

**Town of Jena
Regular Meeting
June 2, 2025**

The Mayor and Town Council of the Town of Jena, Louisiana, met in regular session on Monday, June 2, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. at their regular meeting place, the Town Hall.

Mayor LaDawn Edwards called the meeting to order; Councilman Tommy Sandifer opened the meeting with prayer and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Council members Tommy Sandifer, Donny Richardson, Wayne Chapman, and Lester Francis.

Absent: Councilman David Paul Jones

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

Mr. Chapman made a motion seconded by Mr. Francis to adopt a resolution in support of entering into a cooperative endeavor agreement with the State of Louisiana to accept \$40,000 to upgrade communications equipment for the Fire Department. Motion unanimously approved.

Mr. Sandifer made a motion second by Mr. Chapman to adopt the millage rate for the tax year 2025. Motion unanimously approved.

Mr. Francis made a motion second by Mr. Chapman to move the July meeting to Monday, July 14, 2025, at 9:00 a.m., due to the Independence Day holiday. Motion unanimously approved.

Mr. Richardson made a motion second by Mr. Sandifer to open bids for the demolition of 2730 and 2724 E Oak St. Motion unanimously approved.

The bids were as follows:

Moss Logging Inc.	\$41,000.00
Reggie Loe Contracting, LLC	\$19,750.00
T&L Dirtwork Inc.	\$46,105.65
Aubrey Ford	\$16,000.00

Mr. Sandifer made a motion seconded by Mr. Chapman to award the contract to the low bidder Aubrey Ford, pending insurance verification. In the event Mr. Ford's insurance isn't sufficient the award will fall to Reggie Loe Contracting, LLC, pending insurance verification. Motion unanimously approved.

Firefighter Jeffery Benson presented the Fire Report.

Superintendent Ronny Steele presented the Utility Report.

Mayor Edwards announced that April sales tax collections were up with 2024 collection being \$118,032.61 compared to 2025 collections of \$144,958.27. The Third Street Market is being held each Thursday from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Mayor Edwards will attend the LMA District E meeting in Pineville, June 5th at 5:30 p.m. The Mayor will also attend the LMGA meeting in Baton Rouge, June 11th. The Splash Pad is open Monday-Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. and Sunday from 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Please pick up a Jena Times to see all the wonderful programs being held at the LaSalle Parish Library this summer as well as the Community Events section.

As there was no other business to be brought before the Mayor and Town Council, Mr. Richardson made a motion seconded by Mr. Chapman to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 a.m.

TOWN CLERK, Cory Floyd

MAYOR , LaDawn C. Edwards