

**City of New Bern  
Board of Aldermen Special Meeting  
September 29, 2020 – 12:00 Noon  
City Hall Courtroom  
300 Pollock Street**

Mayor Outlaw opened the meeting with prayer. The pledge of allegiance was recited.

**Roll Call:** Mayor Dana Outlaw; Aldermen Sabrina Bengel, Jameesha Harris (via telephone), Robert Aster, Johnnie Ray Kinsey, and Jeffrey Odham. Absent: Barbara Best. A quorum was present.

**Also in Attendance:** Mark Stephens, City Manager; Michael Scott Davis, City Attorney; and Brenda Blanco, City Clerk.

**1. Consider Adopting a Resolution to Temporarily Close the 200 Block of Middle Street on Specific Dates to Facilitate Street Cafes.**

As discussed at the September 22, 2020 meeting, some downtown restaurants requested that the 200 block of Middle Street be closed on all Sundays in October to accommodate street cafes. The proposed resolution provides that the portion of Middle Street between Pollock and South Front Streets will be closed between the hours of 11:00 p.m. on Saturdays until 5:00 p.m. on Sundays during the month of October. This was discussed with First Baptist Church, and the church was not opposed to the street closure.

Alderman Bengel made a motion to adopt the resolution to temporarily close the 200 block of Middle Street on specific dates to facilitate street cafes, seconded by Alderman Aster. Upon a roll-call vote, the motion carried unanimously 6-0.

**2. Consider Adopting a Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to execute a grant contract with the NC Office of Archives and History.**

The City applied for and has been awarded grant funds from the 2020 Historic Preservation Fund in the form of a pass-through grant. The grant funds will be used to aid in funding a building study and preservation plan for the restoration and rehabilitation of the historic King Solomon's Lodge. The grant award is for \$15,000, and a \$10,000 match is required. Tim Thompson, on behalf of the New Bern Preservation Foundation, committed to the \$10,000 matching funds. However, since the contract is between the City and the State and because a match is required, Board approval is needed to authorize the City Manager to execute the contract.

Alderman Bengel expressed excitement about the project and appreciation for those working on it.

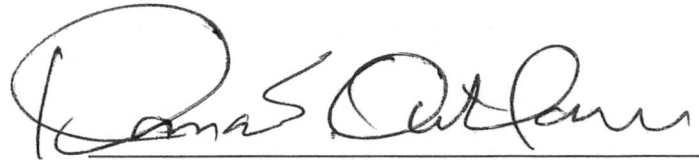
Alderman Bengel made a motion to adopt a resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute a grant contract with the NC Office of Archives and History, seconded by Alderman Odham. Upon a roll-call vote, the motion carried unanimously 6-0.


**3. Adjourn.**

Alderman Odham made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Alderman Kinsey. The motion carried unanimously 6-0, time being 12:06 p.m.

NOTE: For additional details and information on the Board of Aldermen meetings, please visit the City of New Bern's website at [www.newbernnc.gov](http://www.newbernnc.gov). Video and audio recordings of the meeting have been archived.

Minutes approved: October 13, 2020

  
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Dana E. Outlaw, Mayor

  
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Brenda E. Blanco, City Clerk