

**Town of Jena
Regular Meeting
September 3, 2024**

The Mayor and Town Council of the Town of Jena, Louisiana, met in regular session on Monday, September 3, 2024, 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, Lester Francis, and Attorney Walter Dorroh.

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

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

Mr. Chapman made a motion seconded by Mr. Richardson to open a public hearing to hear comments on proposed ordinance 212-Prohibiting RV Parks. Motion unanimously approved. A letter submitted by Barbara Murphy was read aloud. Community members including Jeremy Wilson, Paul Tweedy, Shirley Newman, Walter Dorroh, Jr., and Bruce Wilson along with Mayor Edwards and all Council members spoke voicing various opinions on the proposed ordinance. Mr. Sandifer made a motion seconded by Mr. Chapman to close the public hearing. Motion unanimously approved.

Mr. Chapman made a motion to adopt Ordinance 212-Prohibiting RV Parks. The motion died due to lack of a second.

Mr. Jones made a motion seconded by Mr. Sandifer to approve a beer permit for Brookshire Grocery Company Spring Market #734. Motion unanimously approved.

Mr. Richardson made a motion seconded by Mr. Jones to approve the purchase of property located at 2724 and 2730 Suites A & B E Oak St. from Lynn Burlew Sanders. Motion unanimously approved.

Fire Chief Josh Corley presented the Fire Report.

Superintendent Ronny Steele presented the Utility Report.

Mayor Edwards announced that sales tax collection for July 2023 was \$115,707.51 compared to 2024 collections of \$122,757.10. Thank you to all of the Town Councilmen for attending the LEDD meeting and to Senator Womack and Representatives Riser and Firment for giving the Legislative update. The Second Annual Sales along Hwy 84 will be held September 5-7 (Thursday-Saturday). The Mayor is scheduled for foot surgery on Tuesday, September 10th. Councilman Sandifer became the Mayor Pro Tem effective September 1.

As there was no other business to be brought before the Mayor and Town Council, Mr. Jones made a motion seconded by Mr. Chapman to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 10:57 a.m.

TOWN CLERK, Cory Floyd

MAYOR, LaDawn C. Edwards