

TOWN COUNCIL

STAFF REPORT Executive Department



MEETING DATE:	July 8, 2025
PROJECT:	Proposed Amendments to The Town of Bluffton's Municipal Code of Ordinances, Chapter 4 – Animals to Align with Beaufort County's Ordinance - First Reading
PROJECT MANAGER:	Heather Colin, Assistant Town Manager

REQUEST: Town Staff requests Town Council's consideration of amendments to Chapter 4 – Animals, of the Code of Ordinances to align with Beaufort County's Ordinance.

BACKGROUND: The Town, along with the City of Beaufort, the Town of Port Royal and the Town of Hilton Head Island, initially entered into an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) in 2016. This enables the County to enforce animal control laws uniformly throughout the County and its municipalities.

The County is proposing to amend the current Ordinance to include the following:

- Add key definitions;
- Updates to the dangerous animal's section; and
- Addresses the abandonment of animals, particularly livestock during adverse weather events and potential evacuations.

The County's Community Services Committee reviewed on June 2 and County Council anticipates first reading on June 23rd, second reading on July 14th and third and final reading on August 11th. In order to maintain the IGA, the Town must consider and adopt similar Ordinances.

NEXT STEPS: Should Town Council approve first reading, second and final reading is anticipated on August 12th.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Proposed Ordinance