

**Town of Jena
Regular Meeting
November 3, 2015**

The Mayor and Town Council of the Town of Jena, Louisiana, met in regular session on Tuesday, November 3, 2015, at 6:00 p.m. at their regular meeting place, the Town Hall.

Mayor LaDawn Cooper Edwards called the meeting to order and Walter Dorroh, Jr., Town Attorney, opened the meeting with prayer and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Council members Donny Richardson, Tommy Sandifer, Steve Sanders, Wayne Chapman, David Paul Jones and Attorney Walter Dorroh

The reading of the minutes of the previous meeting was dispensed on a motion by Mr. Chapman and seconded by Mr. Jones. Motion unanimously passed.

Mr. Jones made a motion seconded by Mr. Richardson to adopt a resolution appointing Murphy McMillin as the Director and Cory Floyd as the Alternate Director on the Board of Directors of the Louisiana Municipal Natural Gas Purchasing and Distribution Authority.

Mr. Sandifer made a motion seconded by Mr. Sanders to introduce an amendment to the 2015 General Fund Budget. Motion unanimously passed.

Mr. Richardson made a motion seconded by Mr. Sandifer to introduce the 2016 General, Utility and Sales tax budgets. Motion passed.

Mr. Chapman made a motion seconded by Mr. Jones to approve the use of \$100,000 of unexpended 2015 budgeted capital funds to hire an architect and replace the roof on the Town Hall. Motion unanimously passed.

Fire Chief Josh Corley presented the fire report.

Police Chief Scott McLendon presented the police report.

Superintendent David Miller presented the superintendent's report.

Mayor Edwards announced that sales tax collections are down by only .25% compared to last year. Danielle's Design held a grand opening October 15th. Brandon's Nails held their grand opening October 19th. Plasti Pak held a job fair October 22nd, it was well attended many individuals submitted job applications. Rae Rae's Gifts held a grand opening October 22nd. As of October 24th the donation of the land by Lynn Sanders to enlarge the Town Square was completed. Jena Climate Control Storage held a ribbon cutting October 30th. The Dollar Tree held a grand opening October 31st. The locations for the 6 new street lights have been marked and installation will begin shortly. The Veteran's Day Parade will be held November 11th at 10:00 a.m. followed by a program in the town park at 11:00 a.m. The Jena Housing Authority will hold their annual dinner at the Town Hall Tuesday, November 17th at 6:00 p.m. The Mayor and all Councilmen are invited to attend. The Downtown Block Party will be held November 19th beginning at 5:00 p.m. Carl and Connie Lloid will hold the grand opening for

their new business at this time. Also Operation Graduation will be selling Gumbo and GEO will host a Chili Cook-off. Avery Michaels and Si Robertson will hold a Thanksgiving concert at the Jena Park on November 21st at 5:00 p.m., admission is \$10. The Police unit has arrived and the Fire truck should be here any day now. The Senior Citizen's Dinner will be held Friday December 4th at 6 p.m.

Blake Phillips, Colonial Trails President, thanked the town staff for all their hard work at Howdy Neighbor Day. He also said that the proceeds from Howdy Neighbor Day are used throughout the year to purchase the prizes for the Christmas Parade, purchase hot dogs for the Block Party and to fund next year's Howdy Neighbor Day.

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

TOWN CLERK, Cory Floyd

MAYOR, LaDawn Cooper Edwards