

**Town of Jena
Regular Meeting
April 3, 2023**

The Mayor and Town Council of the Town of Jena, Louisiana, met in regular session on Monday, April 3, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. at their regular meeting place, the Town Hall.

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

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

Absent: Councilman Lester Francis

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

Mr. Richardson made a motion seconded by Mr. Jones to approve the financial reports for February 2023. Motion unanimously approved.

Mr. Sandifer made a motion seconded by Mr. Chapman to open a public hearing to hear comments on the amendment to the 2022 Sales Tax Budget. Motion unanimously approved. There were no comments. Mr. Sandifer made a motion seconded by Mr. Richardson to close the public hearing. Motion unanimously approved.

Mr. Chapman made a motion seconded by Mr. Jones to adopt an amendment to the 2022 Sales Tax Budget. Motion unanimously approved.

Mr. Jones made a motion seconded by Mr. Chapman to proclaim April as Fair Housing Month. Motion unanimously approved.

Mr. Richardson made a motion seconded by Mr. Chapman to proclaim April 10-14, 2023, as National Community Development Week. Motion unanimously approved.

Mr. Sandifer made a motion seconded by Mr. Chapman to adopt a resolution referencing the benefits of CDBG and seeking preservation of funding in the next session of Congress. Motion unanimously approved.

Assistant Fire Chief Charlie Savell presented the Fire Report.

Superintendent Ronny Steele presented the utility report.

Mayor Edwards announced that she had the privilege last month of reading to the students at Fellowship, Nebo, and Jena Elementary Schools. She also attended the LaSalle General Hospital Advisory Board meeting and is proud to report that our hospital is thriving. Thank

you to Administrator Lana Francis and her team for their hard work. Improvements have been made to lighting, concession stand and restrooms at the Dixie Boys Baseball field. Thank you to electrician Harold Carter and town employee Nathan Palmer for their work on this project. Thank you to Martha Wood, Roy Lee, and Harold Carter for their donations of materials and labor on the upgrades to the tennis courts. Easter in the Park will be held on Good Friday April 7, 2023, beginning at 11:00 a.m.

As there was no other business to be brought before the Mayor and Town Council, Mr. Richardson made a motion seconded by Mr. Sandifer to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 a.m.

TOWN CLERK, Cory Floyd

MAYOR, LaDawn C. Edwards