

Chief Joseph Speranza
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Clerk Christopher Mogan
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Borough of Hawthorne Board of Fire Commissioners

445 Lafayette Avenue, Hawthorne, NJ 07506
www.hawthornefire.org

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting called to Order on April 3rd, 2018 at 7:30pm by Chief Joseph Speranza.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Joseph Speranza, *Borough Fire Chief*
John Arturi, *CO. 1 Assistant Chief*
Anthony DiVincent, *CO. 2 Assistant Chief*
Joseph Longo, *CO. 3 Assistant Chief*
Peter VanDerrVelde, *CO. 4 Assistant Chief*
David Hughes, *CO. 5 Assistant Chief*
Amber Hechinger, *Fire Dept. Clerk*
Christopher Mogen, *Fire Dept. Clerk*

MEMBERS ABSENT: All members present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA: *led by Chief Speranza*

MINUTES: Previous month's minutes have been dispersed. None present who are opposed.

DEPARTMENT BILL LIST OF EXPENSES; provided by Christopher Mogen, presented by Amber Hechinger:

• Hawthorne Fire Department Company #1 (Rent—Blanket PO):	\$6,800.00
• Hawthorne Fire Department Company #2 (Rent—Blanket PO):	\$6,800.00
• Hawthorne Fire Department Company #3 (Rent—Blanket PO):	\$6,800.00
• Hawthorne Fire Department Company #4 (Rent—Blanket PO):	\$6,800.00
• Hawthorne Fire Department Company #5 (Rent—Blanket PO):	\$6,800.00
• Tanis Hardware (Supplies)	\$20.98
• NJ Fire Equipment (Husquvanrana Saw w/ Blades):	\$1,070.00
• AAA Emergency Supply Co. Inc. (Gas Detector Repair—T2):	\$590.00
• Metropolitan Compounds, Inc. (Hose & Gear Clearer—10 Gallons):	\$727.40
• FireFighter One, LLC (Gloves—Various Sizes):	\$702.00
• FireFighter One, LLC (Standard Helments):	\$858.00
• AAA Emergency Supply (Shields—T2):	\$195.00
• Campbell Supply (Engine 4 Repairs):	\$4,500.00
• Fair Lawn DPW (Blanket PO)	\$5,000.00
• Luscher's Auto (Old 5-0 Ford Expedition Repairs):	\$777.63
• Firefighter One, LLC (Engine 4 Emergency Repair):	\$206.00
• Hawthorne Chevy (5-7 Maintenance):	\$500.00
• A-Van Electrical Supply, Inc. (Rescue—Blub Replacement):	\$11.67
• P&A Auto Truck Parts (Various Batteries & Supplies):	\$324.94
• Hawthorne Fire Department Company #1 (Standby—Food & Refreshments [Jan 4 th & Feb 17 th Snow Storms]):	\$82.01

CORE STATEMENT
Volunteers providing a professional service in
Fire Protection, Rescue Services and Fire Prevention
To the citizens of Hawthorne.

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- Hawthorne Fire Department Company #4
(Standby—Food & Refreshments [Feb 17th Snow Storm]): \$44.17
- Hawthorne Fire Department Company #3
(Standby—Food & Refreshments [March 7th Snow Storm]): \$121.19
- Hawthorne Fire Department Company #2
(Standby—Food & Refreshments [March 21st Snow Storm]): \$105.06
- Hawthorne Fire Department Company #4
(Standby—Food & Refreshments [March 21st Snow Storm]): \$92.70

Total: \$43,128.75

COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD; received and presented by Clerk Amber Hechinger

- Request to join Company #3; submitted by Nicholas R. Rosendale
- Request to join Company #1; submitted by Nicholas Forsythe
- Request to join Company #3; submitted by Davius Bunch
- Company transfer request; submitted by Chief Joseph Speranza
- Letter of Complaint; submitted by 2nd Lieutenant Anthony Manzo III of CO#5

FIRE COMPANY REPORTS FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER:

Engine CO. #1; by Assistant Chief John Arturi:

- 30 8-8 alarms; 7 1-1 alarms (3 mutual aid to Wyckoff); 0 RA alarms; 1 drills for a total of 38 alarms. Engine 1 held 3 additional training.
- Letter of request to join CO #1 from Nick Forsythe handed to the Clerk (Received by Amber Hechinger), also requesting an application for him.
- Minor repairs have been taken care of by Fire & Safety in the form of: Passenger-side mirror cover replacement; Rear perimeter light replacement; Crew cab headliner fixed.
- Engine 1 received a Little Giant ladder which is now secured on the top of the hose bed.
- Equipment Requests: Three (3) antennas (for Kenwood radios [dry rotting]); Mask cleaner; Two (2) Pagers (for new members to be sworn in next Fire Board); Mask straps; One (1) Medium mask.
- Firefighter Kennedy had a procedure done and is doing well.
- Percentages for Engine 1 handed to Chief Speranza on Monday, April 2nd, 2018.
- Assistant Chief Arturi congratulates members on a job well done at the Cathy Ave fire a few nights prior.

With above mentioned exceptions, all members and equipment are in good working order.



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Tower CO. #2; by Assistant Chief Anthony DiVincent:

- 26 box alarms; 1 still alarm; 2 mutual aids; 3 drills; 0 additional trainings; 1 snow stand-by for a total of 33 alarms.
- The gas meter is back in service as of March 29th, 2018 (Ref: March 2018 minutes) with new lol sensor, filter, and calibration.
- Sledge handle damaged at the Sotnick Drill has been replaced
-
- Company #2 is waiting on three (3) Snow Standby reimbursements. Clerk Christopher Mogen will be looking into the delay on the reimbursements.

With above mentioned exceptions, all members and equipment are in good working order.

Engine CO. #3; by Assistant Chief Joseph Longo:

- 27 box alarms; 2 still alarms; 1 mutual aid; 2 drills for a total of 31 alarms. Engine 3 held 1 additional training.
- Engine 3 is scheduled to go to Fairlawn DPW for general maintenance within the next two (2) weeks. Also a report of an issue with the brain module giving false information to the transmission shift pad which switches to neutral when the truck is in drive.
- CO #3 is still waiting to hear about their 32' Hydraulic Hose Line that was ordered.
- Requesting three (3) applications.

With above mentioned exceptions, all members and equipment are in good working order.

Engine CO. #4; by Assistant Chief Peter VanDerrVelde:

- 25 box alarms; 3 still alarms; 0 radio alarms; 2 drills for a total of 31 calls. 3 mutual aids to Glen Rock have not been included in this total. Engine 4 held 0 additional trainings.
- Engine 4 will remain out for repairs for approximately two (2) more weeks. They again thank Glen Rock for their generosity of lending CO#4 their Engine for the time being.
- Equipment Request: One (1) Small Mask
- One (1) Set of Gear will be sent out to be cleaned from the dry chemical at Saturday's fire.
- Engine #4 is having their CPR Recertification on April 16th, 2018.

With above mentioned exceptions, all members and equipment are in good working order.

Rescue CO. #5; by Assistant Chief David Hughes:

- 26 box alarms; 4 still alarms; 2 MVA (1 Extrication); 2 drills for a total of 34 alarms. Rescue 5 held 0 additional trainings.
- Airbags are on order from Continental Fire & Safety; \$6474.31
- Officer Secondary computer screen has been repaired and mount has been put in by Fairlawn DPW.
- Issue of missing equipment—VHF Radio remains missing. Mic was taken off of AC Hughes' jacket. Additional pieces of equipment have gone missing. AC Hughes is looking to see if putting cameras up in CO #5 is an option.
- Cab mobile radios need frequency identification (VHF and Low Band)



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- Siren is still continuously blowing fuses.
- Boat is in good working order.
- **PEOSH training make-ups have been rescheduled for April 30th, 2018.**
- Robert Barclay remains on previously requested three (3) month personal leave (Ref: February Fire Board Minutes)

With above mentioned exceptions, all members and equipment are in good working order.

FIRE PREVENTION REPORT; reported by Fire Chief Joseph Speranza

- Owner of 55 Westervelt is continuing to try to purchase more buildings in order to build more apartments.
- Macaluso's garage is still offline. The sprinklers are not up and working but should be soon. Once Once they have completed their project, Department will look to get in to take a look around the new areas.

CHIEF'S REPORT AND CURRENT EVENTS SUMMARY; by Fire Chief Joseph Speranza

- Omnibus Appropriations Bill: "On March 22nd, the U.S. House and Senate passed H.R. 1625, the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2018, funding the federal government through the end of September. The bill provides full-year funding for all federal agencies, including programs that directly assist local fire, EMS, and rescue operations."—Copies of this information will be provided to Assistant Chief's to look over.
- **April 21st, 2018, SCBA Harness Training Class in Belmar, NJ:** Free 8-hour course for SCOTT Safety Rep; Limit of two (2) members from one Department; Registration deadline is April 18th, 2018.
- Chief Speranza thanks all who were involved in the quick knock-down at the Cathy Ave garage fire as well as those who assisted the Ladies Auxiliary with their Fish and Chips Dinner.
- Two (2) "no cost share" grants for Fire Services Drones with use and flight training have been submitted on behalf of the Department. The first is from WS Darley for \$16,000 and the second is from Dart Drones Inc. for \$14,000.
- Will also be applying for the "Lt. Joseph P. DiBernardo Memorial Foundation" Grant which provides for Bail-Out Kits and Life Safety Rope. Chief Speranza will follow up and pursue through with this opportunity with Training Coordinator Assistant Chief Longo. Expected request would be \$32,000 for sixty (60) Bail-Out Kits.
- Still awaiting the date for Braen Ave Drill but will communicate the date/time as soon as it is set. Will most likely be conducted on a Sunday evening with very little notice.
- Engine 4 is expected to be another two (2) two weeks until repairs are completed. Until then, the Department and Company 4 will continue to utilize Glen Rock's engine with much appreciation.
- We are currently working with a software vendor that is building a Department program which marries multiple sources of our service. The program will improve our reporting, reduce time consumption for Officers, provide NIFIRS reporting, LOSAP programming, clothing allowance programming as well as gear/equipment and member information. Hopefully a demo will be available shortly.
- Chief Speranza disappointedly reports that he has been informed of missing plastic tubs from Unit 59 of the Ladies Auxiliary which assists us for rehab. He asks Rescue members to check around the building before we move ahead to replace them.
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- Chief Speranza extends thanks to Assistant Chief David Hughes for locating a Certified Fire Instructor's Class to assist the Department in progressing towards certified instructors and providing Firefighter I for our Department. The Chief's will be processing selection criteria for our members due to its limit of twelve (12) attendees. The goal would be to host our own Firefighter I instruction/certification, saving our Borough Funding for Fire School and improving the overall training and education of our members.
- **Standby SOG/Policy:** In 2005, a \$50.00 standby meal-period SOG was written which has, unfortunately, become obsolete. With the SOG/policy being 13-years old, prices have risen and so has member participation during standbys. Chief Speranza suggests an adjustment to increase the SOG to the following:
 - Breakfast: \$50.00
 - Lunch: \$65.00
 - Dinner: \$75.00

The Board should review this policy annually as membership increases/decreases as well as the pricing of goods. Typical standby costs are incurred as ordered when an impending situation is expected and can vary from one meal-period to multiple depending on what is anticipated.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- **Communications Division:**
 - 32 alarms; held 4 meetings; 2 work detail for a total of 38 events.
 - Computers and recording equipment in the Radio Room and Fieldcomm are in good working order as of March 31st, 2018 with the exception of: right & left rear running, clearance and strobe lights.
 - The non-working lights continued to malfunction after coming back from Hawthorne Chevy. There is not specific date set for which this issue will be resolved.
- **Ladies Auxiliary:**
 - Nothing to report.
- **Training Center; by Assistant Chief Joseph Longo:**
 - Nothing to report.

OLD BUSINESS:

- I. Engine Company 1: AC Arturi, inquires as to what/who make up the Award's Committee. Chief Speranza informs him the Chief's make up this committee.
- II. Tower Company 2: No old business to report.
- III. Engine Company 3: No old business to report.
- IV. Engine Company 4: No old business to report.
- V. Rescue Company 5: No old business to report.

NEW BUSINESS:

- I. Engine Company 1: AC Arturi inquires about Chief Speranza's monthly meetings with Mayor Goldberg as to what business is discussed. He has not been to the last three meetings and feels uninformed. Chief Speranza informs him that he is accompanied by a different Assistant Chief each month and discusses mainly things that the Board is concerned with (ie: dispatching errors and funding for apparatus')
- II. Tower Company 2: No new business to report.
- III. Engine Company 3: No new business to report.

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- IV. Engine Company 4: No new business to report.
- V. Rescue Company 5: No new business to report.
- VI. Chief Speranza:
 - o A change of address needs to be approved by the Board from a Lieutenant from Company #1. It was read at last month's Fire Board as a temporary change of address but was not approved as per the Borough Ordinance, in which a "temporary" change of address in this situation does not exist. AC Hughes includes that, due to the circumstances surrounding this, he believes they should table this situation in order to review the background. Chief Speranza agrees that it would be a discussion at a Sunshine Meeting with the inclusion of a Rice Notice, which is agreed upon by the Board. Assistant Chief Hughes suggests this Lieutenant is entitled to due process. Chief Speranza agrees this is the incorrect forum for the discussion at this point and the matter is set aside.

GOOD AND WELFARE:

- Engine Company 1:
 - o AC Arturi notifies the Board that FF Kennedy is doing very well.
- Tower Company 2: Nothing to report.
- Engine Company 3: Nothing to report.
- Engine Company 4: Nothing to report.
- Rescue Company 5: Nothing to report.
- Chief Speranza:
 - o Asks if any members have failed Hazmat. AC Arturi makes him aware of one (1) in his Company, with whom Chief Speranza will be in contact with.
 - o He reports that 75% of students fail hazmat because the Academy does not give them the proper amount of time to plan in order, possibly, to forcibly bring down numbers. He urges the Board and the floor to attend meetings regarding the Academy and voice their opinions as the availability of the Academy is being stripped from their hands. It is a problem that cannot be ignored.

MEETING CLOSE TO THE BOARD AND OPENED TO THE FLOOR; by Chief Joseph Speranza

- No one wishes to be heard.

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting was closed to the floor and adjourned at 8:03pm by Chief Joseph Speranza.

Very Truly Yours,

Amber Hechinger
Department Clerk

Js/ Jt

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