



**Town of Bluffton**  
20 Bridge St.  
PO Box 386  
Bluffton, SC 29910  
843.706.4500

**To:** Town Council  
**From:** Stephen Steese, Town Manager  
**Date:** December 1, 2025

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### **Town Operations / Community Meetings**

- Town elections were held November 4<sup>th</sup>. Councilman Hamilton and Councilwoman Burden both won reelection and will be sworn in at the January 2026 Council Meeting.
- Hurricane season officially ended on December 1<sup>st</sup>, but the waters around us have been quiet for several weeks. We made it through the season with no impacts from any named storm.
- We had Strategic Planning November 6<sup>th</sup> led by our consultants. We will take the proposed Action Items and put them together to create the FY 27-28 Strategic Plan for Council to adopt in early 2026. This will guide us over the next two Fiscal Years.
- Staff and I attended mediation on 34 Thomas Heyward Street on November 14<sup>th</sup>. This will come to Council for an update and potential decision at the December Council Meeting.
- Mobile Town Halls:
  - The Town held a Mobile Town Hall for the Pinecrest neighborhood with around 35-40 residents in attendance on November 17<sup>th</sup>. We received positive feedback from those in attendance.
  - We are working to finalize a Mobile Town Hall for Palmetto Bluff in January.
  - We have also received a request for a Mobile Town Hall in The Haven and are working to schedule in March.

### **Town Council/Town Attorney Related Meetings**

- Weekly Mayor / Mayor Pro Tempore / Manager meetings.
- Councilmembers and staff attended the SOLOCO meeting in Hardeeville on November 25<sup>th</sup>. I made a presentation about projects, updates, and priorities in Bluffton. We also received an update from Hilton Head Island on their initiatives and from Beaufort County on the Transportation Penny.
- Mayor and I attended the quarterly countywide Mayor/Manager Meeting in Hardeeville.
- Mayor, Council, and staff attended several ribbon cutting events.
- Mayor and I presented to the Chamber Leadership Program on November 12<sup>th</sup>.

### **Updates and Miscellaneous Information**

- Town held our final concert of the season on November 14<sup>th</sup> at Buckwalter Park.
  - Town held our annual Thanksgiving Feast at the New Riverside Barn on November 20<sup>th</sup>. This was the first event at the new barn facility.
  - Town offices were closed November 11<sup>th</sup> in observance of Veteran's Day.
  - Town offices were closed November 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> in observance of Thanksgiving.
  - Staff has been preparing for the Tree Lighting and Christmas Parade on December 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>.
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