

RECEIVED

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POSTAL REGULATORY
COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Dear Postal Regulatory Commission

I'm asking for a waiver because I do not have the capability or know-how to do a PDF file.

thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul D. Ledford". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Paul D. Ledford

A GOOD SOLUTION

CLOSE CUBA, OHIO IT HAS NO BATHROOM FOR WORKERS, IS NOT ANDICAP ACCESSABLE 4 STEPS TO GET IN THE HOUSE IT IS LOCATED IN

CLOSE MARTINSVILLE, MO, LEAKING ROOF AND POOR LOCATION.

MOVE THE POSTMASTER FROM CUBA TO MIDLAND. THE WORKERS AT MIDLAND AND MARTINSVILLE ARE OR WERE FULL TIME PEOPLE NOT POSTMASTERS THIS MOVE WOULD SAVE MONEY PUT THE POST OFFICE IN A BETTER LOCATION AND BUILDING. I AM OPPOSED TO CLOSING POST OFFICES BUT AT LEAST THIS WOULD HAVE MADE MORE SENCE ECONOMICLY FOR THE POST OFFICE

Paul D. Seif

Richard Oliver
Docket #P12010-1

1-6-10

I have enclosed letters that I wrote and received throughout our ordeal with the postal service 2008-2009. I have put them in order of Date starting with 10-14-08 through 7-15-09.

Mr. Cantrell made offers on April 2, June 2, and June 5 of 2009 which are included. There are letters from local residents in July and some that are current. You can see that there were other offers to relocate the post office. The locations of Mr. Cantrell and Mary McFarland are both viable offers to this day even though the postal service suspended the Midland Post Office because they said there was no place to relocate.

I included some newspaper articles that were written after the town meeting in April. I displayed all of the letters that I had sent and received up to that date and one of the ladies that was from the post office asked me if I had sent them to the post office. I informed her that I had sent them to Mr. Mace and Mrs. Falling Star. From all the letters that I sent to Mrs. Falling Star, she never reponded to a single letter which I sent. I also sent copies to Senator Brown. She did respond to the Senator when he sent copies of my letters to him. He asked for a reply from her which he sent to me with a copy of his letters to her. I have included some of those letters.

I might add in closing, that the Martinsville Post Office is located on a side street in a building that is over 100 years old, has black mold, and did have a leaking roof. It didn't make any sense to move our post office to Martinsville. What they should have done was close Martinsville and move it to Midland to a larger and newer building located on US route 68 and state route 28 with a lot of traffic and a community with potential growth.

I really feel this became a personal matter with Mr. Mace and Mrs. Falling Star because I was told at first that there was no intent to close Midland. The phrase that they used was, "it's not even on the radar" - a direct quote from Mr. Mace. We had 85 residents that use the post office at the meeting in April. and you might notice, one of the closing statments from the postal representatives and as printed in the Wilmington News Journal articles was, "we will do what's best for the post office". The newspaper supported keeping Midland open.

I hope the enclosed information will help our case.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Paul D Ledford". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name and address.

Paul D Ledford
Village Council, President Pro Tem
152 Broadway Street N
Midland, OH 45148
Phone (937) 783-3624 .



CHAMBERLIN FARMS

Marvin L. Chamberlin
Joann M. Chamberlin
761 Sycamore Road
Midland, Ohio 45148

January 7, 2010

Postal Regulatory Commission
901 New York Avenue NW
Suite 20
Washington DC 20268-0001

Attention: Mr. Richard Oliver

Re: Docket No. P12010-1 - Midland, Ohio (45148) Post Office

Dear Commission Members:

In June of 2009, the Midland, Ohio Post Office (45148) was closed.

We the people in Midland's service area and beyond did everything we could to convince the authorities to keep the post office open, but to no avail.

We had petitions signed, we had people testify at the public meeting; we wrote letters to postal authorities, to our Congressman, the Honorable Mike Turner, who did everything he could and also United States Senator Sherrod Brown intervened on our behalf.

We felt the public meeting was held only because the postal service is required by law to do so before closing a post office.

Representatives from the postal service in attendance were friendly and cordial and took notes, but not one person or persons, who made the decision to close our post office, was present at the public meeting. We felt we were only being placated.

With no one present from the postal service, who ultimately made the decision to close our post office to give us straight answers, we felt we were wasting our time at the public meeting.

The people in the Midland service area jumped through all the hoops, dotted all the "I's" and crossed all the "T's". We felt that our legitimate issues were not considered.

The Midland, Ohio Post Office served a very unique purpose. It was situated at the crossroads of State Route 28 and US Route 68 and not only served the people of Midland and surrounding area but also served people driving through this intersection on their way to work, etc.

It has been a hardship for many, many people since the post office closed. There are people in Midland that have no vehicle, only have a wheelchair for transportation or are financially unable to drive to Martinsville or Blanchester to do their post office business.

As you are probably aware, Midland is in Clinton County, Ohio and Clinton County has the fourth highest unemployment rate in the state at 15.0 in the November, 2009 rankings. Adjoining Highland County is No. 1.

Clinton County has been devastated by the closing of DHL Air Freight and the loss of over 10,000 jobs to our area. We are only a county of approximately 41,000 people. Midland was economically depressed before the DHL closing.

It sounds like a small amount of money in gasoline to drive to Martinsville or Blanchester but believe us when we say there are people who do not have extra money for gasoline to drive an additional ten miles for each trip to a post office.

In conclusion, we understand that Robert Cantrell, who owned the post office building that was closed, has offered the building just south of where the post office was located and has even said he will remodel the building.

This post office should never have been closed. This was a viable post office serving a large area and an even larger constituency if you consider all of the people using the post office as they pass through Midland.

We feel it would be in the best interest of this area to reopen the Midland, Ohio Post Office.

Sincerely,

Marvin L. Chamberlin

Marvin L. Chamberlin

Joann M. Chamberlin

Joann M. Chamberlin

Note: Signed copy of original sent to Postal Regulatory Commission on 1/7/10

1-6-2010

Ruth Pitt
116 Cula Ave
Midland, Ok. 45142
937-783-2259

United States Postal Service.

I Ruth Pitt have lived in this village since 1953, always had a post office. Now that I'm 79 yrs old, you take our post office out of town. Now I drive 10 miles round trip to get stamps & mail a package.

I attendent the meeting that the post office held here in Midland & told my mine about our post office leaving. You all had your mine already made up to take our post office away.

They told us to put our money in an envelope, with our money for stamps. I did so, on a envelope I wrote, two books of Christmas stamps increased \$17.60. I watched the sub carrier pick up my mail on saturday. No Money back & no stamps.

I called the post lady at Martenville post office, & after a long discussion, and the carrier remembering picking up my mail (as I watched). I lost my money.

I'm sorry it has come to this. Instead of the U.S Postal Service making things better for all, their making it harder on us seniors. Please make a change & get our post office back to our village.

Sincerely Ruth Pitt

7-20-08

Re: the Post Office in Midland, Ohio

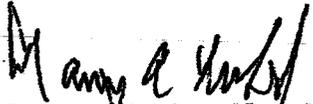
I have been hearing that the Post Office in Midland is due to close and all business transferred to Martinsville when the present lease expires. The rural routes have already been transferred to Martinsville. This will have a huge impact on my small business. I am an Ebay shipper and use the Post Office daily and would be greatly inconvenienced by the change. I ship daily, sometimes more than once, and often 15+ packages. I gave this post office over \$6000 dollars last year for shipping. I am upset about the added drive of time and expense to change to Martinsville, which has an old building that is ready to fall down. I will not use the Blanchester Post Office which has poor service and will not allow USPS shipping services such as Parcel Post, Media Mail, and First Class International. I know of several Blanchester residents who use the Midland Post Office for this reason.

I also own a Private Income Tax business in addition to my Ebay Business and have many Folders, Envelopes, and Stickers printed on hand for this business. I have been doing taxes for over 20 years, and then again, this would create a great financial and inconvenient impact with a change of address.

There are many Senior Citizens, Residents, Non-Residents, and Disabled Residents who rely on having a post office close by and depend on this service in Midland.

I hope you will consider the Location of Midland, on St. Route 28 and US 68 as being very viable for the surrounding residents. Midland is growing and will become larger and needs this LOCAL postal service.

Sincerely,



Nancy A. Ledford

DBA Just4You

&

Ledford's Income Tax Service

7-21-08

To Whom It May Concern:

We were very upset to hear that the Post Office in Midland might be no more. With gas @ \$4.00 a gallon, who can afford to drive into Blanchester? My husband has a Tax business and during Tax season, we average 60 to 70 flats per week. I have tried mailing this amount on Saturday morning in Blanchester, but felt very uncomfortable doing so. They only have one person at the counter and you soon have a line out the door.

The Midland Post Office is also very strategically located on U.S. Rt. 68 & S.R. 38 and you always receive very prompt & courteous service.

Janet McCoy
Renee C. McCoy
4033 Raven Rd
Blanchester, OH 45017

July 29, 2008

To whom it My Concern,

I am writing this letter to tell you why I want you to keep the Post Office in the Village of Midland.

I am a wheel chaired bound due to cerebral palsy. I am 42 year old who lives with his mother who is also disable.

The Midland Post Office is where I receive my mail. I have a post office box and the former post mistress gave me a box that was each for me to reach as I can not get out of my chair to stand up. It is very easy for me to get my mail because of this. I do not drive. If you move the post office out of town than I would not be able to get mail.

I have a small fixed income so I can not afford to pay anyone to go and get my mail, especially with the price of gasoline.

So please do not take the post office out of Midland, maybe you could find another place here in town to put it. I would be very appreciated if you could do that for me.

Sincerely,

Carleton E. Sexton

10-14-08

Office of the Mayor
Village of Midland
111 Broadway
Midland, Ohio 45148
(937) 783-3657

Sherrod Brown
200 N. High St.
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Dear Sir:

The purpose of this letter is to request your help resolving a problem that now threatens the economic stability of Midland, Ohio, located in Clinton County. In short, the lease held by our post office has expired, and the property owner does not intend to renew the lease. As a result, the U.S. Post Office is planning to move our postal service from Midland to Martinsville, Ohio. This move will impose a severe hardship not only on our community but also on surrounding communities that use our post office, including Westboro and others.

In addition, we are working with the Clinton County Regional Planning Commission to develop Midland so that we can attract new residents and businesses. Removing the post office will severely undermine our efforts in this and many other areas, which are summarized as follows:

- 1 It will prohibit Midland residents and businesses from sending and receiving mail and packages.
- 2 It will impose a severe hardship on seniors and low-income residents, who can neither drive to Martinsville nor afford the high cost of gas to get there on a routine basis. This is a sixteen-mile round trip that will measurably increase the cost of gas to and from the post office, in addition to increasing the wear and tear on vehicles. In addition, we have a special-needs resident with whom the post office has been working to teach her how to get mail when mom and dad are unavailable. She is unable to drive to Martinsville each day. We also have residents who work and cannot make it to Martinsville before the post office closes, so this will pose added cost and significant hardship for them, and it will interfere with their ability to send and receive mail and packages.
- 3 It will negatively affect our identity as a developing community within the larger confines of Clinton County, and it will do so at a time when we are working diligently to build and reinforce a positive identity.
- 4 It will create a hardship for non-Midland residents, who also use our post office. Some residents of Blanchester, for example, ship first class packages to Canada from Midland. Also, others who do not live in Midland retain post office boxes for regular use.

We have made U.S. Post Office representatives aware that we have viable land and/or buildings, which can be leased or bought; therefore, the U.S. Post Office does not have to

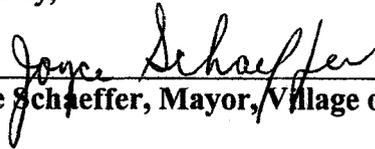
leave Midland because its lease has expired. Thus informed, U.S. Post Office representatives have stated their interest in working with us to keep our post office in Midland. As a result, we are asking you to help by sending a letter stating your support for our efforts. We will then send this letter to U.S. Post Office representatives, such as the vice president of development for the U.S. Post Office, who has requested a copy of your letter of support. He assures us that your letter, along with letters of support from Midland community members, and our petition to save our post office (See attached), will help in our endeavor.

In addition to a letter of support, we are asking you to consider all other ways you might help, including phone calls to U.S. Post Office representatives, or letters written directly.

Time is clearly of the essence in supporting our efforts. Within thirty days of receiving this letter, please send your letter of support to the attention of Paul Ledford, Midland Council President, at the address listed on the letterhead above. Should you have questions or need further information, please call Paul at (937) 783-3624.

The Village of Midland looks forward to hearing from you in the near future. We thank you for your help in this matter.

Sincerely,



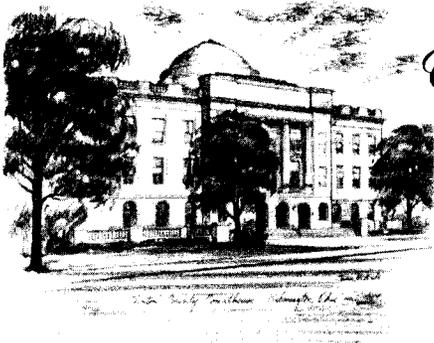
Joyce Schaeffer, Mayor, Village of Midland

10 14 2008
Month Day Year

Enclosure: (1) Petition to Retain Midland Post Office; Copies of letters of support

CC: file

Special Handling: (none)



Clinton County Commissioners

Clinton County Court House
46 S. South Street
Wilmington, Ohio 45177

Phone: (937) 382-2103 or (937) 382-3543
Fax: (937) 383-2884

Board of Commissioners:

MIKE CURRY
RANDY RILEY
DAVID R. STEWART

Clerk of the Board:
BRENDA K. WOODS

October 22, 2008

Paul Ledford, President
Village of Midland Council
111 Broadway Street
Midland, Ohio 45148

Dear Mr. Ledford:

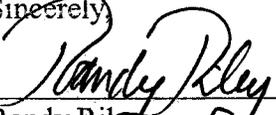
The Board of County Commissioners are writing to inform you that we are not in support of the closing of the Midland Post Office.

This office serves as a necessity to so many individuals that are unable to travel to a post office in a nearby town, etc. With the economic times that Clinton County is facing, it is of vital importance that this post office remain open for the citizens of Clinton County.

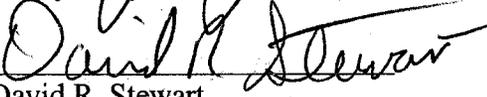
We hope that you will take into consideration the many people in the area that the closing of this office will affect.

If you should have any questions, please feel free to contact our office at (937) 382-2103.

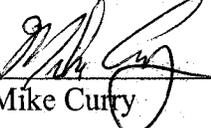
Sincerely,



Randy Riley



David R. Stewart



Mike Curry

DISTRICT MANAGER
CINCINNATI DISTRICT



December 19, 2008

The Honorable Sherrod Brown
United States Senate
1301 E 9th St, Ste 1710
Cleveland, OH 44114-1869

Dear Senator Brown:

This is in response to your correspondence dated October 29, 2008 on behalf of your constituent Joyce Schaeffer, Mayor of the Village of Midland, OH.

We currently have several issues at the Midland Post Office location, some of which have caused us to move the carriers to a nearby office, with no effect to Midland's delivery. Our Field Services Office is working with the local landlord who has refused to renew and the current lease expires in June 2009.

We have several quarters in the Midland area that we are currently investigating for the closure of a Post Office to ensure that we can best serve the community. We are currently moving to ensure that the experience of the Post Office will be the same for any customer who has contacted the office of the Post Office. We would like to hear your concerns and they would be heard and considered.

I can also confirm should we reach the point where we will conduct a Town Hall meeting; your office will be contacted well in advance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chu Falling Star".

Chu Falling Star
District Manager
Cincinnati District

cc: Walt Mace, Manager, Operations Programs Support
John Hunkemoeller, Manager, Finance
Cheryl Kellner, Manager, Post Office Operations, Area 3

SHERROD BROWN
OHIO

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

December 22, 2008

Mayor Joyce Schaeffer
111 Broadway
Midland, Ohio 45148

Dear Mayor Schaeffer:

Enclosed please find a copy of the December 19, 2008 reply we received from Chu Faling Star, District Manager, Cincinnati District, USPS. This correspondence was written in response to my recent inquiry on your behalf, and the information provided is self-explanatory.

Please do not hesitate to contact me again if I can be of further assistance to you on any other federal matter.

Sincerely,



Sherrod Brown
United States Senator

SB 

Enclosure

12/29/08,

Dear Mr. Mace:

We are enclosing 2 proposals for lease, one from John A. Panetta shown on the map in Location No. 3, located on State Route 28, less than 1,000 ft. west of existing post office marked on map as No.1.

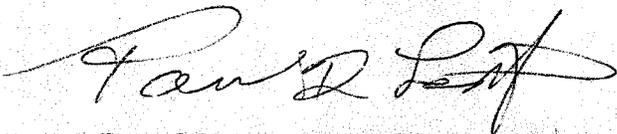
One proposal from Mary H. McFarland located on map as No.2, included are photos of each location.

Also, I am including the letters and petitions we sent before, and some letters we have received since then. I know that I sent you some of these documents already, but I thought I would send a complete packet in case I missed something. We hope this effort will keep a post office in Midland. If there is anything else we can do, please let us know.

Respectfully,



Mayor Joyce Schaeffer



Vice-Mayor Paul D. Ledford

7006 0810 0004 5597 1223

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Certified Fee	
Return Receipt Fee (Endorsement Required)	
Restricted Delivery Fee (Endorsement Required)	
Total Postage & Fees	\$

Postmark Here

Sent To
W. H. Mace
Street, Apt. No.,
or PO Box No.
City, State, ZIP+4

November 24, 2008

Mary H. McFarland
1206 Macedonia Road
Blanchester, Ohio 45107
(937) 382-416

To whom it may concern:

2

Property location and ownership

I am the owner of the lot and building located at 151 North Broadway St., Midland, Ohio.

I have been asked by the honorable vice mayor of Midland, Mr. Paul Ledford, to provide a description of a proposed relocation site for the U.S. post office in Midland, Ohio. I am providing this description to Mr. Ledford, who advises me that he will provide pictures of the proposed lot and building. This lot is free and clear of all liens, and has no mortgages.

Lot zoning

This property was zoned commercial in accordance with village requirements. A request for variance was approved by Midland on January 10, 2006.

Lot amendments

This lot has a county sewer hookup (Clinton county) and a county water hookup (Highland county). Both sewer and water lines have been run inside the building. The lot has been graded and drained with runoff to village storm sewers.

Lot size and dimensions

This lot is 97 feet wide and 240 feet deep and has been surveyed at my request in 2005 by Werring Surveying. The lot is 0.57 acre.

Building size and dimensions

This one-story building is approximately 18 ft. high. There is ample space at the front, side, and rear for off-street parking and, in addition, for adding wheel-chair access. The building is approximately 34 wide by 53 long.

Building description

Built in the 1950s, this is an extremely sturdy, concrete-block building that has been freshly painted on the interior and exterior. It has a new metal roof and new windows. It has a concrete floor. It has an automatic overhead garage door that is 11 feet high.

Proposed cost to lease

This building can be leased in its entirety for .35 per square foot, or for a monthly total of \$630.70. In this case, the post office would be required to pay utilities.

If the post office is interested in leasing partial square footage, rather than the whole building, the rate of .35 per square foot would apply, but a minimum amount of 375.00 per month would be required, regardless of the amount of space leased. In this case, the post office would be required to split utilities.

Thank You
Mary H. McFarland

To: Whom It May Concern

12/24/2008

From: John A. Panetta

12983 U.S. Hwy. 68 South

Midland, Ohio 45148

Ph# 937-783-2548 Fax# 937-783-8261

Email: spanetta@cinci.rr.com

Re: Midland Post Office

3

Proposal for New Building for Midland Post Office

I propose to build a new building with the purpose of a lease to the the U.S. Post Office for a period not less than 20 years.

I am proposing the building in three sizes:

1. 500 sq.ft. for \$560.00/mo.
2. 900 sq.ft. for \$650.00/mo.
- approximate size of current building being used
3. 1200 sq.ft. for \$750.00/mo.

Building would include:

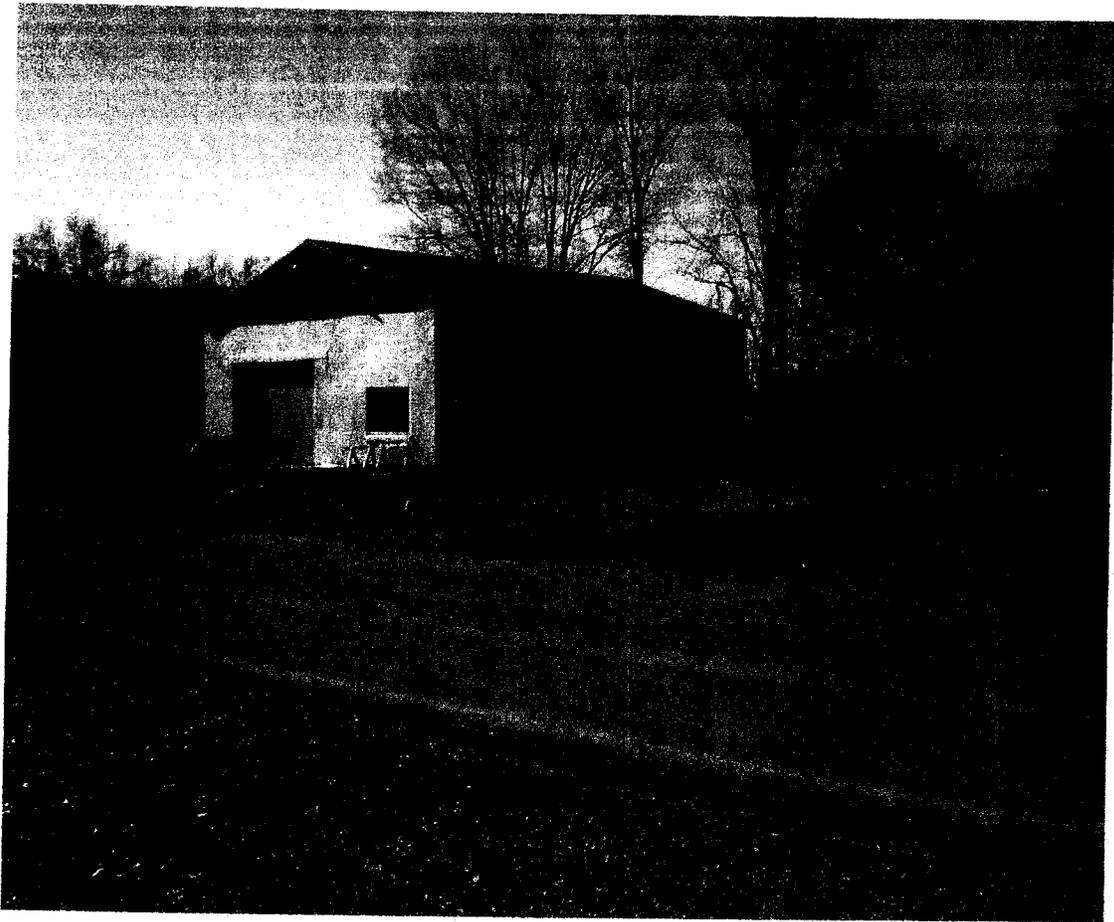
1. single story building
- built to local and state codes
2. office space with single restroom
- will require tenant to finish interior to preferences
3. paved parking stalls
- number will be determined by building size

Thank You,



John A. Panetta

2



3



GODSEY MARY ANN

PANETTA JOE

BRADSHAW STEVEN A & SUSAN G *SD

PANETTA JOE

FLANNERY ADALPH DOC & B PAMEL
GODSEY MARY ANN JACOBS ROBY & RUTH
HOLMES SCOTT N

HAMM JIM & JUDY
PECK CHARLES G & SANDRA M *SD HEIZER JAN
SMI

PANETTA JOHN A & SANDRA L

GOLDIE JEFFREY A & DEBRA A *SD
SMITH COI
WHEELER K
PECK CHARLES G & SANDRA

SMITH RANDY R
LEDERER CLINTON A & MYRTLE I *SD
MCPHERSON EDNA M SMITH CONNIE L

FAWLEY HENRY B & PATRICIA LANSING J
EDWARDS ROGER A & TRICIA R *SD FAWLEY I

SR 28

THOMPSON CLIFFORD D & MARY J SMITH RANDY R
LEDFORD PAUL D & NANCY A *SD
FATT RUTH J
MILLER MELVIN L & J

DOAN TROY L
MYERS JOHN M SMITH CHARLES C & BONNIE L *SD

CHRISTMAN JAMES P
LEDFORD PAUL D & NANCY A *SD
SMITH RANDY R
MCPHERSON EDNA M

STOUT JEREA
ROSE DARLA S
BROOKS LISA G

BRADSHAW STEVEN A & SUSAN G *SD

GRAY LLOYD L & DAVID LEE

MILLER ERIC

BRADSHAW STEVEN A & SUSAN G *SD

WELCH LARRY J & DANIELLE R *SD
HENRY BOBBI JO
SHERRILL JOE
BAKER ALLAN

FAWLEY JAMES H & DARLENE
EDWARDS VESSE & GRETCHEN

LIFE CHANGING MINISTRIES OF OHIO
ST JOHN NORMAN GENE & BERNICE *SD

Midland

SMITH TOM
MALOTT MICHAEL W

HOGGATT ALAN E & LINDA

WALKER JOHN A & BARBARA J *SD
SHUPERT MINNIE E
TAYLOR RENAE L

BAKER ALLAN
BROOKS STEPHEN L

LIEURANCE CARRIE J & VALERIE K GRAGG *SD

SMOKE STACKS LLC
BAKER ALLAN
BAKER ALLAN HAYSON RAYMOND E & B.

LIEURANCE CARRIE J & VALERIE K GRAGG *SD

NICELY JAMES
ZIMMERMAN EDWARD H & ANGELA S

LIEURANCE CARRIE J & VALERIE K GRAGG *SD

WHEELER KATHRYN
VILLAGE OF MIDLAND OHIO
KINNEY BRADLEY D
VILLAGE OF MIDLAND FIRE DEPT

GOLDIE JEFFREY A & DEBRA A *SD
PAGETT WENDELL

STROUD BRIAN D & CHARLENE M *SD

INDIANA & OHIO CENTRAL RAILROAD INC
HOLDEN LOUIS E JR

HOGGATT ALAN E & LINDA

SMITH CHARLES C SR & BONNIE L
SMITH CHARLES C SR & BONNIE L *SD

CSX TRANSPORTATION INC TAX DEPT

CSX TRANSPORTATION INC TAX DEPT

SMITH CHARLES C SR & BONNIE L *SD

PANETTA JOE

BEACH JEFF & VICTORIA *SD

STROUD BRIAN D & CHARLENE I

CLONCH RHONDA L
SNELL WESLEY L & CATHY A *SD

WILSON TYSON R & SABRINA L *SD

DAVIDSON KATHLEEN M HOPKINSON JEFFREY S

BEYERSDOERFER BILL R

GIBSON WILLIAM H & ESTAMAE *S

DOYLE ELVIN

METZ BRETT W & CANDACE L *SD

RHINEHIMER RAYMOND C

COLLINS PAMEL A

US 68

3

4

B

Baldwin St

Margaret (Maggi) Horst
Field Rep/Wilmington Office Manager
Congressman Michael R. Turner (OH-3)
61 E. Main Street, Suite 1
Wilmington, OH 45177
Phone: 937-383-8931
Fax: 937-383-8910

From: Falling-Star, Chu C - Cincinnati, OH [mailto:chu.c.falling-star@usps.gov]
Sent: Sunday, March 15, 2009 8:34 PM
To: Horst, Margaret
Subject: RE: Midland Post Office

Ms. Horst

I apologize for the delay in a response to your initial inquiry.

As you are aware the landlord of the Midland Post Office has notified our Eastern Facilities Service Office (FSO) in writing they will not enter into a new lease for the facility due to the condition of the building. The Landlord states the maintenance and upkeep of the building far exceeds the rent profitability.

To prepare for this event the Postal Service relocated the rural carriers to Martinsville, Ohio with no disruption to our customers in Midland, OH. The Martinsville Post Office is located approximately 5 miles or 8 minutes from the Midland Post Office.

The Landlord has told the FSO they will not consider any extension of the lease. The Cincinnati District requested the Eastern FSO investigate to determine if there is any available existing space suitable to house the postal operation.

It is the assessment of the FSO that there are no suitable facilities to which the existing postal operation, retail, and post office boxes could be relocated.

There have been two offers of facilities. The first was from the existing Landlord offering to build an addition to an adjacent building and leasing it to us for \$12,000 per year or \$24.00 per sq. ft. The second offer is from a local developer offering to build a building where we could lease 500 square feet for \$6700 annual lease cost or \$13.44 sq. ft. The local 3 ZIP average for leasing is \$7.52 per sq. ft for the area.

In both of the above scenarios the cost of postalization is not included. Our Architect Engineer estimates the expense for the new building to be approximately \$125 to \$150 per square foot or \$62,500 to \$75,000.

As a direct result of the economic downturn the Unites States Postal Service must also review.

In the case of leased Delivery & Retail facilities, which Midland is one, the USPS is reviewing and evaluating these contracts to determine whether or not it makes good business sense to remain in place, renegotiate, or terminate theses leases. We are also closely examining the Postal Owned facilities as well to determine which, if any, can be consolidated, relocated, or sold.

Based on the above criteria and the proximity of the Martinsville Post Office it does not make good business sense to seek alternate quarters when the lease is above market average and the cost of postalization and salaries far exceeds the revenue of the Midland facility.

Prior to any suspension of service or closing there are formal procedures the USPS must follow. The first of these will be a "Town Hall" meeting to discuss residents concerns and answer any questions they have concerning the proposal.

We will notify your office of the date and time of the meeting.

Again, I apologize for the delay in responding.

Chu Falling Star
District Manager
1591 Dalton Ave
Cincinnati OH 45234-9994
513-684-5360



March 16, 2009

Dear Postal Customer:

As the postal manager responsible for all post offices in your area, I would like your opinion concerning a possible change in the way postal services are provided. Our tentative plans will only lead to a formal proposal if we are satisfied that a maximum degree of regular and effective service can be provided.

The Postmaster of this office was promoted last year and the current lease will expire in June of 2009. At this point we have no other suitable quarters for operating an independent Post Office.

If you would like an opportunity to discuss alternatives with us, a postal representative will be at the Baptist Church in Midland on April 2, 2009 from 7:30pm to 8:30pm to answer questions and provide information about our service.

If you have any questions, you may contact Mark Hand, Post Office Review Coordinator at 513-831-1437.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Cheryl Kellner".

Cheryl Kellner
Manager, Post Office Operations

SHERROD BROWN
OHIO

COMMITTEES:
AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION,
AND FORESTRY

BANKING, HOUSING,
AND URBAN AFFAIRS

HEALTH, EDUCATION,
LABOR, AND PENSIONS

VETERANS' AFFAIRS

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

April 1, 2009

Ms. Chu Falling Star
Cincinnati District Manager
United States Postal Service
1591 Dalton Avenue
Cincinnati, Ohio 45234

Dear Ms. Falling Star:

I am writing today in response to a recent conversation my staff member had with the Village of Midland's Vice-Mayor, Paul D. Ledford.

Vice-Mayor Ledford called and sent correspondence to my office seeking my intervention into the closing of the Midland Post Office. As stated in my previous letter to you dated October 29th, 2008, the residents of Midland are concerned about the negative impact the loss of their post office would have on the community. I would hope that every effort is made to find alternative quarters before a move as drastic as closure is taken.

I understand the difficult financial situation that the Postal Service and many Americans are facing today, but I believe the loss of a post office may result in a degraded level of service and have a negative financial affect on Midland and the surrounding communities.

Please review this matter and provide me with your comments and recommendations for any action that can be taken to resolve this situation. Your response should be directed to my Cleveland office at 1301 E. 9th Street, Suite 1710, Cleveland, Ohio 44114 (Phone: 216-522-7272; Fax: 216-522-2239).

Thank you for your attention to this request.

Sincerely,



Sherrod Brown
United States Senator

SB:jp

Enclosure

cc: Paul D. Ledford

April 2, 2009

Chu Falling Star, District Manager
Customer Service and Sales
United States Postal Service
1591 Dalton Avenue
Cincinnati, OH 45234-9298

We, the citizens and customers of the Midland, Ohio Post Office hereby protest any change in the present status of our post office.

It is our desire to retain our post office at its present status--a United States post office operated by a postmaster and career postal employees.

We have many concerns, among them the sanctity of the mail and the inconvenience your proposal presents to us in delivering and sending the mail, particularly accountable mail. We are especially concerned over what effect your proposed action would have regarding the purchase of postal money orders. We are also well aware of the documented abuses possible through a contract mail station.

The Postal Reorganization Act of 1970 calls for providing a maximum degree of effective and regular postal service to rural areas, communities and small towns where post offices are not financially self-sustaining.

We do not know the financial situation of the Midland, Ohio post office but Congressman Michael Turner has made a Public Records Request for the Financial Records of Midland, Ohio Post Office.

At this time, we do not feel your proposals meet the criteria.

Sincerely,

Customers of the Midland, Ohio Post Office

(Signature Pages Attached)

85 PEOPLE
AT MEETING
==



Ohio Senate
17th District

John A. Carey, Jr.
State Senator

Senate Building
Columbus, Ohio 43215
614/468-8156
Fax: 614/752-7188

Committees:

Finance and Financial Institutions, Chuk
Agriculture
Education
State and Local Government and Veterans Affairs
State Controlling Board
Joint Legislative Ethics Committee
Rules

April 2, 2009

The Honorable Joyce Schaeffer
Mayor, Village of Midland
111 Broadway St.
Midland, OH 45148

Dear Mayor Schaeffer,

I am writing this letter of support for the Village of Midland's efforts to keep their US Post Office. It has come to my attention that the lease for the current post office has expired and that the property owner does not intend to renew the lease.

I have been told that moving the post office from its current location to Martinsville will create a hardship on many of the seniors and low-income residents of the village. Because of the cost of gasoline and the length of the roundtrip, many residents of Midland, including the surrounding area, will have a difficult time traveling to Martinsville for their mail.

Additionally, it is my understanding that the Village of Midland has been working diligently to build and reinforce a positive identity for itself. Maintaining a US Post Office in the village will help attract and maintain new residents and businesses.

I appreciate hearing the efforts of the village on this matter. If I can be of additional assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

John A. Carey, Jr.
State Senator
17th District

1st Stop, Inc.
Cantrell Companies
PO Box 175
Winchester, OH 45697
(937) 695-0318 ext. 126

Midland Post Office
130 Cuba Avenue
Midland, OH 45148

Re: New site for the Midland Post Office

We respectfully propose that the Midland post office takes over the red block building located at 126 Cuba Avenue for the same rent they are paying at their current location.

We will have the driveway paved and the roof will be made sound. Any cosmetic or interior changes necessary to bring the building to post office standards would have to be made by the postal service. We will work with you any way we can.

If the post office decides to stay at the present location until the new building is ready we will be happy to extend the lease for a reasonable amount of time.

If the post office finds a different rental in the Midland area we would still extend the lease for a reasonable amount of time until they can move.

Another option if the red block building is not suitable and another location is not available in Midland, we could build an addition to the 1st Stop Convenience store in Midland. We would tear down the old post office and pave the old site. However, the rent would not be the same as it is now, or would be if the block building is rented.

We are very flexible and want to work with the postal service in an attempt to keep the post office in Midland.

We look forward to your response and hope everything works out to everyone's satisfaction.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Robert Cantrell, Sr.

cc: Midland Town Council

SHERROD BROWN
OHIO

COMMITTEES:
AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION,
AND FORESTRY

BANKING, HOUSING,
AND URBAN AFFAIRS

HEALTH, EDUCATION,
LABOR, AND PENSIONS

VETERANS' AFFAIRS

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

June 2, 2009

Mr. Jim Cari
Government Relations Representative
United States Postal Service
475 L'Enfant Plaza, SW
Washington, DC 20260-3500

Dear Mr. Cari:

Enclosed please find correspondence from Robert Cantrell, Sr., President, Cantrell Companies.

Mr. Cantrell's letter indicates his agreement to extend the lease that is currently providing quarters to the Midland Post Office.

Please review this matter and provide me with your comments. Your response should be directed to my Cleveland office at 1301 East 9th Street, Suite 1710, Cleveland, Ohio 44114 (Phone: 216-522-7272; Fax: 216-522-2239).

Thank you for your attention to this request.

Sincerely,



Sherrod Brown
United States Senator

SB:jp

Enclosure

cc: Chu Falling Star
Robert Cantrell
Paul D. Ledford

FACILITIES SERVICE OFFICE



June 4, 2009

Robert Cantrell
Linda Lee Cantrell
PO Box 175
Winchester OH 45697-0175

Re: Postal Facility 385208-001
Midland OH 45148-6698

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Cantrell:

I received a copy of your June 1, 2009 letter to Walter Mace offering to extend our lease on the subject postal facility for one year. Such an extension is not acceptable to us as it just prolongs the uncertainty of our current situation with regard to being able to provide continued service to our customers at Midland. I have been authorized to renew my previous offer of a new 5yr lease at \$6,300/yr. Under the new lease you would remain responsible for taxes and maintenance and the Postal Service would continue to pay for separately metered utilities.

If you are interested in the 5yr lease, please call me upon receipt of this letter so that I may send a lease package for your signatures. We will interpret your lack of a response to this letter by June 10, 2009 as your refusal to renew our lease and will resume making alternate arrangements to provide service to the customers of the Midland Post Office after the June 30, 2009 expiration of our lease.

We thank you for providing this space over the years.

Sincerely,



Judith R. Starykiewicz
Real Estate Specialist

cc: Postmaster
District Finance Mgr

PO BOX 27487
GREENSBORO NC 27488-1103
336/865-2806
Fax: 336/865-2865

June 15, 2009

Dear Postal Customer:

The Midland postmaster was reassigned in July, 2008. A career clerk from the Blanchester post office has served as the officer-in-charge since that time. The lease ends on June 30 and the Postal Service has not been able to secure a satisfactory agreement. There are no other suitable quarters at this time. Therefore, it will be necessary to suspend services at the Midland Post Office at the close of business on June 30, 2009. This change is tentative and will not lead to a formal proposal unless we conclude that it will provide a maximum degree of regular and effective postal services.

While the office is suspended, delivery and retail services will be provided by a rural carrier to roadside mailboxes installed by customers who have requested delivery. Please contact the postmaster of the Martinsville Post Office for advice regarding the placement of mailboxes. Customers presently receiving rural delivery will not experience a change in service, with the possible exceptions of picking up parcels and accountable mail at the Martinsville Post Office that the carrier was unable to deliver.

If requested, Post Office box refunds will be provided by the Midland postmaster or the Martinsville postmaster. Starting July 1, 2009, customers can obtain their Post Office box mail at the Martinsville Post Office, located 4 miles away until your current term runs out. The Martinsville Post Office has 24-hour lobby access for customer convenience. Window service hours at Martinsville are 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 pm and 1:30 p.m. to 4:15 p.m., Monday through Friday and from 8:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. on Saturday. Post Office boxes are available at this location at the same fees.

Retail services are also available at Blanchester Post Office, located 4.5 miles away. Window service hours at Blanchester Post Office are from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, and 8:30 a.m. to 12:00p.m. on Saturday. Post Office box lobby hours are 24hours.

I realize with change there is always concern. No final decision to permanently discontinue the Post Office has been made. In the interim, we are confident that carrier delivery will continue to provide Midland customers with effective and regular postal services.

Sincerely,

Brenda Seanor
Manager, Post Office Operations
1591 Dalton Ave
Cincinnati, Ohio 45234

bcc: Postmaster/OIC Midland
Postmaster Martinsville
Post Office Review Coordinator

DISTRICT MANAGER
CINCINNATI DISTRICT



June 16, 2009

Joyce Schaeffer
Mayor of Midland
P.O. Box 196
Midland, OH 45148-0196

Dear Mayor Schaeffer:

This is in response to your June 11 email message to Postmaster General John E. Potter, regarding the future status of the Midland Post Office.

I understand your interest in this matter, and I appreciate this opportunity to respond to your concerns. As you may know, the U.S. Postal Service remains a unique federal agency in that it receives no funding from Congress to support its operations. Like so many businesses today, the Postal Service is experiencing significant financial challenges related to declining mail volumes and the lackluster economy. In order to sustain universal mail service to the American people, we are looking at all operations and making adjustments to control costs while maintaining a good level of service to our customers.

In your message, you referenced negotiations between the Postal Service and the landlord of the facility that houses the Midland Post Office. Unfortunately, the Postal Service's Eastern Facilities Services office and the landlord were unable to agree to terms for a renewal of the current lease. Furthermore, postal officials determined that the cost to retrofit or "postalize" other available quarters in the community to house postal operations would be prohibitive based on current economic conditions. As such, the difficult decision was made to suspend operations at the Midland Post Office at the close of business on Tuesday, June 30. This date coincides with the current lease expiration.

The mail for customers who hold a Post Office box at the Midland facility will be available for pickup each day at the Martinsville Post Office at 33 High Street. The retail hours at the Martinsville Post Office are 7:30 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. on weekdays, and 8 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. on Saturdays; meanwhile, the lobby is accessible 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Customers also may elect to receive rural delivery service at a roadside mailbox that they may install near their home. Notably, rural carriers can conduct most of the same retail transactions that are offered at the Post Office, including stamp and money order sales and the acceptance of Certified, Registered, and Express Mail pieces. Customers interested in installing a rural mailbox should contact the Martinsville Post Office at (937) 685-2495 for more information. Meanwhile, Midland customers already receiving rural delivery service will see no change in service except that they will retrieve items for which a notice was left at the Martinsville Post Office (although redelivery can be requested).

1591 DALTON AVENUE
CINCINNATI, OHIO 45234-9990

WILMINGTON News Journal

Residents fight for Midland post office

DAN LIGGETT

dliggett@wnews.com

Residents of Midland and Jefferson Township made an emotional and, at times, angry appeal to representatives of the U.S. Postal Service on Thursday evening to keep its community post office in operation.

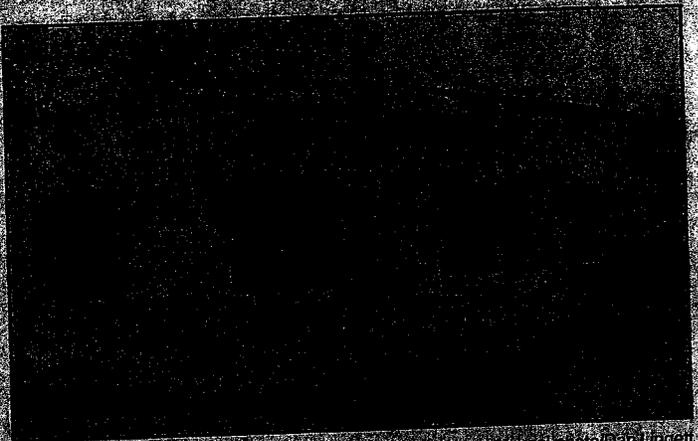
Approximately 65 residents attended a meeting at the Midland Baptist Church to show support for keeping the post office, which is in danger of being closed and consolidated with the post office in

Martinsville. Those who spoke in favor of keeping the post office included Midland and Clinton County government officials.

"If we lose our post office, we will stop growing," Midland Mayor Joyce Schaeffer told the Postal Service officials. "We're pleading with you to consider not closing, and to consider the offers that have been made."

The U.S. Post Office in Midland is currently located at the corner of U.S. Route 68 and State Route 28.

See **MIDLAND**, Page 8A



News Journal photo by Dan Liggett

The U.S. Post Office in Midland is located at the intersection of U.S. Route 68 and State Route 28.

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Office in question

cial he does not plan to renew the lease.

At a meeting Tuesday, Cantrell said he did not know of other locations, but he would be near the present building.

Cantrell is offering to pay the U.S. Postal Service mobile building at a cost just below from the Midland Post Office, which is located in the corner of U.S. 68 and South Pine, at the Midland office. In a letter, I also offer the Midland building on the corner of East (1st Stop), Cantrell said.

The Midland office is the post office where he works. Cantrell said he would work down about 100 feet, he said Tuesday night.

Reynolds said he would change in \$100 per month, he said one year he spent \$74 in repairs, paid the property and insurance. "We are spending twice the amount on the upkeep," Cantrell said.

See POST OFFICE, Page 1A

POST OFFICE

Continued from Page 1A

just can't afford to keep spending \$20 bills for \$10 bills. We knew the building was falling apart but we went ahead and put the sewer tap in and the water tap in. That cost us more money than we could collect for a whole year's rent. We had to do that to please the contract," he said.

Cantrell said he is willing to work with the postal service to find something to help the community. "The post office lease is up in June, but if they decide to do something and work with you folks, with me or whoever, I will extend their rent until they get someplace to go. I'm doing this not from a financial standpoint. I'm doing this as a good neighbor."

Village officials also have submitted other proposals to the postal service.

Paul Ledford, a member of council, said John Hamble offered to build a new building on a vacant lot. He said he will build one of three buildings, a 500, 900 or 1,200 square foot, Ledford said.

Another resident, Mary McFarland, has a vacant building on North Broadway which she also has offered as a possible relocation, using part of the building or all of the building.

In July 2003, the U.S. Post Office did notify Midland that its lease will be up in July and without a viable site for relocation in Midland, the post office would have to be closed. Ledford said he submitted a petition with numerous signatures and subsequently submitted written proposals for viable sites,

along with maps and photos.

The postal service has not responded to any of the offers.

Village officials said in the March 2009 foreword in the *Postmasters' Gazette*, Ken Engstrom, executive director, stated, "The Postal Service is proposing closing most offices using eviction as the reason. Since Jan. 1, 2009, the Postal Service has issued 12 such closing notices."

Now village officials and area residents are asking, "Is that one of the U.S. Post Office's excuse to close Midland's post office?"

The Midland Post Office generally has 2 1/2 mail carriers for the rural routes. Both routes are now being delivered through the Martinsville Post Office, Ledford said.

Members of Midland council believe the move is unjustified since the Midland Post Office serves more customers and has a larger rural route.

Several representatives from the U.S. Postal Service will attend a meeting at 7:30 p.m. April 2 at the Midland Baptist Church at 143 N. Broadway in Midland. The meeting is being held there to accommodate as many people as possible.

Mayor Joyce Schaeffer and members of council are urging area residents to attend the meeting to support them in the fight to keep the Midland Post Office open.

"We want to get as many people to come out to the meeting as possible," Schaeffer said. "We don't want to lose the post office. We're looking at growth in the village that closing post office will have a negative affect on the area," she said.