



Town of Bluffton
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To: Town Council

From: Stephen Steese, Town Manager

Date: March 31, 2025

Town Operations / Community Meetings

- It has been a very heavy month for the FY 25-26 budget. We have held departmental meetings and initial meetings with Town Council. We are taking all comments and working to prepare the Draft FY25-26 Budget to present to Council.
- Staff continued to meet with the engineer that is reviewing the entire Bluffton Parkway as part of the LATS study. They have held the public input session in February and will present to the LATS committee in the future.
- Town Staff attended the Career Day at Bluffton Middle School to discuss town careers and to receive input on the future park at the property we purchased on Buck Island Road. The kids were all excited to provide input and we have summarized the results.
- We held 12 meetings with 30 organizations over 2 days to get their input on a potential Performing Arts Center. Good feedback and guidance were provided to our consultant as they complete their study.

Town Council/Town Attorney Related Meetings

- Weekly Mayor / Mayor Pro Tempore / Manager meetings.
- Mayor Toomer, Councilmembers, and staff attended the SOLOCO meeting in Hardeeville on March 25th. An update from the Childcare Committee was presented and a proposed resolution supporting childcare solutions at the state level will be shared. Updates were also provided from the Regional Housing Trust and the Regional Planning Committee.
- Councilman Wood and Executive attended the HHI-Bluffton Chamber Ball at the Hilton Beachfront Resort.
- Councilman Wood and Executive attended the Golden Oyster Awards put on by the Greater Bluffton Chamber of Commerce.
- Mayor Toomer and Councilman Hamilton met with several parties that have parts in trying to make vehicle connections in the Town that were identified as “potential” in development agreements. We will continue to look at options to make connections between two neighborhoods and two commercial developments to help traffic flow better.

Updates and Miscellaneous Information

- We did a refresh at the Splash Pad to get it ready for this season. We were able to open it a few days early and it will remain open until November.
 - Our Movie Night Events kick off April 4th from 5:00 – 8:00 at Oscar Frazier Park.
 - The Town also has their Family Day event on April 5th at Oscar Frazer Park.
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