



**Town of Bluffton**  
20 Bridge St.  
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**To:** Town Council  
**From:** Stephen Steese, Town Manager  
**Date:** August 29, 2025

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

- We continue to monitor the weather as we move through hurricane season. We have had a very hot and wet July and August with substantial rain fall totals.
- Registration for the 2025 Council Election opened on Friday August 8<sup>th</sup> and runs through September 5<sup>th</sup>. There are two seats on the ballot this year.
- I presented to the Realtors Association on August 29<sup>th</sup>. I addressed upcoming commercial/medical developments, capital projects, land acquisitions, and the new Residents Resource Guide. I am hopeful that they will become a partner in distributing these guides to future residents.
- We are working with partnering jurisdictions to do a traffic enforcement campaign on 278 in September. Beaufort/Jasper counties, Hardeeville, and the Highway Patrol will participate. The focus will be on speeding, running redlights, distracted driving, and education on the new Hands-Free SC Law that was adopted. More information will be forthcoming.
- Reminder that Town offices will be closed on Monday, September 1<sup>st</sup> in observance of Labor Day.

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

- Weekly Mayor / Mayor Pro Tempore / Manager meetings.
- Council held a Workshop Meeting to discuss the new South Carolina golf cart regulations and the proposed Ordinance to allow nighttime use. There were also suggestions on additional restrictions related to number of occupants, seatbelts, and child restraints.
- Mayor Toomer and I hosted the Countywide Mayor/Manager meeting at the Rotary Center. The County Chairwoman, Vice Chairwoman, and Administrator were invited to discuss the potential Capital Penny Referendum they are considering at the County. You received an email outlining the County Workshop on this matter.
- Held the bi-monthly meeting with Mayor, Manager, and Chief.
- Some councilmembers attended a Realtors Association Meeting where they presented survey results that had completed for Beaufort County and specific towns. I have asked for a copy of the results to share and will do so once I get them.
- Mayor Toomer, Councilmembers, and staff attended the SOLOCO meeting in Bluffton on August 26<sup>th</sup>. There were presentations and discussions related to the upcoming Alzheimer's Walk, Red Cross, and the new YMCA in Hardeeville.

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

- The Beaufort Memorial partnership to provide on-site medical care started in July. They will be onsite once a week for now and will expand as needed. We are also partnering with them to do some community events to give people discounted access to basic medical services and testing.
  - Held our Concert Series at Oyster Factory Park on August 15<sup>th</sup> with True Gentlemen playing.
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