



Press Release from Bryan Franklin, Mayor of Blythewood

As the Mayor of this wonderful Town, it is my duty to manage matters along with the Town Administrator as a strong mayor form of government, including all litigation with outside attorneys. The purpose of this statement is to clarify statements made at the Town's June 26, 2023 Town Council meeting regarding legal invoices. The Town Attorney, Pete Balthazor, incorrectly stated the Town's position regarding the legal invoices for the MPA Strategies lawsuits as advised by our outside attorneys. Consistent with our prior position regarding this outstanding litigation, and the Town's previous responses to FOIA requests seeking legal invoices, such legal invoices cannot be provided to Town councilmembers. The Town's outside attorneys only have a duty to the Town and legal invoices requested by the Town councilmembers will not be provided as the invoices may contain privileged information, including litigation strategy, attorney work product, and attorney-client communication. Further, as you all know, the Town has received an opinion from a nationally recognized legal ethics consultant concluding Councilman Brock has breached his ethical duty to the Town of Blythewood concerning the MPA matter, and is adverse to the Town. We will continue to follow the direction of our outside litigation attorneys through this litigation. I take my duty to this Town seriously and will continue to seek excellence for our wonderful community. I hope to see everyone at our Town celebration this weekend to celebrate the 4th of July!

Bryan Franklin

Mayor

Blythewood, SC

June 30, 2023