

**Town of Jena  
Regular Meeting  
February 3, 2025**

The Mayor and Town Council of the Town of Jena, Louisiana, met in regular session on Monday, February 3, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. at their regular meeting place, the Town Hall.

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

Present: Council members David Paul Jones, Tommy Sandifer, Donny Richardson, Wayne Chapman, Lester Francis, 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 approved.

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

Mr. Sandifer made a motion seconded by Mr. Francis to deny the alcohol permit for American Choice Pit Stop located at 2109 N First St due to it being too close to the Christ Temple Pentecostal Church. Motion unanimously approved.

Mr. Francis made a motion seconded by Mr. Chapman to adopt a resolution to for the sale of surplus items. Motion unanimously approved.

Mr. Francis made a motion seconded by Mr. Chapman to authorize Mayor Edwards to sign a contract with Bonnette Auction Company, LLC. Motion unanimously approved.

Mr. Chapman made a motion seconded by Mr. Francis to introduce amendments to the 2024 Utility and Sales Tax fund budgets. Motion unanimously approved.

Mr. Sandifer made a motion seconded by Mr. Jones to approve a preliminary council to study zoning. Motion unanimously approved.

Fire Chief Josh Corley presented the Fire Report.

Superintendent Ronny Steele presented the Utility Report.

Mayor Edwards announced that sales tax collections for December 2023 were \$125,523.05 compared to 2024 collections of \$135,070.95. Annual numbers are as follows: 2023 \$1,516,724.11 compared to 2024 collections of \$1,548,847.49. Thank you to Pastor Chauncy Hardy and Trout Creek Baptist Church for inviting me to their Martin Luther King Day breakfast. We enjoyed songs, prayers, and fellowship followed by the parade. The house and office building that we purchased last year are both in very poor condition and will be demolished later this year. This project will take place when the weather improves.

As there was no other business to be brought before the Mayor and Town Council, Mr. Richardson made a motion seconded by Mr. Jones to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 9:42 a.m.

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TOWN CLERK, Cory Floyd

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MAYOR , LaDawn C. Edwards