

**TOWN OF ARNAUVILLE
CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

June 21, 2016

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Dispatcher Amber Arnaud has a little less than one (1) month left before she will complete the St. Martin Parish Police Academy. Her projected date of graduation is July 19, 2016. I would like to invite the Mayor and Council Members to attend the ceremony if they are able.

It was brought to my attention by a few of the Patrol Officers that there are some residents within our jurisdiction that are not properly identified by house numbers. When we are called to a location to render assistance it is important that the location be readily discernable. During the review of the Town Ordinances, I could not find any notation of mandatory house numbers having to be displayed on residences. Having all houses and apartments numbered would be of great value for Patrol Officers performing their duties, not to mention *any* emergency responder. The Council's assistance in this matter is greatly appreciated.

During their patrol activities Patrol Officers have approached me about getting complaints from residents concerning overgrown grass and/or junk in yards adjacent to their property. These residents have reported seeing rodents and snakes on their property as a result of neighbors not properly maintaining or controlling grass, weeds, unhealthy debris or accumulated junk. One resident claimed that a house trailer located at the rear of a neighbor's residence was discharging raw sewage on the ground beneath the trailer. The Patrol Officers stated that they informed the complainants to call City Hall to express their concerns. When the Patrol Officers told me that they received the same complaints from the same residents a number of times I told them to inform the resident that, according to Town Ordinance Chapter 11, a registered or certified letter has to be sent to the property owner informing them to remedy the situation. I explained to the Patrol Officers that they should convey that message to the residents making complaints. I ask the Mayor and Council for some guidance as to how Patrol Officers should respond to the residents making these complaints, and to provide an approximate time line in which the process is complete. Some residents may not call City Hall to complain for fear of reprisal from their neighbor, and some think that their complaint is not viewed as a priority. The accumulation of debris and junk on any property provides a health and safety hazard for citizens in general, and children in particular. Our police department stands ready and eager to work with the Mayor and Council to enforce any ordinance related to the debris, overgrown grass, etc. through

the established process in the swiftest and most efficient way possible, in order to mitigate and eliminate any potential unfortunate or tragic event resulting in these cases.

Statistics from our Department for the month of May were: 102 citations issued, 61 FIC's written, 95 MIC's written, 6 arrests, and 287 calls for service, while 72% of aggregate time worked by the Officers was spent on patrolling our town.

It is now my honor to name the "Employee of the Month" for the Department. As it always is, it is my honor to present this month's recipient of the award to Patrolman James Bell. This concludes the Arnaudville Police Report.

Respectfully submitted,

Eddy J. LeCompte, Chief of Police