



ARNAUDVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

MARCH 2023

TOWN COUNCIL REPORT

Good evening,

As of March 28, 2023, the Arnaudville Police Department has responded to over 115 calls to service, since the beginning of the year. I am proud to say that only one (1) crime remains an open investigation currently, which we are still in the process of working.

Most people in the neighborhoods by now, should see an increase in police presence, as we have been in the residential neighborhood focusing on traffic enforcement, particularly speeding, when reported, with officers conducting stationary and moving radar.

As of the last meeting, the Arnaudville Police Department has issued 21 traffic citations for various offenses such as speeding, illegal window tint, driving under suspension, and driving without a license, 7 criminal misdemeanor citations, for offenses such as paraphernalia, illegal narcotics, illegal burning, and an additional 3 citations were written to individuals on bicycles. I would like to add that close to 70% of the total citations, were issued in residential neighborhoods, where the police department is aggressively monitoring speeding violations, especially in the early afternoons when schools let out, and children are playing.

The Arnaudville Police Department has successfully investigated several felony complaints, which have all resulted in arrest warrants being issued, and several arrests being made. One (1) search warrant was also conducted on a vehicle, in which some methamphetamine was recovered. One (1) additional Narcotics investigation is currently underway, and has thus far recovered a decent amount of methamphetamine, ecstasy, and pills. These are narcotics which were meant for the streets here in Arnaudville, and have been stopped.

The current state of the department is as follows:

Investigations: Since the last time we met, the Arnaudville Police Department, along with some public assistance, has been able to successfully solve three (3) burglaries, of which two were residential and one (1) was at a local business. We would like to remind everyone to ensure they are checking on and updating their information with the alarm company, so the police department is appropriately dispatched.

Staffing: Currently we have three (3) full-time Police Officers, of which, one is attending the academy, and one is awaiting the results of his psychological exam. We are currently in the process of interviewing other qualified candidates, and working on filling all vacant spots. With an average turn around time of approximately 3-4 weeks for a psychological exam, we are working with RMI and Spartan to lessen this time. I would also like to reassure everyone, that while we are short staffed, what we lack in quantity, we make up for in quality. The town is protected 24/7, and we have not had to utilize any tax payer dollars hiring another agency for shift work.

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Training Update: Currently Officer Parker Blanchard is attending the St. Martin Parish P.O.S.T. Academy, and he is scheduled to graduate April 20, 2023. Officer Blanchard is currently in the running for Top Academic in his academy class. Once Officer Blanchard is certified, the Arnaudville Police Department will look at sending at least two officers to the Juvenile Academy, as Juvenile Offenders seems to be an ongoing problem.

Vehicle Update: The Arnaudville Police Department has completed the purchase of two (2) police patrol vehicles. One of the vehicles is a Dodge Charger and the other is a Ford Explorer. Both vehicles have been striped and are currently awaiting the lights to be installed via 10-8 tactical, which have been ordered.

General Information: I would like to also thank the citizens for their cooperation and willingness to assist all Police Officers from the Arnaudville Police Department with various information pertaining to crimes in the area. As the police department continues to transition, the Arnaudville Police Department will continue to build rapport with the citizens, and assist when needed.

Upcoming: I will also be meeting with members from St. John Francis Regis Catholic Church in reference to the upcoming Etouffee Festival, and I will present more information on this in the April meeting.

Community Concerns: The Arnaudville Police Department is currently working with Nextdoor, a community watch app, which will allow members of the community to post issues including photos in real time to the officer on duty. This is not meant as a reporting system, and is a neighborhood watch program. Nextdoor will also allow the Arnaudville Police Department to send out push notifications, via the app alerting residents of any critical information in real time, such as traffic closures or detours, inclement weather reports, or pictures of found animals, etc... This platform does not charge members of the community or any public safety organization, so this service will be provided free of charge. We are expecting to launch an official Arnaudville Page within the next month.

Requests: At this time, I would ask the council to amend or move the 6,000 dollars budgeted for tasers, and transfer it to the vehicle fund, as since we purchased two vehicles instead of one, we will incur some additional costs, with purchasing 2 cages, outfitting 2 with lights, and ensuring all proper equipment is purchased, while more than likely remaining under budget, we just want to be safe.

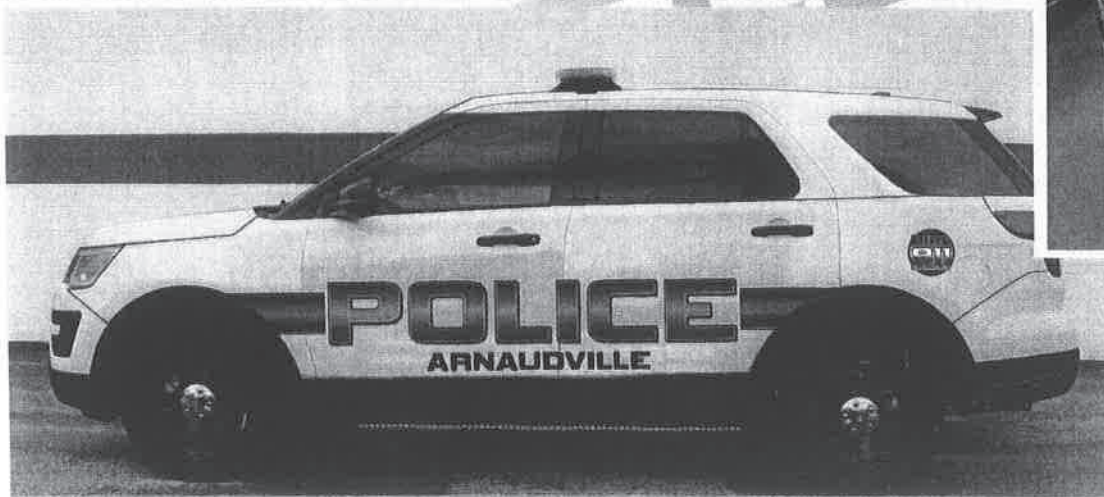
This concludes the March Report.

5421-Town Of Arnaudville

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