

**Town of Jena
Regular Meeting
January 9, 2023**

The Mayor and Town Council of the Town of Jena, Louisiana, met in regular session on Monday, January 9, 2023, 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, 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. Francis. Motion unanimously approved.

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

Mr. Sandifer made a motion seconded by Mr. Chapman to approve appointments for 2023. Appointments were as follows:

Town Attorney	Dorroh & Kendrick
Town Magistrate	Mark Talley
Alternate Town Magistrate	Don Wilson
Town Clerk & Tax Collector	Cory Floyd
Auditor	Silas M. Simmons & Company, LLP
Town Engineer	Bryant Hammett & Associates
Banks	Southern Heritage Bank, CLB The Community Bank, Homeland Federal Savings Bank and Sabine State Bank
Official Journal	The Jena Times

Motion unanimously approved.

Mr. Chapman made a motion seconded by Mr. Francis to approve 2023 Committee assignments. The committees are as follows:

Senior Citizens	Wayne Chapman	Tommy Sandifer
Recreation	Lester Francis	Tommy Sandifer
Insurance	David Paul Jones	Lester Francis
Police	Lester Francis	Donny Richardson
Fire	Wayne Chapman	Tommy Sandifer
Environment	Wayne Chapman	David Paul Jones
Personnel	David Paul Jones	Donny Richardson
Finance	David Paul Jones	Donny Richardson

Street

Lester Francis

Tommy Sandifer

The motion was unanimously approved.

Firefighter Charlie Savelle presented the Fire Report.

Police Chief Scott McLendon presented the Police Report.

Superintendent Ronny Steele presented the utility report.

Mayor Edwards announced that the sales tax collection for the month of December 2021 was \$91,752.79 compared to 2022 collections of \$97,400.38. Sales tax collections for entire year of 2021 were \$1,213,928.04 with 2022 being \$1,294,534.10 for an annual increase of \$80,606.06. The LCDBG Street project will be moving ahead shortly. We estimate that we will be ready to seek bids Mid-late February and award a contract at the April meeting.

As there was no other business to be brought before the Mayor and Town Council, Mr. Richardson made a motion seconded by Mr. Chapman to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 9:32 a.m.

TOWN CLERK, Cory Floyd

MAYOR, LaDawn C. Edwards