

**Town of Jena
Regular Meeting
May 7, 2019**

The Mayor and Town Council of the Town of Jena, Louisiana, met in regular session on Tuesday, May 7, 2019, at 6:00 p.m. at their regular meeting place, the Town Hall.

Mayor LaDawn Cooper Edwards called the meeting to order; Councilman Wayne Chapman opened the meeting with prayer, and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Council members, Tommy Sandifer, David Paul Jones, Donny Richardson, Wayne Chapman and Attorney Walter Dorroh.

Absent: Councilman Lester Francis

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

Mr. Jones made a motion seconded by Mr. Richardson to approve the financial report. Motion unanimously passed.

Mr. Richardson made a motion seconded by Mr. Sandifer to introduce Ordinance 206- Revoking the dedication of an undeveloped portion of Pine Street. Motion unanimously passed.

Mr. Sandifer made a motion seconded by Mr. Jones to proclaim May 12-18, 2019 as National Skilled Nursing Care Week. Motion unanimously passed.

Mr. Chapman made a motion seconded by Mr. Sandifer to approve the 2018 Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire. Motion unanimously passed.

Mr. Richardson made a motion seconded by Mr. Jones to approve the 2018 Louisiana Attestation Questionnaire. Motion unanimously passed.

Mr. Richardson made a motion seconded by Mr. Chapman to hire Jessie Morris as a full-time patrolman effective February 7, 2019. Motion unanimously passed.

Mr. Sandifer made a motion seconded by Mr. Jones to adopt a resolution authorizing Mayor Edwards to sign a servitude of passage. Motion unanimously passed.

Fire Chief Josh Corley presented the fire report.

Police Chief Scott McLendon presented the police report.

Superintendent David Miller presented the utility report.

Mayor Edwards announced that the Sports court basketball court will be installed on May 21 and 22nd. A grand opening is scheduled for May 29th at 10:00 a.m. We are still awaiting the delivery of 126 22" chairs for the Strand Theater. Progressive Construction is making good time on the Third Street project. The walking bridge leading to Jena Elementary School will have to be extended by 1/3 due to erosion caused by the torrential rains during the past two years. The Louisiana Transportation Alternatives Program approved an additional funding amount of \$83,000 which will cover 80% of the cost of longer bridge and erosion control work that will be required. We are very pleased and thankful to receive this additional funding. Easter in the Park which was held on Good Friday, April 19th was a success. Thank you to the churches and Wal-Mart for providing the games and prizes, and a huge thank you to Beverly Young for helping organize the event and for single handedly filling all 6,336 eggs with prizes. The town has been awarded a CWEF grant in the amount of \$19,800 to replace the water lines and add fire hydrants to E. Tennessee, Richey & E. Randall Streets. The town will be submitting an application for LCDBG funding for either Sewer Rehabilitation or Street Rehabilitation. We are awaiting engineer and consultant advice on which project would have the best potential for success. Banners and hanging baskets are ready and will be hung as soon as the rainy weather clears. Sales tax collections for April 2018 were 93,176.50 compared to 2019 collections of \$96,962.61.

As there was no other business to be brought before the Mayor and Town Council, Mr. Richardson made a motion seconded by Mr. Jones to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 6:36 p.m.

TOWN CLERK, Cory Floyd

MAYOR, LaDawn Cooper Edwards