

AUGUST 4, 2008 SUPERVISORS' SPECIAL MEETING – KINGSDALE FIRE COMPANY:

The Mount Joy Township Board of Supervisors held a Special Meeting this date, as publicly advertised, at 7:30 p.m. in the meeting room of the Mount Joy Township Municipal Building, 902 Hoffman Home Road, Gettysburg, PA 17325 with Board Chairman James W. Waybright presiding. Others in attendance were: Supervisors William Chantelau, George Scott, Samuel Dayhoff, and Robert Rhodes; and Secretary Brenda J. Constable.

Others in attendance were: Ron Welty; Bill Ridinger representing Kingsdale Fire Company; and Jerry Maloney.

Board Chairman Waybright led everyone with the Pledge to the Flag.

Public Comment:

Mr. Bill Ridinger, representing Kingsdale Fire Company, was present to find out what Mount Joy Township would do with the box card realignments since Germany Township Supervisors recently voted to eliminate Kingsdale Fire Company from servicing all of Germany Township, effective August 5, 2008. He stated that he was not sure if Kingsdale Fire Company would appeal the action. He understands why Germany Township took the action they did but still hates to see the Company shut down. He has been a member for 42 years and would like to see the Company continue if they could get some help in any way.

Kingsdale Fire Company:

Mr. Dayhoff noted that as a result of Germany Township's recent action to eliminate Kingsdale Fire Company from servicing any of Germany Township's area, the Public Safety Committee recently met with fire chiefs from Barlow and Alpha (Littlestown) fire companies to look at Mount Joy Township's options. Mount Joy Township has one box alarm for Kingsdale, Box 21-1, which covers the area on the south side of Fish & Game Road south to the Maryland State Line, and from Hoffman Home Road on the west to the Township border on the east.

Looking at mileage and roads with the most direct route, it was only one mile difference from each of the fire stations to the center of the box alarm area. They also looked at stats which showed the areas having minimal amount of calls. It was determined that Barlow (Company 22) would take both sides of the Maryland Line Road into their existing area, and the remaining area would be assigned to Alpha (Company 20). County Control would realign the boxes into each of the fire company's areas appropriately.

Mr. Waybright stated that this is the last thing Mount Joy Township wanted to do. They have been very supportive of the Kingsdale Fire Company, but circumstances prevent the Township from continuing to use them. The Supervisors appreciate what Kingsdale Fire Company has done in the past and they hope the members funnel their energies elsewhere in the community. It is very unfortunate but Mount Joy Township can not justify paying all of Kingsdale Fire Company's workers' compensation, nor rely on them with the limited amount of volunteers.

Mr. Scott moved, seconded by Mr. Dayhoff, to accept the Safety Committee and fire chiefs' recommendations to change the realignment of box cards for Barlow to take both sides of Maryland Line Road into their existing area, and the remaining area into Alpha's area. Discussion: Mr. Waybright noted that the County would reassign the box numbers with Barlow and Alpha fire chiefs and then the chiefs

would bring the box cards to the Township for approval. With no further discussion, the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Dayhoff moved, with regret, and seconded by Mr. Chantelau, to remove Company 21 from Box 21-1 due area and have the next due company be the first due responder. Mr. Dayhoff moved to amend the motion, seconded by Mr. Chantelau, to remove Company 21 from all boxes in Mount Joy Township, with regret, and have the next due company be the first due responder, effective immediately. Motion carried unanimous on the amendment.

Discussion: Mr. Dayhoff expressed his displeasure for having to do this. He added that Kingsdale has good people that have worked very hard to keep the Company going. The Supervisors have worked as much as they could with Germany Township to help make this work, but Germany decided otherwise. Mr. Chantelau commented that he hopes the trained and skilled members in the Kingsdale Fire Company go to other companies so the community does not lose those skilled people.

With no further discussion, the motion carried with a reluctant unanimous vote.

Adjournment:

Mr. Waybright adjourned the Special Meeting at 7:50 p.m. this date.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda J. Constable
Secretary