

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

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

Mayor LaDawn Edwards called the meeting to order; Councilman Lester Francis 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. Jones and seconded by Mr. Chapman. Motion unanimously approved.

Mr. Richardson made a motion seconded by Mr. Sandifer to approve the financial reports for January 2025. Motion unanimously approved.

Mr. Sandifer made a motion seconded by Mr. Francis to open a public hearing to hear comments on the 2024 amended budgets for the Utility and Sales Tax Funds. Motion unanimously approved. No comments were made. Mr. Francis made a motion seconded by Mr. Chapman to close the public hearing. Motion unanimously approved.

Mr. Francis made a motion seconded by Mr. Chapman to adopt 2024 budget amendments for Utility and Sales Tax Funds. Motion unanimously approved.

Mr. Chapman made a motion seconded by Mr. Francis to hire Jason Kyle Robertson as a patrolman effective March 3, 2025. 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 January 2024 were \$150,184.53 compared to 2025 collections of \$158,475.94. The Mayor attended the LMGA quarterly board meeting February 19th in Baton Rouge. Congratulations to the Giants and Lady Giants Basketball teams for your outstanding performance this season. Special Olympics will be held at Jena High School Thursday, March 20th. The ceremonies will begin at 9:30 a.m. GEO's quarterly community relations meeting will be held Thursday, March 13 at 11:30 at the Strand Theater. Also at the Strand, Avery Michaels March 15th at 6:30 p.m. Easter in the Park will be held at the Town Park on Good Friday. Bid documents for demolition of the buildings on the newly acquired town property will be advertised soon.

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 9:20 a.m.

TOWN CLERK, Cory Floyd

MAYOR , LaDawn C. Edwards