

**Town of Jena
Regular Meeting
May 3, 2021**

The Mayor and Town Council of the Town of Jena, Louisiana, met in regular session on Monday, May 3, 2021, at 9:00 a.m. at their regular meeting place, the Town Hall.

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

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

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

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

Mr. Sandifer made a motion seconded by Mr. Francis to open a public hearing to hear comments on the amended 2020 General Fund Budget. Motion unanimously passed. No comments were made. Mr. Francis made a motion seconded by Mr. Chapman to close the public hearing. Motion unanimously passed.

Mr. Chapman made a motion seconded by Mr. Jones to adopt the amended 2020 General Fund Budget. Motion unanimously passed.

Mr. Sandifer made a motion seconded by Mr. Francis to approve the 2020 Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire. Motion unanimously passed.

Mr. Richardson made a motion seconded by Mr. Francis to adopt the procurement policy for the 2022/23 LCDBG program. Motion unanimously passed.

Mr. Jones made a motion seconded by Mr. Sandifer to adopt the citizen participation plan for the 2022/23 LCDBG program. Motion unanimously passed.

Mr. Francis made a motion seconded by Mr. Chapman to adopt a resolution authorizing submittal of FY 2022/23 LCDBG application, and entering into agreements associated with administration and engineering services. Motion unanimously passed.

Councilmen Lester Francis and Tommy Sandifer of the Street Committee gave an update on the progress of street repairs during the previous month. Progress is being made on street repair, drainage work and patching. The Town and Police Jury are working very well together.

Firefighter Jeffery Benson presented the fire report.

Police Chief Scott McLendon presented the police report.

Superintendent David Miller presented the utility report.

Mayor Edwards announced that the sales tax collections for March 2020 were \$83,343.63 compared to March 2021 collections of \$89,462.22. Tier 2 ethics reports are due by May 15th. Unique Designs' new owner Mandy Sandifer held a grand opening at their new location inside Cloe on April 19th. Cliff and Deborah Spicer, who is the niece of Lee Roy McDonnell, visited Jena on April 28th to be presented with the shadow box containing Mr. McDonnell's metals. We are so pleased that the shadow box is now in the care of his family. The National Day of Prayer will be held Thursday, May 6 at noon at the Gregg Humphries lot across from the downtown branch of Bank of Jena. This year's theme prayer is: 2 Corinthians 3:17. Magnolia Spay Neuter will be at the Jena Skating Rink Thursday, May 6 to spay and neuter dogs and cats in the Jena area. Appointments are required. Jena High School Baccalaureate Service is Sunday, May 9 at 6 p.m. Jena High School Graduation is Friday, May 14 at 7:30 p.m. at Jena High School. LaSalle Parish Scholars reception will be Monday, May 10th at 6:00 p.m. at the First Baptist Church. LaSalle Parish Sheriff's Office will hold their annual Torch Run for Special Olympics Thursday, May 20. The run welcome will be at 8:30 a.m. and the run will start at 9:00 a.m. This year, Gabe Conley, son of David Conley, has the honor of carrying the torch. Congratulations to the Jena Lady Giants as the Class 3A State Softball Champions and the LaSalle Lady Tigers as the Class 1A State Softball Champions. Thank you to Beverly Young and Eugene Edwards for their help in getting the 19 hanging baskets together and a big thank you to the crew for hanging the baskets and summer banners. We are going to team up with DOTD regarding litter. The campaign is called Take 10. DOTD crews that are out on a site will take 10 minutes to pick up litter daily. The town employees will also TAKE 10. We also plan to have a work day in the near future. Our office mailed out nuisance letters last month. We've had several properties cleaned up, several promises of clean up after the rains stop and no replies from many that we will follow up on this month.

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 9:37 a.m.

TOWN CLERK, Cory Floyd

MAYOR, LaDawn C. Edwards