Institute of Municipal Clerks Annual Conference in Hartford, Connecticut;**
- ✓ **Kimberley A. Rau, MMC, Clerk attended the IIMC Region II Conference in Dover, Delaware from January 14 – 26, 2015;**
- ✓ **City of Laurel General Election was on November 3, 2015;**
- ✓ **Ana Navarro, Administrative Assistant, joined the Certified Municipal Clerks Program for the International Institute of Municipal Clerks;**
- ✓ **Ana Navarro, Administrative Assistant, appointed to the Newsletter Committee for the Maryland Municipal Clerks Association.**

Office of the City Administrator



Kristie Mills
Former City Administrator
Retired December 31, 2015

The City Administrator directs and coordinates the general administration of the City government.

In addition to the day-to-day operations of the City government, the Office of the City Administrator is responsible for insurance management, budget preparation, emergency operations and other projects as assigned by the Mayor.

Office of the City Administrator

Accomplishments – City Administrator

- ✓ Represented City as ex-officio member of CMRT Board;
- ✓ Represented City during Howard County Regional Transportation Agency meetings;
- ✓ Represented City on Fort Meade Community Covenant Council;
- ✓ Coordinated with Prince Georges County on the Laurel Lakes Upper Fore Bay Dredging Project;
- ✓ Continued oversight of Comcast franchise agreement renewal negotiations;
- ✓ Served as Executive Officer of Community Redevelopment Authority;
- ✓ Coordinated in the development and presentation of the City's CIP and GOB;
- ✓ Continued to coordinate Comcast negotiations;
- ✓ Coordinated and participated in the City election law revisions from first draft to final version and adoption;

Office of the City Administrator

Accomplishments – City Administrator

- ✓ Coordinated and participated in negotiations on the Tax Differential as a member of the County Task Force;
- ✓ Participated in planning and attendance at annual Mayor's Open House;
- ✓ Negotiated and executed contract with CGI Video for promotional and informational videos for the City;
- ✓ Continued support of the City pension board;
- ✓ Supported and coordinated efforts to conduct feasibility studies to construct a building on City property adjacent to the Stephen P. Turney Recreation Complex;
- ✓ Coordinated, supported and participated in the Laurel Lions Annual Car Show;
- ✓ Continued participation in the quarterly School Principal Breakfast meetings;

Office of the City Administrator

Accomplishments – City Administrator

- ✓ *Explored available options for participation and installation of solar energy devices;*
- ✓ *Negotiated transfer of Dorset Road from Brookmill to the City;*
- ✓ *Participated in design review of Federal Realty Development project.*



Office of the City Administrator

Marty Flemion
301-725-5300 ext. 2216
mflemion@laurel.md.us
Twitter: @LaurelCityOEM



Accomplishments – Emergency Services

- ✓ Continued City Hall security enhancements;
- ✓ Supported design and location of Community Message/Sign Board at Laurel Volunteer Fire Department;
- ✓ Continued to serve on the County Local Emergency Planning Advisory Committee;
- ✓ Coordinated, submitted and received State approval of the City's Debris Management Plan;
- ✓ Continued to serve as board member of PG County Citizens Corps Council and PG County CERT Board of Directors;
- ✓ Participated in WSSC annual dam failure exercise;
- ✓ Coordinated continuation of City-wide AED Program;

Office of the City Administrator

Accomplishments – Emergency Services

- ✓ Assisted Prince George's County in development and implementation of Emergency Management Education classes in Prince George's County schools;
- ✓ Negotiated and executed Use Agreement with Laurel Boys and Girls Club for Emergency Shelter Operations;
- ✓ Coordinated Use Agreement with the American Red Cross for emergency response equipment storage;
- ✓ Developed Civil Unrest presentation for MML Conference;
- ✓ Participated in City/ARC efforts to acquire 41 B Street;
- ✓ Participated in annual dam emergency plan review;
- ✓ Responded to two major flooding incidents in the City;
- ✓ Hosted and coordinated FEMA Flood Map Revision Open House;
- ✓ Responded to and assisted/coordinated recovery response to a Level 2 tornado.

Office of the City Administrator

Pat Haag
301-725-5300
ext. 2206
phaag@laurel.md.us



Accomplishments – Risk Management

- ✓ Member of Toast Masters International;
- ✓ Chesapeake Employer's Insurance Government Council member;
- ✓ Member of LGIT Risk Management Committee;
- ✓ Chairperson of City of Laurel Risk Management Committee;
- ✓ Chairperson of City of Laurel Accident Review Board;
- ✓ Developed, supported and participated in City's First Annual Truck Rodeo;
- ✓ Attended Maryland's Employee Wellness Symposium;
- ✓ Attended Maryland Highway Safety Summit;
- ✓ Provided training to City Departments of Vehicle Accident Procedures and Vehicle Inspections;
- ✓ Provided "backer training" for City drivers;

Office of the City Administrator

Accomplishments – Risk Management

- ✓ Worked with LGIT to provide insurance coverage for the Community Redevelopment Authority and their newly acquired properties;
- ✓ Found training opportunities for Distracted Driver training for any employee that had at-fault accidents.



Budget and Personnel Services



Michele Saylor

301-725-5300 ext. 2236

msaylor@laurel.md.us

The Budget and Personnel Services Department's responsibility to the City of Laurel and its citizens is to ensure that adequate controls exist in order to protect the City's funds and maintain adequate and accurate records of all financial transactions. They strive for the performance level necessary to achieve a favorable certified audit in order to maintain our current "A" bond rating and eligibility for Federal grant funds. The Department must maintain strict cash controls, diligent monitoring and reconciliation of monies to maintain adequate cash flow.

Budget and Personnel Services

Accomplishments

- ✓ Followed regulation changes related to the Affordable Care Act and prepared to meet the new reporting requirements for Tax Year 2015;
- ✓ Followed potential changes to the FLSA and analyzed the potential impact on the City;
- ✓ Held elections for Participant Representatives to the Board of Trustees and prepared a new appointee to the Board;
- ✓ Changed healthcare providers to reduce costs, got contract awarded by Mayor and City Council and completed Open Enrollment and implementation;
- ✓ Updated and distributed Summary Plan Descriptions for the Pension Plans;
- ✓ Administered the application and interview process for the Mayor's Summer Jobs Program and scheduled and moderated group activities such as Toastmasters speeches, tours of City Facilities and more;

Budget and Personnel Services

Accomplishments

- ✓ Maintained full service of the Department during the annual audit while the Accounts Receivable Specialist was on an extended absence;
- ✓ Provided training to new employees on the use of the accounting and personnel software, as well as refresher training for current employees;
- ✓ Continued scanning employee folder contents into document imaging system;
- ✓ Broadened use of document imaging system to minimize physical storage needs and further streamline transmittal of data to auditors;
- ✓ Started working with Parks and Recreation on the accounting aspect of the recreation software upgrade; and
- ✓ Managed Employee Secret Santa Program to provide Christmas presents to children in need.



Communications



Audrey Barnes
301-725-5300 ext. 2208
abarnes@laurel.md.us
Twitter: @LaurelPIO

The primary function of the Department of Communications is to provide useful information to residents, businesses, and employees within the City limits of Laurel and the greater Laurel area. The Communications Director develops, prepares, and coordinates the release of official news advisories and disseminates news on the City's public access television station, Laurel TV, and its companion website LaurelTV.org, the City's website, cityoflaurel.org, the mobile My Laurel App and through outreach on Social Media sites. They work closely with other Departments in the City to spread news about the Mayor's Government to the People program and other activities that allow people to live, work, and enjoy the City of Laurel.

Communications

Accomplishments

- ✓ Laurel TV.org website went live on January 20, 2015;
- ✓ Laurel TV Facebook page was activated;
- ✓ @laureltvorg Twitter went live;
- ✓ Added the position of Public Information/Social Media Specialist to the Department of Communications;
- ✓ Phase One of the Laurel TV equipment upgrade was completed and included the successful installation of three, new HD cameras and teleprompters;
- ✓ Studio re-design readied for unveiling. It includes a TV News Set and modernized interview space with monitors for live graphics;
- ✓ Facilitated the successful roll out of the Low Bridge Warning System in Laurel through a press conference that included a live demonstration which involved an oversized DPW vehicle;

Communications

Accomplishments

- ✓ Produced a documentary-style report on the Laurel Police Department: On the Front Lines in Baltimore, during the civil disturbance in April;
- ✓ Recruited a Hispanic liaison to redo our bulletin board graphics in Spanish, record some important stories in Spanish and expand our program options into Laurel's Hispanic community;
- ✓ Launched several new programs on Laurel TV including: Ask the Mayor, Keeping It Green, Service in Action, and we brought back Laurel Fire Watch;
- ✓ Stream-lined the Volunteer Application process and freshened up the brochures and online volunteer web pages;

Communications

Accomplishments

- ✓ **Added hundreds of new names to our Citizen email lists in several key areas, including Clergy, HOA's, and Civic groups, and two email lists dedicated to the Laurel Train Stop and Laurel Regional Hospital;**
- ✓ **Passport Office processed over 4,600 applications in 2015;**
- ✓ **Held a second TV photography training session for new Laurel TV Volunteers;**
- ✓ **Aired our first report in Spanish on Laurel.**



Community Planning and Business Services



Jack Brock

301-725-5300 ext. 2313

jbrock@laurel.md.us

The Department of Community Planning and Business Services maintains and oversees the built environment within the City of Laurel and is responsible for code enforcement, building and fire inspections, property standards, rental licensing, permit review and issuance, and implementation of the City Master Plan. These activities are intended to ensure public safety, protect property values, and improve the quality of life in the City. The staff strives to provide services in a timely and efficient manner, while promoting high-quality development, compliant with State of Maryland regulations and statutes.

Community Planning and Business Services

Accomplishments

- ✓ Continued to administer the Animal License Program and issued over 150 licenses;
- ✓ Continued the administration of the Foreclosure Registration Program;
- ✓ Continued the administration of the Main Street Economic Development Program;
- ✓ Staffed the Transportation and Public Safety Committee, as well as the Planning Commission, Board of Appeals, Historic District Commission and Community Redevelopment Authority (CRA);
- ✓ Continued to participate in the Fort George G. Meade Community Covenant Committee and the Regional Growth Management Committee;
- ✓ Continued coordination with the Maryland Transit Administration on the proposed mixed-use facility for Transit-Oriented Development at the Main Street MARC Rail Station;
- ✓ Participated in the Regional Transit Transportation Agency of Central Maryland (RTA) sustainability group;
- ✓ Continued City Code Enforcement sweeps over 11 days in 46 City of Laurel neighborhoods;

Community Planning and Business Services

Accomplishments

- ✓ Participated in Envision Main Street, a group to coordinate improvements and necessary code compliance to improve the Main Street business area;
- ✓ Coordinated applications for small businesses in the Neighborhood Business Works program of the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development;
- ✓ Continued to administer the outreach program to citizens requesting updated emergency contact information in association with alarm permits;
- ✓ Completed review of plans and prepared Technical Staff Reports for Map Amendment, M-X-T Application and Special Exception for Spring Arbor- Assisted Living Facility project;
- ✓ Completed review of plans and prepared Technical Staff Reports for M-X-T Application for Westside Townhouse project;
- ✓ Revised Article III “Moderately Priced Dwelling Units” and Article IV “Workforce Dwelling Units” to implement a comprehensive “Affordable Housing Program” in Chapter 11, Article III of the City Code;

Community Planning and Business Services

Accomplishments

- ✓ Completed documents for administering the Affordable Housing Program which include: Declaration of Covenants, Notice of Availability and Offering Agreement and Income Certification form;
- ✓ Completed rules and regulations for the Affordable Housing Program as required by City Code;
- ✓ Prepared the Eastern Main Street-Avondale Mill Neighborhood Plan for the Community Redevelopment Authority (CRA);
- ✓ Completed plan review and prepared Technical Staff Reports for other zoning applications;
- ✓ Began update of the Master Plan;
- ✓ Staffed the Master Plan Review Committee.

Community Planning/ Business Services

Dave Cope
301-725-5300
ext. 2250
dcope@laurel.md.us



Accomplishments - Fire Marshal

- ✓ Participated in the Emergency Services Commission Meetings;
- ✓ Oversaw the production of the City's Annual 4th of July Celebration;
- ✓ Conducted inspections of various City businesses during the holiday season to ensure that live Christmas trees were not present;
- ✓ Served as Chairman of the State Fire Marshal's Sub-Committee and attended monthly Committee meetings;
- ✓ Served as City's representative to the Metro Fire Chief's Association;
- ✓ Produced Fire Prevention Month shows at three local schools;
- ✓ Conducted all inspections of daycare facilities;
- ✓ Created and produced monthly Public Safety cable shows.

Information Technology



Kevin Frost

301-725-5300 ext. 2310

kfrost@laurel.md.us

The Department of Information Technology is committed to providing the systems necessary to enable employees to achieve their goals, to support computer training throughout the City, and to assist the City in effective management, administration and service operation and in delivery of its services; to provide the widest possible access to computer systems; and, to provide appropriate support in the use of these systems.

Information Technology

Accomplishments

- ✓ Upgraded wireless network to AC standard and installed additional access points in City buildings to provide expanded coverage;
- ✓ Installed guest wireless access at Granville-Gude Park;
- ✓ Developed online GIS applications for our Public Safety use;
- ✓ Developed wireless public address system for emergency notifications during major outdoor events;
- ✓ Supported (2) GIS interns during the year;
- ✓ Supported (2) technology interns during the year;
- ✓ Provided Public Works and City Planners with GIS and map support;
- ✓ Provided technology support for the Mayor's Summer Jobs Program;

Information Technology

Accomplishments

- ✓ Received the Maryland Emergency Management Agency Project of the Year award for the development of a real-time damage assessment application;
- ✓ Upgraded our Document Management System;
- ✓ Deployed a Virtual Desktop at the Laurel Police Department;
- ✓ Continued participation in the Comcast Cable Franchise negotiations;
- ✓ Supported mobile Command Unit operations at several City events.

Parks and Recreation



Mike Lhotsky

301-725-5300 ext. 2308

mlhotsky@laurel.md.us

Twitter: [@LaurelParksRec](#)

The Department of Parks and Recreation is a full service agency that maintains and operates six facilities and 19 park sites encompassing over 222 acres of parkland. The Department offers a comprehensive program for Parks and Recreation to ensure the delivery of a variety of leisure services and facilities that enhance and enrich the quality of life for the residents of the City of Laurel.

Parks and Recreation

Accomplishments – Recreation

- ✓ 22nd consecutive year of Tree City USA recognition;
- ✓ 9th consecutive year of Play City USA recognition;
- ✓ Expanded Youth Sports Alliance with new partnership with W.I.S.E. Basketball, to include Spring Break Basketball Camp and Summer Basketball League;
- ✓ Advised/assisted new Youth Services Commission on policy and procedure for Youth Group Grants program;
- ✓ Provided staff representation as an officer on Maryland Municipal League Parks and Recreation Committee;
- ✓ Provided staff representation on Maryland Municipal League Hometown Preparedness Committee;
- ✓ Provided assistance to City of Greenbelt Parks and Recreation on Preschool and Day Camp licensing;
- ✓ Expanded special event vendor co-sponsorship to include new Towne Centre at Laurel and Main Street merchants;
- ✓ Expanded activities at Lakefest to include new games and Departmental class instructor promotions;

Parks and Recreation

Accomplishments – Recreation

- ✓ Reconfigured Annual LCIC Open House to showcase Municipal Center facility changes;
- ✓ Expanded class program offering;
- ✓ Expanded Teen Outdoors Club Trips program to include C&O Canal Hike to Great Falls and Terrapin Adventure Tours;
- ✓ Computerized Senior Van Transportation Scheduling system by writing a customized program;
- ✓ Began staff conferencing/training on new Recreation Software package that will be implemented in Spring 2016;
- ✓ Replaced lounge/game room furniture at Laurel Armory Anderson-Murphy Community Center and Robert J. DiPietro Community Center;
- ✓ Grounded Outdoor Flag pole at Robert J. DiPietro Community Center to prevent electrical current from entering facility;
- ✓ Installed new LED lights at Laurel Armory Anderson-Murphy Community Center and Laurel Municipal Center;
- ✓ Certified Facility Supervisors in the “Save the Children” Emergency Preparedness initiative;

Parks and Recreation

Accomplishments – Recreation

- ✓ Increased Departmental fleet with addition of 4 passenger vans;
- ✓ Built, equipped and opened new licensed concession stand at Greenview Drive Pool Complex;
- ✓ Added new prefab shed for use as guard/first aid room and additional facility storage at Greenview Drive Pool Complex;
- ✓ Trained/certified life guard staff in new standards and regulations;
- ✓ Expanded pre-approved licensed groups for open swim sessions at both pool facilities;
- ✓ Hosted/assisted Howard County Recreation and Parks Summer Camp programs with aquatic testing and open swim opportunities at Municipal Pool;
- ✓ Installed new ADA compliant self-operating lifts at both Municipal and Greenview Drive pools;
- ✓ Assisted Department of Communications with Pool Safety Information video;
- ✓ Preschool Director received training on new assessment tools that are required for State of Maryland Licensing; and
- ✓ Additional bilingual safety signage was added at the Laurel Municipal Pool and the Greenview Drive Pool.

Parks and Recreation

Accomplishments – Facilities and Grounds

- ✓ Added new full-time Horticultural Supervisor position;
- ✓ Repaved the parking lot at Robert J. DiPietro Community Center;
- ✓ Worked with Prince George's County on the lake dredging project;
- ✓ Interior wall was rebuilt at the Laurel Museum Basement;
- ✓ Exterior work to the Laurel Museum to include new porches, new doors and painting;
- ✓ New ADA accessible chairs were added to the Main St. Pool and Greenview Pool;
- ✓ Added additional duct work and programmable thermostat to the Public Works garage to increase the heat efficiency;
- ✓ Re-graded and lined the stream bed outside of Greenview Pool with rock ;
- ✓ New dog play equipment added to the dog park;

Parks and Recreation

Accomplishments – Facilities and Grounds

- ✓ Installed flag poles at the Laurel Armory Anderson-Murphy Community Center and Alice B. McCullough Field;
- ✓ Re-landscaped various parks and buildings throughout the City;
- ✓ Assisted Community Garden members as needed;
- ✓ Assisted with various community special events to include: Laurel Independence Day, Main Street Festival, Riverfest and Relay for Life;
- ✓ Awarded a Community Playground grant for replacement of the playground at Granville Gude Park.



Laurel Police Department



Chief Richard McLaughlin
301-498-0092
rmclaughlin@laurel.md.us
Twitter: @richmlpd

The Laurel Police Department is a full-service law enforcement agency providing law enforcement services to all citizens and visitors of the City of Laurel twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week.

The primary services include police patrol of residential communities and business, response to emergency and non-emergency calls for police service and the investigation of all violent and property crimes.

Laurel Police Department

Accomplishments

- ✓ Assigned 27 officers to assist Baltimore City with civil unrest;
- ✓ Participated in an Epilepsy Training video that was used nationwide for Public Safety training;
- ✓ Installed additional Red Light Automated Enforcement Cameras to warranted intersections;
- ✓ Maintained the relationship with CAFY for Domestic Violence resources;
- ✓ Maintained Automatic External Defibrillators (AED) in all police vehicles;
- ✓ Continued and increased personal wear camera program (45 cameras assigned/100% of Patrol officers);

Laurel Police Department

Accomplishments

- ✓ Awarded “Above and Beyond” accolade from the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve organization;
- ✓ Participated in Domestic Violence Awareness month with purple lights on building; and
- ✓ Maintained the “RX Drug Drop Box” program for disposal of unwanted/unneeded drugs and participated in DEA Drug Turn-In Day.



Laurel Police Department

Accomplishments - Patrol

Calls for Service January to December:

- ✓ Calls for service: 56,396
- ✓ Adult arrests: 805
- ✓ Juvenile arrests: 106
- ✓ DUI/DWI arrests: 123
- ✓ Accident Reports: 480
- ✓ Incident Reports: 3,712
- ✓ Parking Citations: 2,508
- ✓ Traffic Citations: 5,200

Laurel Police Department

Accomplishments – Community Policing

- ✓ Assisted with multiple random locker searches with the K-9 unit;
- ✓ Conducted career days at Laurel Elementary, Scotchtown Hills, St. Mary's, Bond Mill, St. Francis Fuchs, PELC, Laurel Boys and Girls Club, Laurel High, Deerfield Run, Oakland Mills Elementary, and Martin Luther King Middle School;
- ✓ Police Rally in Washington, DC;
- ✓ Attended multiple Home Owner's Association meetings;
- ✓ Attended monthly meetings with Laurel Board and Trade;
- ✓ Multiple tours of the station with CRT school, Boy Scout, Cub Scouts, Girl Scouts;
- ✓ DARE Days at the Laurel Police Station (total of four);
- ✓ Elementary School Walks (Several);
- ✓ Berwyn Heights Parade and Celebration; and
- ✓ Assisted with the Fourth of July event, Main St. Festival event, Emancipation Day Celebration, Riverfest event, College Bound 5K run, Turkey Trot 5K, Holiday Parade, Laurel Homecoming Day Parade, National Night Out, Cops Camp, Fire Prevention week shows, Halloween Trick or Trick on Main St., Lion's Club Car show, and National Preparedness Day.

Public Works



Rob Ferree
301-725-0088
rferree@laurel.md.us

The Department of Public Works provides services that include residential and commercial refuse and recycling collection, street and sidewalk maintenance/repair, storm drain maintenance, tree management, engineering solutions for public safety, management of the Capital Improvement Program, which includes upgrading roads, sidewalks, curbs and gutters, maintenance of the automotive fleet, snow and ice removal and quick and effective responses to inclement weather damage. Our mission is to provide the best possible services to our residents in the most efficient, professional and economical way possible.

Public Works

Accomplishments

- ✓ Completed the Laurel Main Street lights now upgraded to LED technology;
- ✓ Installed signal cameras at all City-owned signals;
- ✓ Awarded a contract to E&R for sidewalks, curb and gutter improvement projects throughout the City with all engineering and inspections done in-house;
- ✓ Provided traffic and speed data for the Laurel Police Department on numerous City Streets, with specific times given for speeding so radar could be done at that time, thus saving manpower hours for the City;
- ✓ Awarded a contract to E&R Services for sidewalks, handicapped ramps, deep asphalt patching, resurfacing, curbs and gutter work at various CIP identified streets throughout the City;
- ✓ Completed a CDBG grant for Public Safety repairs to Bowie Road with the signal light installation, sidewalk, curb and gutter under the CSX bridge;
- ✓ Awarded a contract to E&R for the construction of the bikeway for Van Dusen Road from Killbarron to Contee Road;

Public Works

Accomplishments – Streets Division

- ✓ Completion of the Spring and Fall tree planting produced 72 new trees throughout the City;
- ✓ Completed numerous new traffic markings and bikeway markings along resurfaced streets;
- ✓ Removed a large tree from the river with the potential to create a flooding issue;
- ✓ Installation of decorative crosswalks at B Street and Main Street also at Avondale Street and Main Street;
- ✓ Installed 2 RRFB systems to enhance pedestrian crossing with flashing lights on Main Street at B Street and on Cypress Street at Laurel Lakes Avenue.

Public Works

Accomplishments – Waste Management

- ✓ Successfully completed two Electronic Recycling events using MDE Electronics Recycling Grant;
- ✓ Electronics recycling, both curbside and recycling events, resulted in over 120,000 lbs. of electronics recycled;
- ✓ Delivered 362 35- and 65-gallon recycling carts and bins throughout the year;
- ✓ Increased recycling collection by 83 tons as compared to 2014 figures.





Happy Retirement



Kristie Mills

Former Laurel City Administrator, Kristie Mills, was a woman on a mission. And after 45 years during two stints at the Municipal Center, Mrs. Mills retired for the second time on December 31, 2015.

Mayor Craig A. Moe lured Mills out of retirement in 2002. She had worked on his Mayoral election campaign and he says he knew she would be an invaluable asset to his Administration. She is the first woman appointed to the position of City Administrator and the first to serve in that capacity.

Mrs. Mills is a true testament to the ideal of working your way up to the very top. She started with the City of Laurel as a clerk stenographer after graduating from Laurel High School. When Robert DiPietro became Mayor in 1978, she was his assistant, a position she held for 17 years working for four Mayors. Mayor Frank Casula asked her to be his Deputy City Administrator in 1996 and she held that position until she retired in 1999. Mrs. Mills says she had never had any doubts that coming back to work for the City of Laurel was the best decision she could have made.

"I am very proud of the way the employees have come together as a unit, a family of city employees. We do things like Secret Santa. With donations from city employees, this year five kids will have the kind of Christmas their parents want them to have. When someone is sick, our personnel director can fill requests for leave donations within ten minutes," Mills says. "I am proud to have had a hand in fostering those kinds of relationships between employees. It's like a family reunion, you might fight, but you always have your family's back. It's like that here too and I will miss that." Perhaps more than anything else, she will miss working with Mayor Moe, whose vision, she says has transformed Laurel. "The City's come a long way with Mayor Moe," Mills says. "I am proud I had an opportunity to accomplish so many great things right along side him."

Robert Manzi

He's been the chief law officer for the City of Laurel for the last 14 years, but now Solicitor Robert Manzi has retired effective December 31, 2015.

Laurel Mayor Craig A. Moe, who appointed Manzi to the position in 2001, says he will be remembered here for his professionalism and his friendship. "I really enjoyed working with Bob," Mayor Moe says. "He always gave us sound legal advice, he kept us out of trouble, and his innovative work on our zoning laws, put Laurel on the map." Mr. Manzi says redoing Laurel's zoning ordinances is his biggest accomplishment. Working first with Economic Development Officer Karl Brendle, who passed away December 2014, and more recently with Jack Brock, Director of Community Planning and Business Services, Manzi is leaving Laurel with a faster, more streamlined zoning process that is much more user friendly.

Former City Administrator, Kristie Mills, says Manzi is also credited with successfully negotiating the City's first collective bargaining agreement with the Laurel Police Department. Mr. Manzi also recently retired after 29 years as the Greenbelt City Attorney and 22 years as the City Attorney for New Carrollton. He's practiced law in Prince George's County for more than 40 years, and although retiring from active practice, he will remain "Of Counsel" with the firm Brennan, McKenna, Manzi and Shay.

Mr. Manzi says it's the people he will miss most about Laurel, especially those he worked closest with nearly every day, like Mrs. Mills and Mayor Moe. Mr. Manzi is looking forward to more time with his wife and three daughters, traveling, and playing a lot more golf. And he still expects to be around the Municipal City a little.

"I don't want to be completely retired," Manzi says. "I'll help out if needed, that's if my wife lets me," he says with a smile and a warm laugh.

Thank You!



The Mayor, City Council and City Staff wish you and your family a safe and enjoyable 2016.

Please contact any of your elected officials or City staff if you have any questions or need assistance at 301-725-5300.



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