

# Media Release



**bluffton**  
HEART OF THE LOWCOUNTRY

August 9, 2017

For More Information:

Debbie Szpanka  
Public Information Officer  
Town of Bluffton  
20 Bridge Street  
Bluffton, South Carolina 29910  
(Office): 843.706.4534  
(Cell): 843.540.2274  
(Email): [dszpanka@townofbluffton.com](mailto:dszpanka@townofbluffton.com)

Bluffton Revises Vendor Permitting Process

Bluffton's Town Council unanimously approved amendments to the Town Ordinances governing Business Licenses, Special Events and the Town's Fee Schedule on second and final reading at its August 8 Council meeting. These amendments streamline the process for vendor permits, in lieu of the requirement for a business license, when they are part of a larger special event.

"These changes are symbolic of Bluffton's business-friendly philosophy as this new process is less costly and time-consuming for all involved during our town's special events," Mayor Lisa Sulka said.

The new ordinance requires:

- Event sponsors will be charged a flat \$50 fee, plus \$10 fee for each vendor. The \$10 permit fee applies to those businesses which are only in Bluffton for special events. Businesses which conduct regular business in town are still required to have a Town business license. Those businesses are exempt from the \$10 fee when they participate in special events. Prior to this updated ordinance, each vendor was required to obtain an individual business license which ranged from \$30 - \$50 per vendor.
- A list of vendors participating in the special event is to be provided to the Town within 10 business days of the event.

"The amendments make it easier for sponsors and vendors to be compliant with the Town's business license rules," Town Manager Marc Orlando said. "We're excited about these changes because they reduce costs for vendors as well as easing the administrative burden on each vendor and Town staff. It just makes good business sense."

If anyone has any questions about the new system for sponsored special events, please contact Trisha Greathouse, the Town's director of finance and administration, at 843.706.4543 or (Email) [tgreathouse@townofbluffton.com](mailto:tgreathouse@townofbluffton.com)