

**TOWN OF ARNAUDVILLE
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
FEBRUARY 18, 2019**

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT

I met with the Alderpersons since our last Council meeting to give an overview of the operations and functions of the Police Department, and to answer any questions they might have regarding our policies and procedures, staffing needs and scheduling. The purpose of the meetings, especially for our new officials was to lend insight.

As always, I encourage the Council members to let me know if they see a problem that our Department should review. My door is always open. I am very proud of the men and women who work for the Arnaudville Police Department and have implemented many procedures to improve efficiency and effectiveness that were lacking in the past, as well as upgrading our equipment to better accomplish our mission of serving and protecting our citizens.

Each Patrol Officer must complete twenty (20) hours of in-service training during a calendar year to maintain their POST certifications. Although some training is provided by the POST Council online, most of the training is done outside our Department either in classrooms or in the field.

With the Etouffee Festival just two (2) months away the Department has been reviewing how well the movement of vehicles proceeded when a "One Way" circle for traffic was implemented around the cemetery and festival area. Unless we receive negative feedback, our intentions are to replicate what we did last year.

Another Neighborhood Watch meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 21, 2019 at the Civic Center with an anticipated starting time of approximately 6 o'clock pm. We are hoping to have guest speakers from neighboring parishes as well as from the Louisiana's Attorney General's office. Everyone is invited who live in the 70512 zip code.

As has been noted in at least two prior reports, I once again would like to remind the Council members that we need to upgrade our Town Hall facility in order to be in compliance with ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) regulations. As I pointed out in the past, I was informed that there may be grants available to address the necessary construction work to be done. Our Department is not eligible to receive government grants until the deficiencies are addressed.

We were informed at the last Council meeting of problems at the Arnaudville Middle School involving motorists driving in an unsafe manner during the morning drop-offs and afternoon pickups. I reviewed different options of safeguarding our children during these critical times. Having a Patrol Officer on scene at all times was not considered feasible because should an incident occur, the Officer would be attending to that and would not be available; however, when possible an Officer will try to be at one of the locations. Another alternative was placing speed bumps in the roadway at both locations. I spoke with representatives of DOTD and the Lafayette Consolidated Government and was told that placing speed bumps that are screwed down in the roadway was not a viable option due to high maintenance problems due to having them constantly re-bolted down plus considerable damage being done to the roadway. The solution, according to Mr. Travis Smith with LCG, would be to install permanent asphalt speed bumps on the roadway. Mr. Smith informed me that this solution could be expensive and that should consideration of removing them come up they would have to be jackhammered out. Having signs placed in the roadway during the times indicated was implemented to address the situation quickly. Although there has been some problems with this alternative it will continue to be used until another option is chosen.

Statistics from our Department for the month of January were: 12 Citations issued, 30 FIC's written, 11 MIC's written, 6 arrests, and 88 calls for service, while 30% of time worked by the Officers was spent on patrol of our town.

It is now my honor to name the "Employee of the Month" for the Department. It is my pleasure to give the award for this month's Employee of the Month to Patrol Officer Kirsten McBay.

This concludes the Arnaudville Police Report.

Respectfully submitted,

Eddy J. LeCompte, Chief of Police