



**Consideration of Ordinance Amending Chapter 6 – Businesses and Business Regulations to add Division 1 – Local Business Licenses and Division 2 – Business Licenses for Insurers, Brokers, and Telecommunication Providers to Article II – Business Licenses and Regulations, Authorizing and Directing the Town of Bluffton to Enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement Relating to South Carolina Revenue Services; to Participate in one or more Local Revenue Service Programs, to Execute and Deliver One or More Participant Program Supplements, and other Matters Relating Thereto – First Reading**

Presentation to Town Council

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April 11, 2023



# Background

- The State of South Carolina passed standardized business licensing, known as Act 176 of 2020
  - Effective January 1, 2022
  - Required all cities and towns to adhere to specific requirements.
- The Municipal Association has rebranded the collection program to Local Revenue Services (LRS) and changed the names of the programs offered, as noted below:
  - Insurance Tax Collection Program becomes Insurance Tax Program, or ITP,
  - Brokers Tax Collection Program becomes Brokers Tax Program, or BTP, and
  - Telecommunications Tax Collection Program to Telecommunications Tax Program, or TTP



# Background (Continued)

- Since 2013, The Town of Bluffton has participated in the Insurance Tax, Brokers Tax, and the Telecommunication Tax Collection Programs offered through the Municipal Association.
- Due to the rebranding and renaming of the programs and the adoption of the standardized business license ordinance under Act 176 of 2020, the Association requires the Town to enact the proposed ordinance and sign updated agreements in order to continue participate in the programs now known as Local Revenue Services.



# Recommendation & Next Steps

- Town Staff recommends Town Council approve the First Reading of the proposed amended Ordinance
- The following are next steps:
  1. Town Council approve the Second and Final Reading of the proposed amended Ordinance on May 9, 2023,
  2. Sign Local Revenue Services Agreement (Attachment 3), and
  3. Sign Local Revenue Services Participant Program Supplement (Attachment 4).



# Summary

- With the approval of the proposed amended Ordinance and by signing the LRS agreement and supplement the Town will to continue participation in the tax collection programs offered by the Municipal Association.
- The Municipal Association is requesting all action be taken by May 26, 2023.



# Questions & Discussion



# Recommended Motion

*“I make a motion to approve an Amendment to Town of Bluffton Code of Ordinances, Chapter 6, Business and Business Regulations, adding Division 1. – Local Business Licenses and Division 2. – Business Licenses for Insurers, Brokers, and Telecommunications Providers to add Article II, Business Licenses and Regulations, Authorizing and Directing the Town of Bluffton to Enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement Relating to South Carolina Revenue Services; to Participate in one or more Local Revenue Service Programs, to Execute and Deliver One or More Participant Program Supplements, and other Matters Relating Thereto.”*

First Reading