

**Town of Jena
Regular Meeting
April 2, 2019**

The Mayor and Town Council of the Town of Jena, Louisiana, met in regular session on Tuesday, April 2, 2019, at 6:00 p.m. at their regular meeting place, the Town Hall.

Mayor LaDawn Cooper Edwards called the meeting to order; Councilman Lester Francis opened the meeting with prayer, and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Council members, Tommy Sandifer, David Paul Jones, Donny Richardson, Lester Francis and Attorney Walter Dorroh.

Absent: Councilman Wayne Chapman

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

Mr. Richardson made a motion seconded by Mr. Francis to approve the financial report. Motion unanimously passed.

Mr. Francis made a motion seconded by Mr. Sandifer to open a public hearing to hear comments on obtain views on the housing and community development needs of the Town of Jena and to discuss the submission of an application for funding under the State of Louisiana FY 2020-2021 Community Development Block Grant (LCDBG) Program. Motion unanimously passed.

Mandy Hair with Frye Magee commented on the program guidelines and funds available.

Mr. Jones made a motion seconded by Mr. Francis to close the public hearing. Motion unanimously passed.

Mr. Richardson made a motion seconded by Mr. Francis to open a public hearing to hear comments on the amendment to Ordinance 131-Personnel Policies. Motion unanimously passed.

No comments were made.

Mr. Sandifer made a motion seconded by Mr. Jones to close the public hearing. Motion unanimously passed.

Mr. Richardson made a motion seconded by Mr. Francis to adopt the amendment to Ordinance 131-Personnel Policies. Motion unanimously passed.

Mr. Jones made a motion seconded by Mr. Sandifer to adopt a resolution for entering into agreements associated with administration and engineering services for the 2020/2021 LCDBG funding cycle. Motion unanimously passed.

Mr. Sandifer made a motion seconded by Mr. Richardson to adopt a resolution establishing the Procurement Policy for the FY 2020/2021 LCDBG program. Motion unanimously passed.

Mr. Richardson made a motion seconded by Mr. Francis to adopt a resolution establishing the Citizen Participation Plan for the FY 2020/2021 LCDBG program. Motion unanimously passed.

Mr. Francis made a motion seconded by Mr. Jones to adopt a proclamation designating April as Fair Housing Month. Motion unanimously passed.

Fire Chief Josh Corley presented the fire report.

Police Chief Scott McLendon presented the police report.

Superintendent David Miller presented the utility report.

Mayor Edwards announced that the Sports court basketball court should be installed as soon as the weather permits. A grand opening is scheduled for May 29th at 4:00 p.m. We patiently await the delivery of 126 22” chairs for the Strand Theater. Progressive Construction is making good time on the Third Street project. They are currently working on the electrical and should have it complete within the next few days. They should be laying asphalt within the next three weeks. She thanked the citizens, on behalf of her and the Council, for being so patient with the construction to enhance the beauty of our town. The Senior Citizens Center interior wall has been repaired and repainted by Beverly Young. The hedges in front were removed by the town crew. Next we will do some exterior painting and minor repairs. Easter in the Park will be held on Good Friday, April 19th. It will be a fun filled day with egg hunts, games, good food and gospel music. We are still seeking churches, organizations, and groups to help with games. April is Autism Awareness Month. To raise awareness the town hall staff and Mayor will be wearing blue every Monday in April to show our support. Sales tax collections for March 2018 were 70,967.58 compared to 2019 collections of \$85,281.23.

As there was no other business to be brought before the Mayor and Town Council, Mr. Richardson made a motion seconded by Mr. Francis to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 6:24 p.m.

TOWN CLERK, Cory Floyd

MAYOR, LaDawn Cooper Edwards