



**Town of Bluffton**  
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**To:** Town Council  
**From:** Stephen Steese, Town Manager  
**Date:** December 2, 2024

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

- Preparations were made and notifications were sent out related to Hurricane Milton shortly after Hurricane Helene. Hurricane Milton made landfall in Florida as a powerful and large storm. We were on the edge of the storm and ended up receiving very minimal impact. Milton wrapped up an active hurricane season that saw a variety of impacts in Bluffton.
- Staff met with the engineer that is reviewing the entire Bluffton Parkway as part of the LATS study. They are hoping to have their recommendations in draft form and have a public input session in February and will present to the LATS committee in the future.
- Town Hall was closed on the 11<sup>th</sup> for Veteran's Day and on the 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> for Thanksgiving.
- The Town held our Thanksgiving Feast on the 21<sup>st</sup>. This was a great event and had lots of specialties that our staff prepare each year. We were also able to recognize Cpl. Eisenmenger as our Lori McClain Award Winner.

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

- Weekly Mayor / Mayor Pro Tempore / Manager meetings.
- Councilman Hamilton and staff attended SOLOCO in Bluffton. SOLOCO heard a report from the Technical College of the Lowcountry about their operations and construction of the new workforce center. We also discussed potential topics for 2025, and members are supposed to come with potential action items at the January meeting.
- Mayor Toomer, I, and staff presented to the HHI-Bluffton Chamber Leadership program during local government day. Councilwoman Burden also presented to the Junior Leadership program.
- Mayor Toomer, Councilman Wood, and I met with Senator Davis to discuss the Green Penny program and our application. We also briefly discussed transportation projects and scheduling another meeting ahead of the session to discuss Town concerns and requests.

#### **Updates and Miscellaneous Information**

- The Town's concert series wrapped up November 1<sup>st</sup> with our final concert at Buckwalter Park.
  - Chris completed the South Carolina Economic Development Academy in December.
  - The Splash Pad at Oscar Frazier Park will close for the season on December 2<sup>nd</sup>. We will work to prepare it for the winter and plan a kickoff for the opening in 2025.
  - We have been preparing for the holiday season. This includes the Christmas Tree Lighting on December 6<sup>th</sup> and Christmas Parade on December 7<sup>th</sup>.
  - There will also be a Hannukah Celebration on December 29<sup>th</sup> in Martin Family Park.
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