

**Town of Jena  
Regular Meeting  
July 1, 2024**

The Mayor and Town Council of the Town of Jena, Louisiana, met in regular session on Monday, July 1, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. at their regular meeting place, the Town Hall.

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

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

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

Mr. Francis made a motion seconded by Mr. Jones to approve the financial reports for May 2024. Motion unanimously approved.

Mr. Chapman made a motion to adopt a resolution awarding the Water Distribution System Improvements, FY Water Sector Program #LAWSP10753 to the low bidder Womack & Sons Construction Group, LLC and authorize the Mayor to execute any and all documents related to the project. Motion unanimously approved.

Mr. Richardson made a motion seconded by Mr. Sandifer to hire Philip Scarber as a full-time patrolman effective July 1, 2024. Motion unanimously approved.

Mr. Sandifer made a motion seconded by Mr. Francis to approve the extension of the Independence Day Holiday to include Friday, July 5, 2024.

Fire Chief Josh Corley presented the Fire Report.

Police Chief Scott McLendon presented the Police Report.

Superintendent Ronny Steele presented the Utility Report.

Mayor Edwards announced that sales tax collection for May 2023 was \$108,712.74 compared to 2024 collections of \$126,412.91. A retirement reception was held Thursday, June 27<sup>th</sup> for Sheriff Scott Franklin. Thank you for your 16 years of service and the support you have provided to the town through the years. I hope you enjoy your retirement. Sheriff Lane Windham will be sworn in today at 10:00 a.m. at the LaSalle Parish Courthouse. I wish Sheriff Windham the best. Troop & Pack 14 will hold a flag retirement ceremony at the Jena Town Park Amphitheater July 2 at 7:30 p.m. If you have flags that need to be retired, you can place them in the flag box that was donated by Tracy Dean located by the Town Hall at the corner of E. Oak and Second St. Ronny Steele and I will attend the Louisiana Rural Water Association conference luncheon in Lake Charles on July 17<sup>th</sup>. The town has been nominated for several awards. The First Annual Water Blast in the Park will be held Saturday, July 27<sup>th</sup> from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. This event is sponsored by LuLu's Water slides. OpGrad will sell plate lunches. General admission is \$10, and admission will all day sliding

is \$15. The nuisance complaints that were turned over to our attorney have been addressed with the exception of one and more complaints will be addressed soon. Thank you to the Town Council for the extension of the Independence Day Holiday.

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 9:36 a.m.

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TOWN CLERK, Cory Floyd

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MAYOR, LaDawn C. Edwards