

Town of Arnaudville

From the Mayor's Desk



Greetings from the Mayor:

As we see 2020 come to a close, we can reflect on a really tough year for our families, neighbors, and fellow citizens. We remember all the loved ones lost, and keep them and their families in our thoughts and prayers. It has also been a very trying time for our businesses and organizations with the ever-changing regulations with regards to the COVID-19 virus. I would like to thank them for all they have done, and continue to do, for our community. I would also like to thank the citizens for their continued support of our local businesses.

Here are some things we have completed and some that are in the works:

From the Front Office:

The budget that was passed in June for this fiscal year has some major projects in it to address the ageing infrastructure. I would like to thank the council for their support for using some of our reserve funds to address some of these infrastructure needs. We just received an excellent audit report from our auditors for the year ending June 2020. The town's auditing firm reported the town to be in excellent financial health, and has the reserve funds to begin addressing some of these infrastructure needs while maintaining the financial health of the town.

We have completed the recodification of the town ordinances, and they are now available on the town's website. We have also completed the construction of the drive thru window, and it is now open for the convenience and safety of our citizens. The "Welcome to Arnaudville" sign project has been a collaborative effort between the town, businesses, organizations, and volunteer citizens. The finishing touches are being completed as I write this letter. I would like to thank all involved for their donations and hard work to better our community.

From the Utility Department:

1. We have completed the repair, repaint, and recoating of the water tower on both the inside and outside at a cost of \$227,500.00. The town will divide that cost over the life of the five-year maintenance contract.
2. The town has approved the contract for a new water well at a cost of \$401,359.00, and the construction should begin in the next couple of months. The new well should be online by the beginning of the summer.
3. The town has also approved the road repair contract at a cost of \$369,457.00. That project will begin in January. This will address the reconstruction of East Railroad, portions of Camp Street, and Mills – Quebedeaux Street. There will also be some patching throughout the town until the money runs out, after which we will reassess and start planning the next phase.
4. The town was awarded two grants: LGAP - \$16,108.00 for a new lawn mower and large shredder, and CWF- \$16,142.00 for new water meters and automatic flush outs.
5. We have started on our residential gas meter replacements. We have a large number of old gas meters that are at the end of their life and need to be replaced. We will continue this program for the next couple of years until we can catch up with replacing all outdated meters.

From the Recreation Department:

1. We have budgeted to continue improvements in the park. We will be concreting all the covered seating areas throughout the park.
2. One set of playground equipment has been set up, and the second will be done as weather permits.

In closing, I would like to wish everyone a blessed and Happy New Year. My hope is for a much better, and more prosperous, year for everyone. My wish is that we can get back to normal, and finally get this pandemic behind us so we can get back to having festivals, other gatherings and being able to visit neighbors and friends while enjoying each other's company. I would like to thank the council, the employees, and all the volunteers for their hard work and dedication to improving our community. By continuing to work together, 2021 will be brighter for our community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Todd Meche". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Todd Meche, Mayor