

RESOLUTION**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPROVAL OF A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA BEAUFORT AND THE TOWN OF BLUFFTON REGARDING WATER QUALITY MONITORING SERVICES.**

WHEREAS, the University of South Carolina Beaufort (USCB) operates and manages a laboratory dedicated to assessing the water quality of the Lowcountry; and

WHEREAS, the Town, in pursuit of its mission to protect local water resources and implement water quality monitoring recommended by the *May River Watershed Action Plan*, the *May River Watershed Action Plan Update and Modeling Report*, and required by the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Permit, recognized the inherent value in USCB's offer to partner with the Town and provide water quality monitoring services; and

WHEREAS, through this initiative, the Town and USCB are responding to a need to protect quality of life for citizens by providing critical information about water quality; and

WHEREAS, the original agreement entered into June 25, 2008 requires updating to properly reflect changing monitoring needs by the Town and changing water quality monitoring capabilities and expenses by USCB; and

WHEREAS, the current Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), entered into August 4, 2017, expires on June 30, 2023; and

WHEREAS, Town Council authorizes the Town Manager to execute such documents as necessary to enter into a MOU with USCB.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF BLUFFTON, SOUTH CAROLINA, AS FOLLOWS:

1. The Town Council hereby authorizes the Town Manager to execute a MOU with the University of South Carolina Beaufort in order to continue pursuit of the Town's mission to protect local water resources as detailed in Exhibit A.

THIS RESOLUTION SHALL BE EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY UPON ADOPTION.

SIGNED, SEALED AND DELIVERED AS OF THIS ____ DAY OF _____, 2023.

Lisa Sulka, Mayor, Town of Bluffton, South Carolina

ATTEST:

Marcia Hunter, Town Clerk, Town of Bluffton, South Carolina