

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF BLUFFTON
ORDINANCE NO. 2025-
FISCAL YEAR 2026 BUDGET**

**TO AMEND THE BUDGET FOR THE TOWN OF BLUFFTON, SOUTH CAROLINA, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR
ENDING JUNE 30, 2026;
TO PROVIDE FOR THE EXPENDITURES OF CERTAIN FUNDS;
AND TO ALLOCATE THE SOURCES OF REVENUE FOR THE SAID FUNDS.**

WHEREAS, Section 5-7-260 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina requires that a municipal council act by ordinance to adopt a budget and levy taxes, pursuant to public notice; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council did adopt the Budget Ordinance 2025-04 on June 10, 2025; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Sections 4 and 5 of said budget, the Town Council is desirous of amending the budget so as to provide for budget appropriations for legal encumbrances and certain other commitments from the Fund Balance and other revenues of Fiscal Year 2026; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Sections 4 and 5 of said budget, the Town Council is desirous of amending the budget so as to provide for additional program appropriations from available FY2025 fund balance and committing funds for capital asset reserves and assigning funds for projects not yet established; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 8 of said budget, the Town Council is desirous of amending the Designated Reserve Funds so as to provide for additional program appropriations from available FY2025 fund balance and committing funds by assigning \$500,000 for capital asset reserves; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to S.C. Code 1976, 5-7-170, the Town Council is desirous of increasing the mayor compensation from \$25,000 to \$35,000 and councilmember compensation will increase from \$17,000 to \$25,000. This change shall not go into effect until the commencement date of the terms of two or more town council elected at the next general election following the adoption of this ordinance;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED AND ORDAINED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF BLUFFTON, SOUTH CAROLINA; AND IT IS ORDAINED BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE SAID TOWN COUNCIL:

SECTION 1. AMENDMENT

The adopted fiscal year 2026 budget is amended to make the following changes and additions to the funds from prior year and to the projected revenue and expenditure accounts as follows:

General Fund

Revenues and Other Sources

Grants and Entitlements	\$ 204,460
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Transfers In	
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Prior Year Fund Balance	<u>65,913</u>
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Total Revenues and Other Sources	<u>\$ 270,373</u>
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General Fund (Cont.)

Expenditures and Other Uses

Expenditures

Communications	\$ 10,000
Human Resources	10,821
Information Technology	85,403
Police	124,960
Project Management	13,839
Public Services	2,295

Other Uses

Transfer Out to CIP	23,055
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Total Expenditures and Other Uses

\$ 270,373

Local Hospitality Tax Fund

Revenues and Other Sources

Transfers In

Prior Year Fund Balance	\$ 927,843
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Total Revenues and Other Sources

\$ 927,843

Expenditures and Other Uses

Other Uses

Transfer Out to CIP	\$ 927,843
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Total Expenditures and Other Uses

\$ 927,843

Local Accommodations Tax Fund

Revenues and Other Sources

Transfers In

Prior Year Fund Balance	\$ 606,768
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Total Revenues and Other Sources

\$ 606,768

Expenditures and Other Uses

Other Uses

Transfer Out to CIP	\$ 606,768
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Total Expenditures and Other Uses

\$ 606,768

Stormwater Fund

Revenues and Other Sources

Grants and Entitlements	\$ 287,625
Transfers In	
Prior Year Fund Balance	(52,625)
Total Revenues and Other Sources	<u>\$ 235,000</u>

Expenditures and Other Uses

Watershed Management	\$ 98,500
Other Uses	
Transfer Out to CIP	136,500
Total Expenditures and Other Uses	<u>\$ 235,000</u>

Capital Improvement Fund

Revenues and Other Sources

Intergovernmental	\$ 4,422,990
Transfers In	
Hospitality Tax	927,843
Local Accommodations Tax	606,768
Stormwater Utility Tax	136,500
TIF	56,625
General Fund	23,055
Prior Year Fund Balance	2,087,341
Total Revenues and Other Sources	<u>\$ 8,261,122</u>

Capital Improvement Fund (Cont.)

Expenditures and Other Uses

Expenditures

E0001-Buckwalter Place Multi-County Commerce Park Phase 2	\$ (661,369)
F0001-Town Hall Improvements	14,380
F0002-Squire Pope Carriage House	51,805
F0004-Sarah Riley Hooks Cottage	435,401
F0006-New Riverside Barn Park Event Lawn Pavilion	900,000
F0009-Oscar Frazier Park Pavilion	195,000
H0001-Affordable Housing Project	489,580
I0002-Network Improvements	26,712
L0001-Land Acquisition	3,960,000
P0001-Park Improvements	65,000
P0004-New Riverside Park / Barn Site	(1,879,482)
P0005-New River Trail	1,289,318
P0008-Buckwalter Place West Park Improvements	50,000
P0010-Public Art	141,440
R0001-Pathway Pedestrian Safety Improvements	115,182
R0002-Calhoun Street Streetscape	89,593
R0005-Wharf Street Lighting	175,060
R0006-Boundary Street Lighting	23,224
R0007-Boundary Street Streetscape	205,962
R0008-Townwide Wayfinding Signage System	72,238
R0009-Historic District Overhead Powerline Conversion	(13,200)
R0010-Ghost Roads	13,201
S0001-Sewer Connections Policy	150,189
S0005-Historic District Sewer Extension Phase 4	3,079
S0006-Historic District Sewer Extension Phase 5	332,859
S0007-Historic District Sewer Extension Phase 6	442,776
S0008-Bridge Street Streetscape	118,040
S0009-Comprehensive Drainage Plan Improvements	121,500
S0010-May River Action Plan Impervious Restoration/Water Quality Proj.	15,000
S0012-Pritchard Street Drainage Improvements	1,318,634
Total Expenditures and Other Uses	<u>\$ 8,261,122</u>

Debt Service Fund

Revenues and Other Sources

Transfers In

Prior Year Fund Balance	\$ 56,625
Total Revenues and Other Sources	<u>\$ 56,625</u>

Expenditures and Other Uses

Other Uses

Transfer Out to CIP	\$ 56,625
Total Expenditures and Other Uses	<u>\$ 56,625</u>

The effect of this amendment will be to increase the General Fund to \$38,146,127 (Attachment A), to increase the Local Hospitality Tax to \$8,938,984 (Attachment B), to increase the Local Accommodations Tax Fund to \$2,820,487 (Attachment C), to increase the Stormwater Fund budget to \$5,425,332 (Attachment D), to increase the Capital Improvements Program Fund budget to \$41,089,524 (Attachment E), and to increase the Debt Service Fund budget to \$10,899,670 (Attachment F), for a total Consolidated Budget of \$107,879,245.

SECTION 2. SEVERABILITY

If any section, phrase, sentence, or portion of this Ordinance is for any reason held invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, such portion shall be deemed a separate, distinct, and independent provision, and such holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions thereof.

SECTION 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Ordinance shall be effective upon its enactment by the Town Council for the Town of Bluffton.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED BY THE COUNCIL FOR THE TOWN OF BLUFFTON ON THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2025.

Larry Toomer, Mayor
Town of Bluffton, South Carolina

ATTEST:

Marcia Hunter, Town Clerk
Town of Bluffton, South Carolina

Attachments:

- A. General Fund Budget
- B. Local Hospitality Tax Fund Budget
- C. Local Accommodations Tax Fund Budget
- D. Stormwater Utility Fund Budget
- E. Capital Improvements Program Fund Budget
- F. Debt Service Fund Budget

First Reading: September 9, 2025

Second and Final Reading: