

**TOWN OF ARNAUDVILLE**  
**CITY COUNCIL MEETING**  
**DECEMBER 4, 2014**

**POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT**

Officer Zachary Williams graduated from the POST Academy that was conducted at the St. Martin Parish Sheriff's Training Academy on Monday, November 10, 2014. It was an honor to be present along with his wife and child, his parents, and assorted relatives for this momentous occasion.

I wish to inform the Council of the pending resignation of Dispatcher Dianna Richard effective December 19 of this year (2014). Ms. Richard worked five (5) years as a part time employee before electing to become a full time employee during the last seven (7) years. Ms. Richard felt that it was time for her to move on. Due to this resignation I have already begun seeking a replacement. An invitation to apply and the minimum requirements for the position have already been posted on our Department face book page. A copy of her letter of resignation is attached.

Now that the computer server is installed, the Department will be taking the necessary steps needed to have the LEMIS program for report writing and the LACRASH program for auto accident reports installed. We hope to have both programs up and running in a relatively short period of time.

We just received our new patrol vehicle, a Ford Explorer. The vehicle is currently at Hub City Ford to have its doors painted white. We are currently in negotiations with the St. Martin Parish Sheriff's Department Fleet Maintenance division to see if they might be able to have the accessories (lights, sirens, and cage) installed. So far this option seems feasible; however, should it not pan out we still have the option to send the vehicle to Barneys Police Supplies for the installation. Also, one (1) of the Ford Crown Victoria's needs the hood of the vehicle painted due to heavy peeling of the paint. Once brought to Hub City it will be determined if the peeling was due to defective paint that was used and was the result of a recall notice. If this is the case the repainting will be done at no charge. The Dodge Charger's doors also need to be painted white and Hub City has agreed to do that job for us as well.

The installation of our decals can also be done by the St. Martin Sheriff's Fleet Maintenance people. Again, should there be a problem we can still have Barneys perform that service. Please note, that the installation of the accessories as well as the decals would be free of any labor cost. We hope to have all four (4) police equipped vehicles painted and uniformly marked by the end of the first quarter of next year.

Along with the standard decals to be placed on our vehicles I have asked a few people about placing a slogan on the sides, above the front wheels, of the police marked vehicles. The slogan currently on the front of the two (2) Ford Crown Victoria's is "Preserving Our Quality of Life". That slogan is for the Town of Mandeville and not ours so I would like to put a slogan on our Units that we came up with. The slogan, about 1 to 2 inches in height, that is currently under consideration is "Ready to Protect, Proud to Serve". French translation: "Prêt à protéger, fier de servir". My intent was to have this slogan printed in English with a French translation directly beneath; however, one of our Officer's suggested that we put the slogan in French only, thus reading "Prêt à protéger, fier de servir". According to the Officer, the wording is so small that it could not be read while the vehicle is moving but that while stationary the French wording alone would be a conversation piece. I ask the Council and members of all of you attending to give me any comments on which way to go with this. Also, Mr. Chester "Doc" Broussard suggested that the French wording, although correctly spelled in France, may not be in line with our dialect. I would like some help with this problem also.

I was informed at the last Council Meeting that with the replacement of the surveillance system 9 channel DVR in the Police Department with a 16 channel DVR additional cameras would be added to monitor some of the equipment located in the Maintenance Department area. To date, no one has informed me how many more cameras would be needed and where they would be installed. It was also brought up that surveillance equipment might be considered for the baseball playground. I did discuss with Talk's Cheap the possibility of placing remote cameras at the playground and they informed me that any remote system would need a direct line of sight between the remote system and the base station; at least that is what I understood. Talk's Cheap did say that, because of the distance, a DVR system similar to the one in the Police Department would have to be set up at the playground. Currently this is not an option unless a secure location to house the system could be found.

I request the Council to approve the hiring of two (2) individuals on a provisional basis. Currently, I am assessing the history of each of these individuals and will not be in the position to make either an offer until later next week. One of the individuals is POST certified and would be hired at a rate of \$11.90 per hour. The other individual has some experience dealing in a Correctional Center environment; however, he is not POST certified and would be hired at a rate of \$9.67 per hour. I want the Council to know that both individuals will have passed all the required test prior to their being offered a permanent position. Should the Council wish, I would contact each of you individually for your approval prior to making any offer or I could wait until the December meeting to inform you of my decision? Along with this particular announcement is the fact that we may be losing another Officer and therefore I will continue to post openings for the position of Police Officer.

I would like to ask the Council to approve wage increases for two (2) employees. I wish to promote Officer Zachary Williams to Patrolman Class 1 at a Pay Grade 2, Step 13.

Also, approval is needed to promote Ms. Ida Lalonde to the position of Dispatcher 2 at a Pay Grade 1, Step 41.

Statistics from our Department for the month of October were: 13 Citations issued, 22 FIC's written, 75 MIC's written, 4 Arrests, and 213 calls for service.

It is my honor to name the "Employee of the Month" for the Department. This person has done an outstanding job during the past month. This employee never complains and is always available to help out our Department. It is my pleasure to give the award certificate as well as a gift certificate from Myran's Restaurant for this month's Employee of the Month, Officer Zachery Williams.

This concludes the Arnaudville Police Report.

Respectfully submitted,

Eddy J. LeCompte, Chief of Police