

**TOWN OF ARNAUDVILLE**  
**CITY COUNCIL MEETING**  
**APRIL 16, 2019**

**POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT**

My apologies for not being present at our last Council Meeting due to meetings with representatives of RMI to review our Department's policies and procedures and also with the Attorney General's Office concerning Human Trafficking in our State. Our Policies and Procedures manual is well on its way to being finalized. Once completed, a digital copy will be distributed to all our personnel.

We are near the start of the Etouffee Festival on Friday, April 26, 2019. I will be present, as well as two (2) Arnaudville Police Officers, four (4) St. Landry Parish Sheriff's Deputies and four (4) St. Martin Parish Deputies. Special permission will be granted to those who wish to use their golf carts to travel from their residence to the festival grounds. Anyone interested in using their golf cart should come to the Police Station and fill out a form which they will be required to have on the cart while it is in use. Failure to have a form submitted into our office will result in a citation issued.

Signs have been made to designate Front Street from Tiger Touchdown #6 at Main Street and Guidroz Street all the way to the corner of Front Street and Union Street as well as Olive Street from Pine Street to Guidroz Street as "ONE WAY". These portable signs will be put up during the hours of operation of the Festival, probably one half (1/2) hour prior to the opening and after the close. The signs will then be moved to the side of the road and out of the way at all other times.

On March 21, 2019 we had a Neighborhood Watch meeting. Approximately 15 or 20 people were in attendance. Guest speakers included a representative from the Louisiana State Attorney General's Office as well as Neighborhood Watch representatives of both St. Landry and St. Martin Parishes speaking about the importance of having a good program in place. An issue brought up by a concerned citizen alluded to criminal activity occurring in and around the St. Regis Cemetery. I spoke with Mr. Huey Wyble, Jr. about the problems that were brought up and explained that the Police Department was willing and able to address any problem that arose if we were contacted in a timely manner. Waiting days or weeks before reporting an incident, and the incident being reported by other than the victim limits what actions, if any, we could take. Mr. Wyble assured me that incidents would be reported directly to the Police Department by the victim or victims involved in the matter.

I am in the process of preparing the employee evaluations. All will be completed and discussed with the employees before the next Council meeting.

I petition the Council to approve the hiring of Mr. Jacob Russo to the position of Patrol Officer at a Pay Grade 2, Step 2 or \$9.93 per hour. Mr. Russo has already passed his Psychological Exam and has been approved for coverage by RMI. Should the Council approve the hiring, Mr. Russo will have to pass our physical and drug screening process as well as qualify with a firearm per Louisiana POST requirements.

I also petition the Council to approve the appointment of Mr. Jair Stelly to the position of a Reserve Police Officer. Mr. Stelly has also passed his Psychological Exam and been approved for coverage by RMI. Like Mr. Russo, the only procedures he needs to pass are our physical and drug screening process as well as qualifying with a firearm per Louisiana POST requirements.

It is my decision to place Patrol Officer Kirsten McBay in the position of Acting Sergeant in the Police Department. In this position Patrol Officer McBay shall assume command of the Department in my absence. Since this is an "acting" position no increase in compensation will be given; however, after a sufficient probationary period of 60 days or greater the Council will be asked to make the "acting" status a permanent one with the accompanying hourly pay increase.

Patrol Officer Josh Ross is scheduled to graduate from the St. Martin POST Academy on Wednesday, May 8, 2019 at 9 o'clock in the morning. All who know Officer Ross are invited to attend the ceremony.

This concludes the Arnaudville Police Report.

Respectfully submitted,

Eddy J. LeCompte, Chief of Police