Council Approves Budget for Use of Seized Funds

The Lytle City Council approved the Chief’s budget for the expenditure of seized funds as required by state law. In Nov. of 2017 Ofc. Luis Diaz (now an Atascosa Co. Sheriff’s Deputy) seized over $25,000 in cash, a large amount of narcotics and a handgun. A forfeiture case was filed with the 81st Judicial Dist. Attorney’s Office. A civil judgment was granted and the Lytle Police Dept. received $14,215.21 as our share. We plan on putting this “drug” money to work for us ASAP. Here is where the money is going:

- Applied Concepts Inc. (Stalker Radar) Speed Awareness Trailer with Data Collection and Solar Panel $8,565
- WatchGuard Video 6 High Def. Body Cameras $5,190
- Code Blue SA Police Supply $460.21
- Misc. Uniforms and Uniform Accessories

We will be able to use this to monitor traffic and slow people down at locations throughout town. This is NOT a speed enforcement camera.

Don’t Forget About The Pets!
This time of year we get a lot of calls for dogs left in hot vehicles. The heat inside a vehicle can become deadly. We work with the Lytle Animal Care & Control Dept. to respond to and address these issues. If you see a pet in distress give us a call.

Message from the Chief — It looks like it is going to be a long, hot summer. We are still operating with a couple sworn officer vacancies, we hope to start the process to fill those positions in August. Overall we are doing well and slowly meeting various goals we established. It will be budget time before you know it which means I will be looking over the numbers and preparing my budget for the city council. I don’t have any wild and crazy stuff planned so the budget process should be fairly smooth. I am very fortunate to work for a solid, stable and fun city government. I want to remind everyone to report suspicious activity and keep an eye open for those crooks who visit our city to target our residents and visitors. Get to know your neighbors and look out for one another. I firmly believe that if everyone was as “nosey” as me we would have less crime…. Richey Feel free to contact me with complaints or concerns (830) 709-0277 or email me at richard.priest@lytletx.org
Capt. Frank Reyes hits the big mark!

“20 Years”

In July 2018 Frank completed 20 years of service as a full-time City of Lytle Police Officer. Congratulations and we hope you hang around another 20 years.

Golf Carts on Public Roadways?

We are often asked about the use of golf carts on public roadways. The law can be somewhat confusing and there are ongoing attempts every legislative session to expand the legality of these and similar modes of transportation. A city may pass an ordinance allowing for the use of golf carts on some public roadways and there are requirements the golf cart must meet. The City of Lytle does not have an ordinance that allows for the use of golf carts on city streets. ATVs & Utility Type Vehicles (typically used for hunting, etc.) are not legal for use on a public roadway by the general public. There are exceptions for utility workers and law enforcement.

A great resource is the TXDMV website http://txdmv.gov/motorists/buying-or-selling-a-vehicle/off-highway-vehicles

Road Rage – Avoid A Dangerous Confrontation

We respond to “road rage” incidents on a regular basis. What many times starts off as an unintentional mistake by one driver often escalates into a serious roadside / parking lot confrontation. Most reports we take involve one driver reacting to another drivers actions, we end up with a “he said, she said” situation. So here are a few tips to help prevent these encounters:

1. Don’t ever stop and confront another driver (We have never seen this work well!)
2. Try to put as much distance between you and the other driver as you can.
3. Call the police if you have a cell phone, but remember we are limited about what we can do about incidents that occur outside our jurisdiction.

Lots of Information is available on our website – Visit www.lytletx.org/police, scroll to the bottom and you will see this table. From there you can find more than you ever cared to know about our department’s activity.

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Officers Complete Police Instructor Course

Sgt. G. Hanson, Ofc. J. Guzman and Ofc. D. Lopez recently completed the 40 hour TCOLE instructor course. They commuted to New Braunfels for the 5 day class. They are now ready for specialized training to become firearms, baton or TASER instructor certified.

2008 Dodge P/U Retired from Police Patrol and Re-marked for Citizens’ Patrol

After almost 10 years on front line police duty old #5 isn’t ready to call it quits. She has some new decals and will be serving as our civilian auxiliary vehicle. Do you have some free time? Maybe you join up and take her for a spin……

Sign Up for Emergency Alerts and Our Weekly Email
Visit www.lytletx.org
Follow the Chief on Twitter @lytlepdchief

Join Us for our Annual National Night Out Event

Tuesday Oct. 2, 2018
(More details to follow)