



Town of Bluffton
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To: Town Council
From: Stephen Steese, Town Manager
Date: July 2, 2026

Town Operations / Community Meetings

- We held a Mobile Town Hall at the Four Seasons Community. There were around 50 residents in attendance, and they were appreciative of the history, background, and information that staff provided. They did have questions regarding future road improvements and growth in the region.
- We started our Parks and Recreation Master Planning process with community input. The consultants were here to receive feedback from Councilmembers, staff, regional partners, and residents. We have worked with them on the community survey, which will be distributed during the week of July 4th.
- Town held our Annual Juneteenth Luncheon on June 18th at the Rotary Center.
- We transitioned from the FY 25-26 Budget Year to the FY 26-27 Budget Year July 1st.
- We received seven proposals for Affordable Housing at 115 Bluffton Road. We are completing the initial review and will move forward with interviews as we work to find a partner for affordable housing on this site.

Town Council/Town Attorney Related Meetings

- Weekly Mayor / Mayor Pro Tempore / Manager meetings.
- Mayor, Council, and staff attended the SOLOCO meeting held in Hardeeville on June 23rd. There was a presentation from a ferry manufacturer that is interested in locating in the region and the potential of setting up ferry services. They received numerous questions on how the service would work and they would overcome some of the issues that have prevented these types of ferry systems in the past. Councilman Wood also discussed working across the region to address litter.
- Mayor Toomer and I attended the regional Mayor/Manager Meeting for the quarter. Much of the conversation was around the Transportation Penny Referendum, the potential Trishare Pilot Program Funding, and SC State Legislative items.
- Mayor, Council, and staff attended several ribbon-cutting and celebrations throughout the month.

Updates and Miscellaneous Information

- Town held our Waterslide Event at Oscar Frazier Park on June 6th.
 - Town held our Movie Night on June 12th at Buckwalter Park.
 - Offices were closed on Friday, June 19th in observance of Juneteenth.
 - Offices were closed on Friday, July 3rd in observance of Independence Day.
 - Town held our 5th Annual Independence Day Celebration starting with a 250th Celebration and Flag Ceremony. Stay Safe Bluffton 5k, and new Drone Show on the 2nd. We also had our Pre-Fireworks Celebration and Firework on the May River on the 3rd.
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