

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS TAKEN AT A REGULAR TOWN MEETING HELD ON SEPTEMBER 18, 2018 AT 6:00 P.M. AT THE ARNAUDVILLE COMMUNITY CENTER, 271 GUIDROZ STREET, ARNAUDVILLE, LA 70512

Present—Mayor, Kathy M. Richard

Aldermen—Annette Bramlett, Jamie Huval, Todd Meche, Louis Stelly, Jr., Suzanne Stelly

Town Clerk—Dolores R. Quebedeaux

Town Attorney—Will Ryan

Police Chief—Eddy LeCompte

Utility Superintendent—Todd Abshire (Absent)

Town Engineer—Kenny Boagni (Absent)

Called to Order: Mayor Richard

Prayer: Suzanne Stelly

Accept August 21, 2018 Public Hearing Minutes—Mayor

Accept August 21, 2018 Regular Town Meeting Minutes—Mayor

Jamie Huval moved to accept the August 21, 2018 Public Hearing Minutes and the August 21, 2018 Regular Town Meeting Minutes, seconded by Annette Bramlett and Louis Stelly, Jr., unanimously carried.

Accept August 29, 2018 Special Meeting Minutes (Park Resolution)—Mayor

Todd Meche moved to accept the August 29, 2018 Special Meeting Minutes seconded by Louis Stelly, Jr., unanimously carried.

Accept August 2018 Expenses—Mayor

Louis Stelly, Jr., moved to accept the August 2018 Expenses seconded by Suzanne Stelly and Jamie Huval, unanimously carried.

St. Luke Hospital—Sheriff Bobby Guidroz

Sheriff Guidroz thanked the Mayor and Board Members for allowing him to speak.

Mr. Guidroz said that he was certain that everyone had heard that he wanted a place for a juvenile facility. Thinking they could use the St. Luke Hospital here in Arnaudville. Sheriff Guidroz stated that he did not know that there were plans in the work for a French Emersion Program. Sheriff said he went to the Parish President Mr. Bill Fontenot and a council member. He said he had visitors from Arnaudville that needed to talk to him about the facility. Before the Sheriff can take a facility and make it a Juvenile Holding Facility there is a lot that has to be considered. This project is costly, the Parish Government does not have the money nor does the Sheriff. He also stated if he had the money he would come before the mayor and the council to see how they would feel about such a facility.

This juvenile facility in the Town of Arnaudville will NOT happen. He also said that it is not the sheriff who has to find a facility for juvenile offenders it is the Parish Government that has to do this. Juveniles are under the age of 17, come February 2019 a new law will come in effect, juveniles will be the age of 17 years of age causing more problems.

Sheriff Guidroz stated that he is not making St. Luke Hospital a juvenile facility; he supports the effort of everyone in making this a French Emersion Program.

Jamie Huval motioned to open the meeting to the public seconded by Annette Bramlett, unanimously carried.

A brief discussion was held. Sheriff Guidroz stated that something needs to be done with St. Luke Hospital before the building fall. One individual stated that one Parish Council Member said that he would prefer letting it fall than having a French Emersion Program.

Todd Meche moved to close the meeting to the public seconded by Annette Bramlett, unanimously carried.

Utility Report—Todd Abshire (Absent)

A report was given to the Mayor and Board Member per Todd Abshire.

Parks and Recreation—Zelma Jackson (Absent)

The sale of the Park Land is complete, just waiting on the paper work.

Police Report—Chief Eddy LeCompte

Patrol Officer Kirsten McBay continues her training at the POST Academy being held at the St. Martin Parish Sheriff's training facility. She is currently scheduled to graduate on Friday, November 16, 2018. Chief is currently in the process of reviewing the steps necessary to start up Volunteer Positions within the Police Department. What is currently known is that any Volunteer who wishes to pursue a Reserve Officer position would have to pass the Police Psychological Exam in order for them to be properly insured during their time on duty and they would also have to go through the firearms course in order for them to be armed. In addition they would also have to pass a physical and drug screen. Volunteers for a Reserve Officer position would have to perform at least twenty-four hours of volunteer work per month with no compensation (those hours could be worked in any increments during the month). On Thursday, September 27, 2018, Chief will be hosting a Neighborhood Watch meeting. Currently he has two or three speakers set up to give short speeches. There will be time for some questions to be asked by those in attendance. Everyone is invited to participate to share ideas and information. It is important to know that the community is the eyes and ears in assisting our Department in curtailing crime in the town. Also, all information received is held in confidence and identities of reporting persons are confidential.

Chief petitioned the Council to approve the hiring of Mr. Joshua Ross for the position of interim to permanent Patrol Officer effective immediately at a pay rate of \$9.93 per hour. Patrol Officer Ross has extensive training in the United States Army as a Military Policeman including criminal investigation. Chief's intention is to have Patrol Officer Ross eligible for the POST Academy in St. Martin in January 2019.

Statistics from our Department for the month of August were: 28 Citations issued, 25 FIC's, 35 MIC's, 8 arrests, and 125 calls for service, while approximately 45% of time worked by the Officers is spent on routine patrol of the Town.

Employee of the Month is Ida Lalonde.

Todd Meche moved to give a step up to Joshua Ross of \$9.93 per hour seconded by Jamie Huval unanimously carried.

Citizens' Concern

A discussion was held, Mr. George Arnaud inquired about the police salaries.

Adjourn

Todd Meche moved to adjourn the Regular Town Meeting seconded by Annette Bramlett, Louis Stelly, Jr., and Suzanne Stelly, unanimously carried.

Attest

Dolores R. Quebedeaux, Town Clerk

Kathy M. Richard, Mayor

