

September 6, 2011

RECEIVED

Winford J Smith
PO Box 87
Ellisburg, NY 13636

2011 SEP 15 P 2:19

Received

USPS
901 NY Ave NW
Suite200
Washington, DC 20268-0001

SEP 12 2011

POSTAL REGULATORY
COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Office of PAGR

Dear Sir(s):

This missive is an appeal of the pending decision to close the office in Ellisburg, NY 13636. Supposedly, all mail destined for this office will be transferred to the Pierrepont Manor, NY 13674 office. As a retired postal employee, I have worked in both offices. Accordingly, the closure of Ellisburg makes no sense for the following reasons:

1. The office in Ellisburg is larger and more able to maintain the Star Route that it currently operates.
2. There is more business and sales in the Ellisburg office.
3. To maintain a PO box, customers would have to travel 3.2 miles to Pierrepont Manor. Contrarily, if Pierrepont Manor were to close, their customers would only have to travel to Mannsville, NY 13661 to maintain a PO box. A distance of only 1.9 miles.
4. Presently, mail is transferred to Pierrepont Manor for pick-up by mail truck. It can just as easily be transferred to the Mannsville office for the same purpose. A distance of 3.7 miles if taken via County Rte 121, County Route 87 and County Route 90.

Basically, I maintain that to close Ellisburg, instead of Pierrepont Manor, would present more of a hardship for customers in Ellisburg than those in Pierrepont Manor. It also seems rather strange that the Town of Ellisburg, where the Town Offices (Clerk, Assessor and Justice of the Peace) and the Highway Department are located, would be without a home address. Pierrepont Manor and Mannsville are located within the Town of Ellisburg, as is Belleville, NY 13611.

If the reason that Ellisburg is being closed is because of the transfer point for mail, I have already refuted that in the above. It would involve only an increase of .5 mile to do the same operation by going to Mannsville. Also, if the reason for closing Ellisburg, in lieu of Pierrepont Manor, is the fact that the Secretary of the Army McCue maintains a residence in Pierrepont Manor, I find that reasoning ludicrous and demeaning to the citizens of Ellisburg.

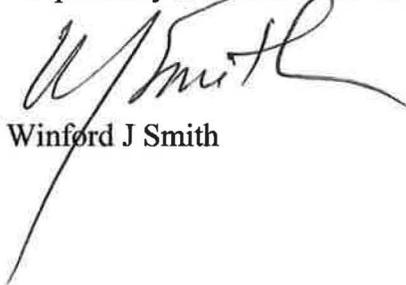
If the reason for closing the Ellisburg office is because they currently don't have a Post-Master assigned to it whereas Pierrepont Manor does, Postmasters can easily be transferred. Say from Pierrepont Manor to Ellisburg.

The office in Mannsville, which has two rural routes emanating from it, is antiquated and quite frankly a fire trap as there are apartments overhead and the building itself is old and in disrepair. I speak from personal knowledge as I worked out of the Mannsville office for over ten years, in addition to working in other offices when needed. Ellisburg and Pierrepont Manor inclusive. It would make much more "sense" to combine Mannsville and Pierrepont Manor, in a look to the future, with a new centrally located facility and leave Ellisburg (the Town seat) in full operation.

I realize the Postal Service is in dire financial straits. Due, in part, to the prioritizing of the First Class mail monopoly (since dealt a debilitating blow from the internet) over Parcel Post begun in the 1970's, when I first became a postal employee. Since then, the USPS has been trying to resurrect its lost parcel business when it allowed UPS and Federal Express to establish a foothold in that area.

For once, I believe that the USPS should utilize a more common sense approach by allowing Ellisburg to remain open and to combine Mannsville-Pierrepont Manor to more expediently serve its customers. After all, isn't service what its all about. At least that's what I was always told. Please consider re-thinking your position and revise your plan to close the Ellisburg Post Office in the **Town** of Ellisburg and keep it in operation.

Respectfully Submitted this date,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "W. Smith", with a long, sweeping underline that extends down the left side of the page.

Winford J Smith