



Borough of Hawthorne Board of Fire Commissioners

445 Lafayette Avenue, Hawthorne, NJ 07506

www.hawthornefire.org

CALL TO ORDER:

Meeting called to Order on May 7th, 2019 at 7:30pm by Chief Joseph Speranza.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Joseph Speranza, *Borough Fire Chief*
John Trippichio *CO. 1 Assistant Chief*
Ronald Walker, *CO. 2 Assistant Chief*
Dominick DeGroot, *CO. 3 Captain*
Peter Van Der Velde, *CO. 4 Assistant Chief*
David Hughes, *CO. 5 Assistant Chief*
Christopher Mogen, *Fire Dept. Clerk*

MEMBERS ABSENT: Joseph Longo, *CO. 3 Assistant Chief.*

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

MINUTES: Previous month's minutes have been dispersed.

DEPARTMENT BILL LIST OF EXPENSES; *provided and presented by Christopher Mogen*

Occupational Medical Associates (Blanket PO - New Member Testing (Respiratory Physicals, Bloodwork, Drug Screen))	\$ 1,100.00
Nassaua NDI Diagnostics (Blanket PO - OSHA Mandated Department Physicals, PSA Blood Testing)	\$13,900.00
Firefighter One (Failed Fill Station at HQ - Emergency Repair)	\$ 550.00
Firefighter One (Annual Flow Testing (52) Regulators)	\$ 1,768.00
Passaic County Community College (Instructors Course - Dominick Degroot)	\$ 40.00
RT Office Products (Office Supplies)	\$ 327.44
Firefighter One ((4) SCBA Pack – Repair)	\$ 1,600.00
All Hands Fire Equipment (Tower 2 - NRS Universal PFD)	\$ 274.95
Firefighter One (Blanket PO - SCBA - General Part Repairs & Maintenance)	\$ 1,000.00
AAA Emergency Supply (Scott Pack - Repair & Maintenance - Blanket PO)	\$ 1,000.00
Allied 100, LLC (HFD - (3) ZOLL's Replacement Electrode Pads, (6) Philips SMART Electrode Pads)	\$ 758.70

CORE STATEMENT

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DEPARTMENT BILL LIST OF EXPENSES cont;

AAA Emergency Supply ((2) NFPA Helmet (Yellow), (1) NFPA Helmet (Red))	\$ 831.00
WL Construction Supply LLC ((10) X-Treme Fire & Rescue Reciprocating Saw Blades)	\$ 129.90
Firefighter One ((3) Face piece w/ Kevlar Head Harness (Medium), (3) Face piece w/ Kevlar Head Harness (Large))	\$ 1,933.20
Godwin Tool & Hardware (Tower 2 - (1) Surge Hammer Drill/Impact Kit, Brushless 7-14" Cerc Saw)	\$ 569.98
Performance Advantage Co (Engine 1 - (Handle LOK, Jumbo LOK, 5" Storz LOK, Universal Hanger, Tool Hanger Kit)	\$ 614.30
Fire and Safety Services, LTD (Engine 1 - Engine light, Trans Service, Replace Flange Gasket)	\$ 330.00
State Line Fire & Safety Inc. (Rescue 5 – Emergency Repair - Hydraulic Leak)	\$ 500.00
Hawthorne Chevy (5-0 Maintenance - Oil Change)	\$ 60.00
Firefighter One (Apparatus Fleet - Annual Maintenance (Tower 2, Engine 3, Engine 4, Rescue 5, Unit 59)	\$ 7,800.00
Hawthorne Auto Lab (Unit 61 - Preventative Maintenance - Blanket PO)	\$ 550.00
Electronic Systems Solutions, Inc. (Rescue 5 Radio Repair)	\$ 231.00
Shortway's Barn (Blanket PO - Food & Refreshments (Fire Prevention School Visits))	\$ 400.00
Firefighter One (Engine 1 - Storz Adapter)	\$ 213.81
Goosetown (Engine 1 - Radio Kit)	\$959.08
Total:	\$ 37,441.36

*Notes discussed on Bills:

Tower 2 removed the Husqvarna K770 14" Power Cutter from WL Construction Supply and will continue researching.

COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD; *received and presented by Clerk Christopher Mogen*

- Mrs. Amber Hechinger submitted a letter of resignation from her position as Fire Department Clerk.
- Letter of Intent to join the Hawthorne Fire Department from Borough resident, Charles T. Barhorst Jr.



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- LT. John Arturi of the PCSO Hazmat Commander/HFD Ex. Assistant Chief of Company 1 - submitted (2) Letters
 - Congratulation Letter for the hazmat incident on April 11, 2019
 - Request for the PCSO Hazmat Team to use the HFD Training Center for day time training.
- Medical clearance letter from Ex Assistant Chief Anthony Divincent - Company 2, returning to duty.
- Medical clearance letter from FF William Marra - Company 2, returning to duty
- Leave of Absence Letter for 3 months from FF RJ Nardella - Company 4

***Notes discussed on Communications:**

- The Board of Fire Commissioners accepted Amber Hechinger resignation.
- The Board of Fire Commissioners accepted Charles T. Barhorst Jr. be given a HFD application
- Assistant Chief David Hughes raised a concern if the HFD Training Center requires a Safety Instructor/Officer during the PCSO Hazmat Team training. Chief Speranza will get clarification if one is needed.
- The Board of Fire Commissioners approved FF RJ Nardella - 3 month Leave of Absence from the HFD.

FIRE COMPANY REPORTS FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL:

Engine CO. #1; presented by Assistant Chief John Trippichio:

- For the month of April 2019, Engine 1 responded to; 24 Box Alarms, 2 Still Alarms, 0 Radio Alarms, 1 Drill for a total of 27 Alarms
- Engine 1 also held 4 additional trainings
- Engine 1 Equipment Request;
 - (1) 4 inch NST swivel with rocker lugs to 5 inch Storz hydrant adapter.
 - (1) Storz spanner wrench holder.
- Engine 1 is being scheduled for repairs to address the power steering gasket leak and for the transmission oil/filter change through Fire & Safety.
- Received a letter of intent, to join HFD from Borough resident; Charles T. Barhorst Jr.
- Tom Kennedy remains on Medical Leave of Absence.

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

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Tower CO. #2; presented by Assistant Chief Ronald Walker:

- For the month of April 2019, Company 2 responded to; 25 Box Alarms, 2 Still Alarms, 6 Mutual Aid, 4 Drills, 0 Training, 0 Radio Alarms, for a total of 33 Alarms
- Medical clearance letters from Ex Assistant Chief Anthony Divincent and FF William Marra, returning them to duty.
- Requesting the clerk to send a certified letter to FF Mark Lundin, requesting him for a meeting with the board. As to his intentions with the Fire Department.
 - FF Mark Lundin has not been available for alarms or training since December 2018. AC Walker has tried to contact him without any luck. AC Walker has asked for the FD Clerk to issue a letter and ask FF Lundin to attend a meeting with the Board of Commissioners.
 - Chief Speranza respond; The HFD will issue a letter for FF Mark Lundin to attend a meeting with 2 members from the Board of Fire Commissioners.
- Tower 2 apparatus did not start on a call to Paterson earlier this week. Apparatus batteries are 5 years old and could be replaced. Vendor FF1 will be scheduled.

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

Engine CO. #3; by Dominick DeGroot, CO. 3 Captain:

- For the month of April 2019, Engine Co. #3 responded to 27 Box Alarms, 2 Still Alarms, Held 2 Drills for a total of 31 Alarms. With 2 additional trainings. 1st Priority held an Engine Review Training Class on Monday for F.F's to be familiar with engine operations on the new KME Engine. 1st Priority is in the process of scheduling the Engine to go south to its facility to address correction that need to be made or modified on the apparatus, they will give a date and length of time of when this will occur. Holmatro Rescue Tools completed its 1 year maintenance inspection service - tool and compressor are in good working order.

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

Engine CO. #4; presented by Assistant Chief Peter Van Der Velde:

- For the month of April 2019, Engine 4 responded to, 24 Box Alarms, 7 Still Alarms, 0 Standbys, 1 Drill, for a total of 32 Alarms including 5 mutual aide to Glen Rock.
- Engine 4 would like to know when are the maintenance dates that will be provided by FF1. Engine 4 completed mask fit testing last night, and would like to thank Asst. Chief Walker for setting up the dates.
- RJ Nardelle is taking a 3 month leave of absence.
- Need one member to be fitted for gear now that FF1 class is being completed.

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- Also, is there any update on the gear already ordered?
 - Chief Speranza responded; the gear is backed up by several weeks (6-10 weeks).

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

- For the month of April 2019, Rescue 5 responded to; 27 Box Alarms, 1 Still Alarm, 2 Training /Drills for a total of 30 Alarms.
- Vehicles and Equipment;
 - Rescue
 - Firefighter 1 - Received call about completing work on generator (Out of Frequency). Will be scheduling repair in near future - NO DATE
 - State Line investigated power loss with Hurst tool - No specific findings causing issue (Received quote to upgrade on board hydraulic system and eliminate dump valves causing air bound conditions for \$13,000.00)
 - Holmatro Tool Demo - 4-22-19
 - Unit 58
 - New Light Bar - Installation complete - FF1
 - Hurst Pump and Tool Mounted - Light Rescue Operation
 - Boat
 - Good Working Order
 - Rescue Task Force
 - Next drill scheduled June 24 at 1930 Hours
 - New membership guidelines under development - New Members Welcome
 - Personal
 - Need to schedule gear fittings and gear replacement
 - SCBA Fit Testing Complete

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

FIRE PREVENTION REPORT; *reported by Fire Chief Joseph Speranza*

Sunoco property is moving forward with renovation plans. Could be an opportunity for training in the future for the department.

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

- I am happy to report the departments budget that was introduced was provided with minimal reduction and or change to our 2019 projections. Part of the budget approval was the purchase of Tower 2, a significant training line for each fire company to utilize optional academy's and seminars to better educate our department.
- Unfortunately, the bail out kit program was removed and will have to be reintroduced in 2020 or by grant application which we will pursue.
- Each Assistant Chief has been provided the statement from JIP and Safety Director Scully concerning the responder's coverage for responding to and from incidents.
- Thanks to Clerk Mogen we have provided two copies for each fire company to provide an overview of what to do after a fire for our residents. Do not hesitate to offer this document to residents suffering a fire loss as it has many items typically forgotten in a fire incident.
- We are in the beginning stages of presenting a draft ordinance for commercial lock boxes in the borough. I will be working with fire prevention and administration with an attempt to move forward on a possible ordinance for lockboxes.
- As of late it seemingly appears the fire service is being undercut by Gov Murphey, he has proposed to remove 33 million dollars from the relief funding for firefighters. This follows a stalled bill (Senate 3 2651) introduced originally in 1990 and then again in June of 2018 which allows first responders to claim a deduction of \$5,000.00 from NJ State taxes. There are of course requirements to obtain the deduction as stated in bill.
- The senate bill has been provided to each assistant chief, members and family should consider contacting Democratic Senators in NJ and ask it to be sponsored. Senator Bucco whom has sponsored this bill reported that the bill has been stalled due to a lack of Democratic sponsorship and will remain such until a bipartisan agreement is reached.

Dates to Remember

- May 21st - HFD Officers meeting at 7:30 pm HQ. The meeting will have two presentations. 1) Sign language for first responders. 2) Stigma Free for the FD. The last agenda of this meeting will go over our training vision for the department.
- May 27th - Memorial Day Services and Parade, times will be released.
- August 15th - Leadership Camp - FD leadership visit by the department will occur from noon to 2:30pm.
- August 22nd - Leadership Camp - Copter landing approx 9:30am

Finally, I wish Clerk Amber the best in her new job and thank her for the service to our department.



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COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Communications Division:

- The Communications Division responded to 19 alarms, held 4 meetings, and 3 work details, 3 Truck Checks with a total of 30 events. The computers and recording equipment in the Radio Room and Fieldcomm are in good working order as of APRIL 30, 2019.

Ladies Auxiliary:

- Report presented by Ladies Auxiliary member Mrs. Geier
- The Ladies Auxiliary would like to thank the department and members for supporting the Annual Fish Fry on Friday, April 19th at the Boys and Girls Club. It was a great success.
- The Ladies Auxiliary asked about the status of their truck.
 - Chief Speranza responded that it is in good working order.

Training Center:

- Chief Speranza reported that the work schedule by Downs Tree Service is progressing and there is hope that the October deadline will be made.

Exempt/Relief:

- None present to report.

OLD BUSINESS:

I. Engine Company 1:

A. Assistant Chief John Trippichio CO. 1- went over the PV Borough coverage that was provided by Jennifer Scully - Borough of Hawthorne, Dept. Insurance, Compliance, & Education

1. The Fund Provides Automobile Physical Damage Reimbursement Coverage to all Emergency Service Volunteers of Fund member, including police auxiliary, firefighters, members of the first aid or rescue squads, and CERT teams for collision and comprehensive damages to their personal vehicles, which arise out of an in the course of the volunteer's emergency service duties which have been authorized prior to any such occurrence by a senior officer.
2. The maximum reimbursement to the volunteer will be \$2,500; however, if the volunteer has Personal Automobile Physical Damage coverage, the JIF will pay 100% of the volunteer's collision or comprehensive deductible, but no more than \$2,500.00

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3. The coverage begins when: The emergency service volunteer receives an emergency call and continues on direct route to the scene of the emergency, however coverage will cease once the volunteer makes the first stop along the return route.
- II. Tower Company 2:
 - A. Can the following members be submitted to Fire Academy - FF Christopher Tamburro and FF Carley Tamburro
 1. Chief Speranza responded that the two firefighters will be submitted and hopefully be included in the 2019 Summer Class.
 - B. When will the new gear be delivered for FF Dube and FF Skae?
 1. Chief Speranza responded that gear usually takes 6-10 weeks. Contact the vendor for status.
- III. Engine Company 3:
 - A. No old business to report.
- IV. Engine Company 4:
 - A. No old business to report.
- V. Rescue Company 5:
 - A. No old business to report.

NEW BUSINESS:

- I. Engine Company 1:
 - A. No new business to report.
- II. Tower Company 2:
 - A. During Tower 2 recent training night on Monday, May 6th at the HFD Training Center, discovered that the exterior lights were not working correctly.
 1. Chief Speranza responded that he follow up with Assistant Chief Longo.
- III. Engine Company 3:
 - A. No new business to report.
- IV. Engine Company 4:
 - A. Requested that a FF requires to be fitted for gear.
 1. Chief Speranza responded that Co#4 should schedule with the vendor now due to the amount of time for the gear to be delivered.
- V. Rescue Company 5:
 - A. No new business to report.
- VI. Chief Speranza:
 - A. Would like to again thank the Borough for passing the 2019 FD Budget
 - B. Codes Program (Software) was excepted and will be a welcome improvement to the department.
 - C. FD did not receive the 60 bailout kits that were asked for in the 2019 Budget.
 - D. Budget reduction to encumber funds needed for Rescue 5 rescue tool issue (\$8,043.00)
 1. Picnic Reduction of \$2,000.00 (loss of the Summer EMS/FD Picnic at the Pool)

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2. Cardiac Artery Testing reduction of \$2,000.00 (Reintroduction in 2020 Budget)
3. Juniors Program reduction of \$500.00
4. Removal of Hydro Testing \$3,500.00 as it is not needed in 2019.
- E. FF Nicholas DeMarco was sworn in by Chief Speranza in front of family and fellow firefighters, he will be stationed at Company 5.

GOOD AND WELFARE:

- I. Engine Company 1:
 - A. Nothing to report.
- II. Tower Company 2:
 - A. Nothing to report.
- III. Engine Company 3:
 - A. Nothing to report.
- IV. Engine Company 4:
 - A. Nothing to report.
- V. Rescue Company 5:
 - A. Nothing to report.
- VI. Chief Speranza
 - A. Nothing to report.

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

FF Glenn Rees from Company 5

- FF Rees asked about the fence that was taken down along Goffle Rd. When will it be fixed?
 - Chief Speranza responded that he will follow up with the Borough Administrator.
- FF Rees asked when will the removal of the 55 gallon drum on the side of the building occur?
 - Chief Speranza responded that he will follow up with the Borough.

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

ADJOURNMENT:

Meeting was adjourned at 8:18 pm by Chief Joseph Speranza.

Very Truly Yours,

*Chief Joseph Speranza
973.423.5550 Office
973.423.5089 Fax*



*Clerk Christopher Mogen
973.423.2536 Office
973.423.5089 Fax*

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Christopher Mogen
Department Clerk

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