

**Town of Jena
Regular Meeting
December 6, 2021**

The Mayor and Town Council of the Town of Jena, Louisiana, met in regular session on Monday, December 6, 2021, at 9:00 a.m. at their regular meeting place, the Town Hall.

Mayor LaDawn C. Edwards called the meeting to order; Councilman Lester Francis opened the meeting with prayer and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

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

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

Mr. Francis made a motion seconded by Mr. Chapman to approve an increase of the Fire Protection rate by \$1.00 effective January 1, 2022. Motion unanimously approved.

Mr. Sandifer made a motion seconded by Mr. Richardson to open a public hearing to hear comments on the 2022 budgets for the General, Utility and Sales Tax funds. Motion unanimously approved. No comments were made. Mr. Sandifer made a motion seconded by Mr. Francis to close the public hearing. Motion unanimously approved.

Mr. Richardson made a motion seconded by Mr. Chapman to adopt the 2022 budgets for the General, Utility and Sales Tax funds. Motion unanimously approved.

Councilmen Lester Francis and Tommy Sandifer gave the Street Committee update. The street reconstruction project is finished with the exception of a small amount of shoulder work. Repair work with the LaSalle Parish Police Jury continues weekly.

Assistant Fire Chief Charlie Savell presented the Fire Report

Assistant Superintendent Ricky Haggart presented the utility report.

Mayor Edwards announced that the 15th Annual Senior Citizen's Christmas Dinner held December 3rd was a great success. Thank you very much to the volunteers, donors and desert providers. The Christmas Parade will be held Friday, December 10, 2021, The Grand Marshal is the Front-Line Workers, and the theme will be "A Christmas Miracle." The sales tax collections for October 2020 were \$101,541.48 compared to 2021 collections of \$102,446.83. November 2020 collections were \$105,436.43 with 2021 collections being \$88,678.04.

As there was no other business to be brought before the Mayor and Town Council, Mr. Richardson made a motion seconded by Mr. Francis to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 a.m.

TOWN CLERK, Cory Floyd

MAYOR, LaDawn C. Edwards