

TOWN COUNCIL

STAFF REPORT

Growth Management Department



MEETING DATE:	November 12, 2024
PROJECT:	Consideration of Amendments to Code of Ordinances, Town of Bluffton, Chapter 6, Businesses and Business Regulations, Article V, Short-Term Rental Units, Section 6-114 Application, Section 6-120 Violations and Penalties
PROJECT MANAGER:	Kevin Icard, AICP Director of Growth Management

REQUEST: Town Council approve the proposed amendments to Code of Ordinances, Town of Bluffton, Chapter 6, Businesses and Business Regulations, Article V, Short-Term Rental Units, Section 6-114 Application, Section 6-120 Violations and Penalties.

BACKGROUND: In 2020, the Town of Bluffton established a short-term rental ordinance and permit application. The intent was to ensure that the integrity of residential neighborhoods were not compromised; life-safety measures were provided; property management was in place and responsive and permits and taxes were identified. This Ordinance created the provisions that have been in place for the past 3 years. As outlined in the October 8, 2024 Council workshop, staff is proposing changes to align the permit application with the business license calendar to limit confusion on when the permit and license is required. This workshop also included creating provisions for the enforcement of violations and penalties.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS: Attachment 2 outlines the proposed amendments related to aligning the short term rental unit permit with the business license calendar, updating South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) to Department of Agriculture, and adding including a section to regulate violations and penalties.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Presentation
2. Chapter 6 Article V Proposed Ordinance and Edits Redline
3. Master Fee Schedule
4. Short Term Rental Unit Matrix
5. Recommended Motion