



Town of Bluffton
20 Bridge St.
PO Box 386
Bluffton, SC 29910
843.706.4500

To: Town Council
From: Stephen Steese, Town Manager
Date: March 31, 2026

Town Operations / Community Meetings

- The Town hosted the Beaufort County Transportation Advisory Committee at The NR Barn on March 4th. We presented recommendations to the committee as they create a proposed list of projects for the potential 2026 Transportation Penny Referendum in November. Our Representative then presented an update at the March Council Meeting.
- Mobile Town Halls:
 - We held a Mobile Town Hall at The Haven on March 12th in the ballroom of their Community Center. There were about 50-60 residents present.
 - We are in the process of finalizing one for Four Seasons later this spring.
- Attended the Beaufort County Green Penny Committee Meeting to finalize the covenants the property we purchased from Foothills. The Committee voted to approve the covenants, and we hope to finalize the grant once approved by County Council in April.

Town Council/Town Attorney Related Meetings

- Weekly Mayor / Mayor Pro Tempore / Manager meetings.
- Mayor, Council, and staff attended the SOLOCO meeting held at the Rotary Community Center on March 24th. We heard updates on projects and priorities from Beaufort County and Jasper County. There was also a brief update on how the County was moving forward with amending the plastics ban. Councilman Wood and the E-bike Committee will present an update at the April Meeting.
- Mayor, Council, and staff attended several ribbon-cutting and celebrations throughout the month.
- Mayor, Council, and staff attended the Special Olympics Track and Field events that were conducted at May River High School.
- Council and staff took a tour of the progress on the New River Linear Trail and got to see the new bridges and New River Dock.

Updates and Miscellaneous Information

- March is a major part of the Budget Preparation process with departmental meetings, meetings with Council, and preparing the budget for finalization and presentation.
 - We completed the installation of Rapid Flashing Beacons for the crosswalks on May River Road at the intersections with Thomas Heyward, Wharf, and Calhoun. We are working with SCDOT to try and approve them on Bluffton Road as well.
 - We are getting close to the kick-off of Town event season with our Bunny Bonanza, first movie night, and other events starting in April.
 - Reminder that Town Offices will be closed on Friday, April 3rd in observance of Good Friday.
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