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## PRESS RELEASE

City of Beaufort

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### ***“City of Beaufort completes annual 2 -day council retreat”***

Residents, Beaufort City Council, Senior Staff, and members of the Beaufort Re-Development commission spent two days discussing all things Beaufort. The meeting was held at the St. Helena Branch of the Beaufort County Library. The meeting was live streamed on Facebook and those that wish to watch the meeting as it occurred can do so on the City Facebook Page at [www.cityofbeaufort.org](http://www.cityofbeaufort.org).

Among the topics discussed were the City’s three- year strategic plan, Beaufort 2030 Lab, Departmental Goals, Financial Projections and Modeling, as well as in depth discussion of the future of re-development in Beaufort.

“Three major sub topics prevailed throughout the discussions regardless of the main topic” said Beaufort City Manager Bill Prokop, “Intergovernmental relationships, affordable housing, and economic development and how it affects the people of our community.”

The strategic plan guides the efforts of Council, Staff, and boards as they work for the vitality of Beaufort. All of the two days of input will be aggregated by the City Manager’s office with the facilitator and integrated into the annual strategic plan update as well as the city’s budget process which is just getting under way.

On Tuesday, as the group diligently worked through what the Re-development Commission in Beaufort can and should be doing. Councilors will be addressing how we best manage major issues that are facing the City today, such as housing that is affordable and well- planned economic development. A program will be put forward to adjust to the changing needs of the City.

At 5 p.m. Tuesday, the council had traveled back to City Hall to hold a special City Council Meeting. It was at the meeting that Mayor Keyserling, Beaufort’s driving force behind the effort to bring Beaufort’s re-construction era history to life, announced that President Trump had just signed a bill making two South Carolina historic sites National Parks, one being the re-construction National Historic site in Beaufort!