

MOUNT PENN BOROUGH  
BOROUGH COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING  
February 19, 2024

The Mount Penn Borough Council met for a Special Meeting on February 19, 2024, at Borough Hall located at 200 N. 25<sup>th</sup> Street, Reading, PA 19606. The meeting was called to order by Council President Troy Goodman at 7:00 PM and adjourned at 8:15 PM. No action was taken at the meeting and the meeting intended to permit questions and answers from the community related to work with the Antietam School District.

Members in attendance were Mayor Ryan Maurer, Council President Troy Goodman, Council Member Thomas Baer, Council Member Christine Dise, Council Member Yrisol 'Iris' Garcia, Council Member Michael Kindlick, and Council Member Richard Lombardo. Staff and Professional Members present were Borough Manager Hunter L. Ahrens, Solicitor Thomas Klonis, Engineer Ty Leinneweber, and Road Crew Lead David Okonski. Council Vice President Roger Stief was absent.

Others present included about three dozen guests and members of the public.

**Questions and Answer**

Mr. Goodman opened the floor for community members to engage with the Borough Council on several items of concern related to the Antietam School District. Mr. Goodman commented that no action would be taken, and the meeting was to inform the public about a meeting that happened on February 19, 2024, between the Borough, the Antietam School District, and the offices of State Senator Judy Schwank and State Representative Mark Rozzi. Mr. Kindlick read a press release that was jointly released by all those parties attending that meeting. The statement addressed the ability for phased construction at the Mt. Penn Primary Center that would occur with a Traffic Study required by the Zoning Hearing Board.

Approximately two dozen members of the public engaged in questions and answers with members of the Borough Council and staff regarding the press release, events leading up to the press release, and in preparation for the previously scheduled meeting on February 20, 2024.

The synopsis for those comments was frustrations with statements made by Members of the Council regarding the relationship between Borough Council and the Antietam Board of School Directors; frustrations on the part of residents of a lack of aid from Borough Council to the School District; frustrations with the course of events that appeared to some members of the community as a reversal on the part of the Borough; questions about the traffic study and its methodology and the potential outcomes of the study; and questions about impartiality of the Zoning Hearing Board. The Council engaged in discussion on these topics and others with members of the public who were present.

**Adjournment**

*A motion was made by Rick Lombardo to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 PM. The motion was seconded by Michael Kindlick. There was no further discussion. The motion was agreed to unanimously. The council announced that following the meeting they would be meeting in Executive Session to discuss Legal Matters.*