



Town of Bluffton
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To: Town Council
From: Stephen Steese, Town Manager
Date: September 1, 2026

Town Operations / Community Meetings

- The Entertainment Venue Exploratory Committee has held meetings every two weeks. They have heard from venue managers, from fundraising consultants, and from the consultants that completed the feasibility study on the Performing Arts Center.
- We have continued our Parks and Recreation Master Planning process with the community survey portion this month. We anticipate received the results shortly.
- We completed our Golf Cart Shuttle Pilot. We have had positive reviews and input and have seen steady ridership. We completed an RFP to continue this service on a regular basis and have awarded to the group doing our Pilot. We will also apply for ATAX Funds to help fund this service.
- We held a follow-up meeting with our partners for the Holly Hill Road construction. The design and engineering have been completed and permitting is in process. We will work with the County on construction and bring some updates and agreements for approval to Council over the next few months.
- We closed on the Willow Run properties August 13th.
- We have held Community Meetings to provide updates on the expiration of the Village at Verdier Development Agreement.

Town Council/Town Attorney Related Meetings

- Weekly Mayor / Mayor Pro Tempore / Manager meetings.
- Mayor Pro Tempore, Council, and staff attended the SOLOCO meeting held in Hardeeville on August 25th. A presentation was made by the new TCL President on her background and priorities for the college. There was also a presentation from TS Conductor on their operations and future expansion in Hardeeville.
- Mayor, Council, and staff attended several ribbon-cutting and celebrations throughout the month.
- Mayor Toomer and I met with the Beaufort Water Search and Rescue leadership to follow-up on the funding Council approved. We have put together an agreement for the funds approved.
- We received seven proposals for Affordable Housing at 115 Bluffton Road. We conducted reviews of the proposals and brought in the top ranked ones to make presentations and answer questions. This was completed and we provided an update to Council at the August Council Meeting, and we plan to bring back to the September Council Meeting for approval.
- Mayor Pro-Temp Hamilton, Councilman Wood, and staff attended the First Annual State of Growth Event put on by the Greater Bluffton Chamber of Commerce.

Updates and Miscellaneous Information

- Town held our Glow Dance for Special Needs Community at the New Riverside Barn on August 1st.
 - We held a Kids Entertainment Event at the New Riverside Barn Park on August 21st.
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