



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

**To:** Town Council  
**From:** Stephen Steese, Town Manager  
**Date:** October 3, 2025

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

- We continue to monitor the weather as we move through hurricane season. We had a close call with TS/Hurricane Imelda, but it ended up pushing out to sea.
- Registration for the 2025 Council Election closed on September 5<sup>th</sup>. There are two seats on the ballot this year. We originally had three people sign up, but one dropped out. The election will be held November 4<sup>th</sup>.
- I presented to the Chamber Power Hour on October 1<sup>st</sup>. I addressed upcoming commercial/medical developments, capital projects, land acquisitions, and the new Residents Resource Guide.
- The Bluffton Police Department partnered with other jurisdictions to do a traffic enforcement campaign on Highway 278 in September. Beaufort/Jasper counties, Hardeeville, and the Highway Patrol participated.
- Land Acquisition Updates:
  - The Town closed on the Mooney Tract parcel following Council approval to purchase and completing our due diligence.
  - We also received final approval from County Council on our initial Green Penny application. We are finalizing the covenants and will bring to Council for approval ahead of closing on the property.
  - The Green Penny Committee also gave initial approval to our second application.

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

- Weekly Mayor / Mayor Pro Tempore / Manager meetings.
- Councilmembers and staff attended the SOLOCO meeting in Hardeeville on September 23<sup>rd</sup>. There were presentations from USCB on their growth and future plans, and the City of Hardeeville also gave an update on the growth and City projects.
- Mayor Toomer and I attended a Focus Group that USCB held to get input from regional leaders as they plan for the next 20 years. The focus was on how they can fill the needs within the growing region, better market their offerings, and engage with current students to retain them in the region after graduation.
- Mayor, Council, and staff attended several ribbon cutting events including our first economic development incentive recipient, a BJWSA expansion project, and many others.

### **Updates and Miscellaneous Information**

- Held the Town's 9/11 Ceremony at the Buckwalter Military Plaza.
  - Town held our Annual Beach Sweep Event on September 20<sup>th</sup> at Oyster Factory Park.
  - Town Offices were closed September 1<sup>st</sup> in observance of Labor Day.
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