

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

To: Town Council

**From:** Stephen Steese, Town Manager

**Date:** July 30, 2025

## **Town Operations / Community Meetings**

- The Town completed the Resident Resource Guide and mailed them to every resident in the town.
   We are following up with a social media campaign and are creating videos to outline key components of the guide.
- Staff continued to meet with the engineer that is reviewing the entire Bluffton Parkway as part of
  the LATS study. The options they have compiled, along with their impact and costs, that will be
  presented to LATS August 1<sup>st</sup>.
- We continue to monitor the weather as we move through hurricane season. We have had a very
  hot and wet July with more rain in the month than the previous 6 put together. We have flexed
  some schedules to work within the heatwaves.
- Town offices were closed July 4<sup>th</sup> in observance of Independence Day. We held the Town's Independence Day celebration between July 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>. We held the Mayor's Cup 5K on the 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00 pm. We also held a celebration in Old Town and Oyster Factory Park on the 3<sup>rd</sup> starting at 5:00 pm followed by Fireworks around 9:00 pm.
- Registration for the 2025 Council Election will open on Friday August 8<sup>th</sup> and run through September 8<sup>th</sup>. There are two seats on the ballot this year.

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

- Weekly Mayor / Mayor Pro Tempore / Manager meetings.
- Council held a Special Called Meeting in place of our Quarterly Workshop to address the Affordable Housing project that we are partnered with Beaufort Memorial and Beaufort County to complete on Buckwalter.
- Councilmembers, and staff attended the SOLOCO meeting in Hardeeville on July 22<sup>nd</sup>. There was a presentation and discussion around regional growth and how to compile and track for the future, and an update from the Childcare Committee was provided.
- Councilman Wood and staff attended the MASC Annual Conference and related events on Hilton Head Island July 17-18<sup>th</sup>.
- Council and staff toured the New River Linear Trail in groups to discuss the path of the trails, current conditions, and plans for improvements.
- The Affordable Housing Committee discussed the potential Affordable Housing position and additional ways to address Affordable Housing in Bluffton and will have a workshop on July 30<sup>th</sup>.

## **Updates and Miscellaneous Information**

- The Beaufort Memorial partnership to provide on-site medical care started this month. They will
  be onsite once a week for now and will expand as needed. We are also partnering with them to
  do some community events to give people discounted access to basic medical services and testing.
- Held our Slide out of July event on July 19 at Buckwalter Park.