

**TOWN OF ARNAUDVILLE**  
**CITY COUNCIL MEETING**  
**JULY 15, 2014**

**POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT**

I wish to ask the Council to approve the hiring of Ms. Janice Morrison to the position of Dispatcher at a starting salary of \$8.25 per hour. Ms. Morrison has experience as a dispatcher working with the Krotz Spring Police Department. Ms. Morrison's career with that Department spanned a little more than three (3) years. I received positive feedback from her previous employers on her character and work ethic and feel that Ms. Morrison will be an asset to our Department. At the current time this hiring may turn out to be temporary, or part time as a relief, until such time as Ms. Lisa Lanclos returns to the Department full time.

Work continues on the upgrading and updating of the Police Department's SOP manual. I am currently reviewing some changes made to the manual and making sure that everything included is pertinent, as well as in line with the Town of Arnaudville Ordinances.

As I informed you at our last Council Meeting, Officer Carriere and Officer Howell have been sifting through the evidence and a number of cases will be directed to the District Attorney of St. Landry Parish to determine if they have been adjudicated. We will then be awaiting word as to if the evidence we have is still needed by their Office. As soon as we receive a written order telling us that the evidence is no longer needed we will undertake the task of having it properly disposed.

The tennis courts are now being used by some of the children. We do need signs posted on the fence by each gate outlining the rules that must be followed by all users and I have been informed by the Mayor that this is being done.

We are currently sending, and scheduling, our Patrol Officers for the 20 hours of required training necessary for them to retain their Post certification. Two (2) of the officers will have completed the necessary training by the end of this week. The other Officer was to have started his first two (2) days of classes this past week; however, the classes were cancelled and he had to reschedule.

Miscellaneous Interview Cards or MIC's are currently being printed for use by our Officers when they investigate a complaint that does not require a full report. These cards will be filed, as are the FIC (Field Interview Cards), for information purposes and to track any trends.

I am currently awaiting the installation of the Town's computer server and; hopefully, new monitors. As soon as the system is in place we will install two (2) computer packages; LEMIS and LACRASH. The first will aid in our report writing and the keeping track of calls for service while the second will be a great aid in the writing of vehicle accidents. Also, as soon as the new system is in place we will begin the task of giving each Officer and Dispatcher their own personal user name and password. This security measure will allow the Department personnel to store and update their files confidentially. The only people that will be allowed total access will be myself and one other employee (which I will name at a later date).

I talked to two (2) separate individuals about concerns they each had. The first wanted to report that they had made a phone call to our department to give us a heads-up about a vehicle that was speeding on the Highway 93 from Grand Coteau to Arnaudville. One of our Patrol Officers, when given the information from the dispatcher, did observe the vehicle in question prior to it turning onto the Highway 31 Bridge crossing Bayou Fuselier. According to the Patrolman, the driver of the vehicle was not speeding or disobeying any traffic law within the town limits. The Patrolman stated that he followed the vehicle until it left the town limits heading towards Leonville. Again the Patrolman stated that the vehicle did not break any laws while being observed. Our Patrol Officers have no authority outside of our Town limits. The person who called in the complaint should have contacted either the St. Landry or St. Martin Parish Sheriff's Office to inform them of the incident and should either of them want to have the vehicle stopped they would have contacted us to do so. Also brought up by the same individual that called in the complaint of the speeding vehicle was the question of adequate patrols of the Town. As I stated at the last town meeting, we have addressed that problem. All Officers were to patrol the entire town at least three (3) times during their shift, and more if possible. Though our use of Vehicle Trip Sheets that goal is being met. On average the entire Town is being patrolled at least six (6) times during a twenty four hour period. I wish to make sure that everyone understands that these patrols may be interrupted should the Officer be on a call or is involved in an emergency situation. Finally, I received a call from a resident outside of our town limits that one of our Patrol Officers had been parked in front of her residence for approximately one-half (1/2) hour. After reviewing the Vehicle Trip Sheet of that Officer, and the time indicated, it was confirmed that the Officer had indeed been parked at that location and that he was there at the request of the St. Landry Sheriff's Office. Once the St. Landry Deputy arrived, and was apprised of the situation, our Patrol Officer resumed his duties.

Our Department continues gathering information on drug related activity around our community and, again, this information is being passed on to the proper authorities with the St. Landry and St. Martin Sheriff's Offices. It is worthy to note that none of our Patrol Officers have been properly trained in drug interdiction. Further, we do not have the proper equipment necessary to insure officer safety. Please note that in the foreseeable future our Patrol Officers will spend training time with both Parishes in order for them to gain valuable experience.

Statistics from our Department for the month of June were: 45 Citations issued, 42 FIC written, 3 Arrests, and 224 calls for service.

Finally, it is my honor to name the "Employee of the Month" for the Department. I had a hard time trying to decide who to choose, since I had three (3) deserving candidates, until a dispatcher suggested that I throw the names in a hat and pull one out, which I did. The random person I chose is definitely a self-starter and is eager to learn the many different assignments given them. They have also gone out of their way to make suggestions on how to better improve the services that the Department is offering. It is my pleasure to give the award certificate as well as a gift certificate from Dodge's Fire House for this month's Employee of the Month, Patrolman Craig David.

This concludes the Arnaudville Police Report.

Respectfully submitted,

Eddy J. LeCompte, Chief of Police