

**Town of Jena
Regular Meeting
November 15, 2011**

The Mayor and Town Council of the Town of Jena, Louisiana, met in regular session on Tuesday, November 15, 2011, at 6:00 p.m. at their regular meeting place, the Town Hall.

Mayor Murphy McMillin called the meeting to order and Councilman David Paul Jones opened the meeting with prayer. Mayor Murphy McMillin led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Council members Tommy Sandifer, David Paul Jones, Carl Newburg, Donnie Kendrick, Donny Richardson and Attorney Walter Dorroh.

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

Mr. Jones made a motion seconded by Mr. Kendrick to open a public hearing to hear comments on Ordinance #194 adopting the codification of ordinances and Ordinance #195 authorizing the sale of the B.C. Smith house. Motion unanimously passed. No comments were made on either proposed ordinance during the public hearing. Mr. Newburg made a motion seconded by Mr. Richardson to close the public hearing. Motion unanimously passed.

Mr. Richardson made a motion seconded by Mr. Sandifer to adopt Ordinance # 194 adopting the codification of ordinances. Motion unanimously passed.

Mr. Newburg made a motion seconded by Mr. Kendrick to adopt Ordinance # 195 authorizing the sale of the B.C. Smith house. Motion unanimously passed.

Mr. Jones made a motion seconded by Mr. Sandifer to adopt a resolution to own, operate and maintain water, sewer and natural gas lines installed by the LaSalle Parish School Board to serve the new Jena Elementary School. Motion unanimously passed.

Mr. Kendrick made a motion seconded by Mr. Richardson to introduce the 2011 budget amendment. Motion unanimously passed.

Mr. Newburg made a motion seconded by Mr. Kendrick to introduce the 2012 budget. Motion unanimously passed.

Mr. Richardson made a motion seconded by Mr. Jones to adopt a resolution in support of the recently funded Transportation Enhancement Project. Motion unanimously passed.

Mr. Kendrick made a motion seconded by Mr. Newburg to authorize participation in the Blue Cross Blue Shield "Challenge for a Healthier Louisiana Grant Program." The grant program from LaSalle Parish is being coordinated by LaSalle Economic Development District on behalf of all public bodies desiring participation. Motion unanimously passed.

Mr. Richardson made a motion seconded by Mr. Jones to accept donation from Curtis Hudnall of a dogtrot house to be moved to the newly acquired Town Park property. Motion unanimously passed.

Fire Chief Josh Corley presented the fire report.

Police Chief Paul Smith presented the police report.

Superintendent Don Jones presented the superintendent's report.

In the Mayor's report Mayor McMillin reported the downtown merchants will be open late this Thursday and encouraged everyone to get out and shop. The Jena Housing Authority dinner will be held November 29th, at 6:30 p.m. The Jena Senior Citizens Dinner will be held Saturday, December 3rd at 5:30 p.m. The Christmas Parade is Friday, December 9th at 6:00 p.m. The town employee Christmas party is Friday, December 16th at 6:00 p.m. The Town has many projects going at this time; the Mayor commended the town staff for working so hard on the numerous projects. Many of the grants allow us to use staff labor as in-kind contributions toward our required match. We have added new equipment to the fleet to increase productivity allowing the staff to have extra time to work on many additional projects. Money has been included in the 2012 budget to lease a garbage truck. This will save the town countless hours of down time and thousands of dollars in repair costs. An application has been submitted to the LCDBG program to do a 2" street overlay in 2 target areas in Jena. Area 1 includes Terral Street from Aimwell Road down to Austin Rd. Area 2 includes East High School Drive from Hwy 127 to Peyton St., Peyton St. from E. Southern to Sycamore, Sycamore from Hwy 127 to Austin Rd., and 2nd Street from E. High School Drive to Sycamore. If approved, this project will overlay 1.5 to 1.75 miles of streets at a total cost of \$750,000. The town match for this project will be \$150,000. Awards will be made in late 2012 and would be bid in early 2013.

Attorney Walter Dorroh reported that the Ellison and Kergan properties needed for the walking trail have both been purchased by the town.

As there was no other business to be brought before the Mayor and Town Council, Mr. Richardson made a motion seconded by Mr. Kendrick to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

TOWN CLERK,
Cory Floyd

MAYOR, Murphy R. McMillin