

**Town of Jena
Regular Meeting
July 5, 2016**

The Mayor and Town Council of the Town of Jena, Louisiana, met in regular session on Tuesday, July 5, 2016, at 6:00 p.m. at their regular meeting place, the Town Hall.

Mayor LaDawn Cooper Edwards called the meeting to order and Searcy Baptist Church Pastor Reid Terry opened the meeting with prayer and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Council members Bruce Wilson, Wayne Chapman, Tommy Sandifer, David Paul Jones and Attorney Steve Kendrick

Absent: Councilman Donny Richardson

The reading of the minutes of the previous meeting was dispensed on a motion by Mr. Chapman and seconded by Mr. Wilson. Motion unanimously passed.

Wes Gore with Silas Simmons, LLP presented the audit report for fiscal year ended December 31, 2015. In his report Mr. Gore stated that the town is in sound financial condition. There were no audit findings. Mr. Chapman made a motion seconded by Mr. Sandifer to accept the audit report as presented. Motion unanimously passed.

Mr. Wilson made a motion seconded by Mr. Jones to introduce an amendment to Ordinance 88-Regulations for the collection and disposal of garbage, paper and other refuse. Motion unanimously passed.

Mr. Jones made a motion seconded by Mr. Wilson to authorize Mayor Edwards to sign a contract to add a new roof to the Town Hall. Motion unanimously passed.

Mr. Sandifer made a motion seconded by Mr. Chapman to adopt a resolution to authorize Mayor Edwards to sign a Healthy Behaviors Mini Grant contract with The Rapides Foundation. Motion unanimously passed.

Cynthia Cockerham, LEDD Executive Director gave an update on LEDD's progress for the past year.

Fire Chief Josh Corley presented the fire report.

Police Chief Scott McLendon presented the police report.

Superintendent David Miller presented the superintendent's report.

Mayor Edwards announced that next phase of plans for the Third Street project are due to the Town from the engineer by July 14th. At that time they will be returned to DOTD for a final review. The Strand Theater bids were opened and were all over budget. A Louisiana State ethics training will be held Monday, July 11th at 1:30 p.m. We are waiting for a quote on the lights for the walking trail. The plan is to start at the big boy's baseball field and go towards

the blue bridge, then up the hill towards to dog trot house and cross Sycamore Street through the woods to the Jena Times. We have been granted \$100,000 from The Rapides Foundation to purchase and install these lights. The Fire service truck will be ordered this month. Sales tax collections for the month of June were down 1.04% from the same time last year.

As there was no other business to be brought before the Mayor and Town Council, Mr. Chapman made a motion seconded by Mr. Jones to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 6:52 p.m.

TOWN CLERK, Cory Floyd

MAYOR, LaDawn Cooper Edwards