

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS TAKEN AT A REGULAR TOWN MEETING HELD ON MARCH 20, 2018 AT 6:00 P.M. AT THE ARNAUVILLE COMMUNITY CENTER, 271 GUIDROZ STREET, ARNAUVILLE, LA 70512

Present: Mayor, Kathy M. Richard

Aldermen: Annette Guidry, Jamie Huval, Todd Meche, Louis Stelly, Jr., Suzanne Stelly

Town Clerk: Dolores R. Quebedeaux

Town Attorney: Katie Ryan (Absent)

Engineer: Kenny Boagni

Police Chief: Eddy LeCompte

Utility Superintendent: Todd Abshire (Absent)

Parks and Recreation: Zelma Jackson (Absent)

Called to Order: Mayor, Kathy M. Richard

Prayer: Suzanne Stelly

Pledge: All

Accept February 27, 2018 Regular Town Meeting Minutes—Mayor

Jamie Huval moved to accept the Regular Town Meeting Minutes seconded by Louis Stelly, Jr., unanimously carried.

Accept February 2018 Expenses—Mayor

Louis Stelly, Jr., moved to accept the February 2018 expenses seconded by Jamie Huval, unanimously carried.

Utility Report—Mayor

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

Police Report—Chief Eddy LeCompte

As Chief informed the Council at last month's meeting, it's the intent of the Police Department to turn Olive Street into a one way street from Pine Street to Guidroz Street running South/North during the Etouffee Festival next month. With the making of Front Street, from Guidroz Street to Union Street, a one way running North/South this will result in the creation of a circle around the festival grounds. On Tuesday, April 10, 2018 Chief will be hosting another Neighborhood Watch meeting. Refreshments along with coffee and snacks will be served as well as door prizes being given. One of the guest speakers will be someone from the local gun shop (Bayou Teche Guns) to review gun safety and the requirements necessary for a "conceal/carry permit". All residents of the 70512 area zip code are invited to attend. A recent grant has been submitted through the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of Rural Development for the purchase of a new Ford Explorer Police Interceptor. The total cost of this vehicle (including all additional police equipment such as audio/visual attachments and graphics) will be approximately \$35,000 of which the Department would be responsible for their portion of the cost which is roughly \$8,000. Chief apologized for not presenting this to the Council earlier; however, this opportunity came to his attention after the last meeting and, because of time constraints, he was forced to act quickly in order to have the grant proposal submitted in a timely manner. Should this grant be approved, they were informed that they could be eligible for another vehicle grant next year. They are also looking into getting some funding to purchase new ballistic protection vests for each of the Patrol Officers as well as new portable radios. He will continue to explore avenues for discounts, grants and/or donations for upgrading the Police Department.

He Petitioned the Town Council to approve the promotion to Sergeant and a pay raise to Grade 2 Step 24 (\$12.82 per hour) to Acting Sergeant Patrol Officer Anna White. Acting Sergeant Patrol Officer White has completed a probationary period of approximately 90 days since assuming that role on December 19, 2017. She has met or exceeded all duties assigned in a timely and professional manner. In this

position Sergeant White will assume responsibly of some of the day to day operations of the Arnaudville Police Department. It is intended that this promotion and pay increase will become effective at the next pay period beginning March 31, 2018. Statistics for the Arnaudville Police Department for the month of February were: 27 Citations, 26 FIC's written, 5 arrests and 128 calls for service. Employee of the Month is Leroy Briscoe.

Todd Meche moved to accept the pay increase for Anna White seconded by Jamie Huval, unanimously carried.

Blighted Property (Up-Date)—Cooney Richard

Mr. Richard explained that the state mandates enforcement codes. The building codes have to be adopted by the Council (Chapter 1). Chapter 1 is adopted only one time. The building codes are to protect the citizens'. The codes are not enforced on existing properties that are Grandfathered structures, if something is added to the existing structure then code has to be followed. Code Compliance Officers work with the Chief of Police. Mr. Richard explained the different reasons for adopting the building codes and the importance of adopting. Suzanne Stelly introduced the Ordinance by title and called for a Public Hearing for April 17, 2018 5:45 P.M. seconded by Louis Stelly, Jr. Roll Call: Annette Bramlett, yes, Todd Meche, No, Jamie Huval, No, Louis Stelly, Jr., yes, Suzanne Stelly, yes. A discussion was held on the blighted property.

Citizens' Concerns

Announcements

Easter Egg Hunt at the Arnaudville VFW building on Saturday, March 24, 2018.

Adjourn

Town Clerk, Dolores R. Quebedeaux

Mayor, Kathy M. Richard