

Chief Joseph Speranza  
973.423.5550 Office  
973.423.5089 Fax



Clerk Christopher Mogen  
973.423.2536 Office  
973.423.5089 Fax

## Borough of Hawthorne Board of Fire Commissioners

445 Lafayette Avenue, Hawthorne, NJ 07506

[www.hawthornefire.org](http://www.hawthornefire.org)

### CALL TO ORDER:

Meeting called to Order on July 2nd, 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*  
Joseph Longo, *CO. 3 Assistant Chief*  
Peter Van Der Velde, *CO. 4 Assistant Chief*  
David Hughes, *CO. 5 Assistant Chief*  
Christopher Mogen, *Fire Dept. Clerk*

### MEMBERS ABSENT:

*None*

### 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*

CNP Fit Testing of NJ LLC (Dept PEOSH Required Respiratory Fit Testing)	\$ 1,625.00
Tanis Hardware (2nd Blanket PO - Various Supplies throughout 2019)	\$ 200.00
Strategic Safety Dynamics (Blue/Yellow Chevron Helmet Stickers)	\$ 156.10
Fire and Safety Services, LTD (Engine 1 - Apparatus Inverter)	\$ 2,300.00*
Firefighter One (Tower 2 - Emergency Battery Repair)	\$ 1,271.20
Penguin Management, Inc (eDispatch Service-July 1, 2019 through Dec 31, 2019)	\$ 888.00
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$ 6,440.30</b>

*\*Pending review of final quote/adjustment*



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### COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD;

*Presented by Clerk Christopher Mogen*

- Received a letter of intent from Gabriella Ospino to join Hawthorne Fire Department Company 5.
- Received a doctor's letter for FF Davius Bunch of Company 3. He will continue to be on Medical Leave until further notice.
- Received a resignation letter from FF Keith Lettich of Company 5.
- Received a doctor's letter for Fred Buchner of the Communications Department. He has been cleared to return to work with the Radio Room.
- Received a doctor's letter for FF Mark Lundin from Company 2, He will continue to be on Medical Leave until further notice.
- Received a doctor's letter for Capt. Travis Lodder of Company 2. He is able to return to work as of July 1, 2019.
- Received a letter from FF Brendan Marsch of Company 2, for a 3 month Leave of Absence due to attending school out of state.
  - Fire Board has approved this request.
- Received a letter from Hawthorne Resident, Keven Tancos, to join the Hawthorne Fire Department Juniors Program.
- Received a letter from Hawthorne Resident, Tyler Dykhouse, to join the Hawthorne Fire Department Juniors Program.

### FIRE COMPANY REPORTS FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL:

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

- For the month of June 2019, Engine 1 responded to; 13 Box Alarms, 0 Still Alarms, 0 Radio Alarms, 1 Drill(s) for a total of 14 Alarms
- Engine 1 also held 3 Additional Trainings
- Engine 1 Equipment Request:
  - Received the 4 ½ inch NST swivel with rocker lugs to 5 inch Storz hydrant adapter.
  - Received 1 Storz spanner wrench holder and 100 feet of 5 inch hose.

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- Received a letter of intent, to join HFD Junior Program from Borough resident; Tyler Dykhouse.
- Completed application was handed in for Charles J. Barhorst Jr. (AKA CJ).
- Have not received an extension of Medical Leave from FF Tom Kennedy which has now expired.

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

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

- For the month of June 2019, Company 2 responded to; 15 Box Alarms, 0 Still Alarms, 1 Mutual Aid, 2 Drills, 1 Training, 0 Radio Alarms, for a total of 16 Alarms
- Letter was presented from FF Brendan Marsch requesting three months leave while attending school out of state, starting June 7th, 2019.
- Medical Leave note for FF Mark Lundin for 3 months leave starting July 1st, 2019 to September 30th.
- Medical note from Capt. Travis Lodder for Workers Comp leave from June 17th, 2019 - July 1, 2017.
- Medical Leave request for Ex. Asst. Chief Anthony Divincent due to emergency surgery. He will be out from June 28th, 2019 until further notice. Note from doctor to be obtained at next Dr. appointment.
- Tower 2 had our preventative maintenance done on the apparatus. Awaiting a few repairs to be done and for the mechanic to grease cables.
- Flow testing was completed on our SCBA equipment and all is well.
- Tower 2 finished the mandatory training videos provided and returned to Clerk Mogen.

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

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

- For the month of June 2019, Engine Co. #3 responded to 14 Box Alarms, 0 Still Alarms, held 1 Drill for a total of 15 Alarms with 1 additional training.
- Engine 3 has been placed back in service.
- SCBA packs, bottles and regulators inspection was completed.
  - 4 packs will need additional service in the near future.
- **On behalf of Engine Co#3 and myself.** I would like to thank the members of the Hawthorne Fire Department for their amazing show of support and love to our most recent departed member, Ex Assistant Chief George DeGroot Jr. To Chief Speranza, Ex Boro Chief Tamburro and all the firefighters who unselfishly gave up their time to show respect as Honor Guards. I can't thank you enough. To Engine Co#1, Tower 2, Engine Co#4, Rescue 5, Ladies Auxiliary, Hawthorne Police Department and Passaic

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County Sheriff Dept. your presence at the passing and for Ex. Assistant Chief Degroot's Last Final Call, shows and demonstrates what this Department stands for and is about. I myself and the DeGroot family could not be more honored and proud to be part of such an organization.

**With the 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 June 2019, Engine 4 responded to, 15 Box Alarms, 4 Still Alarms, 0 Standbys, 2 Drill, for a total of 21 Alarms including 2 mutual aide to Glen Rock.
- Engine 4 had our preventative maintenance done on the apparatus.
- Flow testing was completed on our SCBA equipment.
- Engine 4 is requesting permission to attend the Saddle Brook FD wet down on July 26th, 2019.
  - The request was approved by the Fire Board (July 2, 2019)

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

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

- For the month of May 2019, Rescue 5 responded to; 14 Box Alarms, 0 Still Alarm, 1 Special Event, 2 Training /Drills for a total of 17 Alarms.
- Vehicles and Equipment;
  - Rescue
    - Firefighter 1 - Maintenance completed - generator (Out of frequency) - Repair was to be made on PM day- Status unknown.
      - Chief Speranza responded that the repair was made by the vendor.
  - Unit 58
    - Maintenance was completed by Hawthorne Chevy - repair issues outstanding - part on order.
    - Request Portable Radio and VHF mobile radio for cab
  - Boat
    - Good Working Order
  - Rescue Task Force
    - Next drill scheduled July 22 at 1830 Hours
    - Member Certification - Process to begin (Rescue Skill Sheet)

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- Request from RTF Companies - "A" members
- All Companies interested members list
- Personal
  - Need to schedule gear fittings and gear replacement

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

### **FIRE PREVENTION REPORT;**

*reported by Fire Chief Joseph Speranza*

- 90 Units are planned at the old Boat House on Lynack Avenue. More information to come.
- Sunoco expansion on Wagaraw Rd and Lincoln Ave. Removing two homes and two garages, this will possibly give the FD opportunity to train at this location. More information to come.

### **CHIEF'S REPORT AND CURRENT EVENTS SUMMARY;**

*by Fire Chief Joseph Speranza*

- It's quite easy to express my pride as a member of our department for what was presented in the passing of Ex. Assistant Chief George DeGroot for it was a true provision of what a firefighter's tradition is based on. With such, I offer my heartfelt thanks to our members for providing an outstanding display of compassion, honor and respect to Ex Asst Chief DeGroot and his family, each of our companies should be proud of their commitment.
- The training program for Bergenfield Fire Academy begins the end of this month and will continue through November, companies will be attending at least twice, additional dates are available if so requested. The process in Bergenfield is to have fun learning in a unique environment with your company and officers. Be forewarned and prepared members will be operating in live burning conditions so they can better prepare for incidents we could be called at any time.
- Company officers need to ensure members are prepared with water supplies the department will make available for the evolution. Bergenfield Fire Training Center will be providing two (2) safety officers/instructors to assist with safety, along with training officers from our department. This will be an opportunity for learning and building your team.
- Department maintenance has been completed on all units with the exception being Unit 57, which will be scheduled to Hawthorne Chevy for maintenance. Repairs from the maintenance will be scheduled as

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available dates for repairs are made. (I will be conferring with company officers to schedule and review the needs).

- SCBA flow testing has been completed in accordance with OSHA regulations, with minor to moderate repairs being already cared for on several air packs. Some additional repairs are being scheduled for a few packs that require additional upgrade parts.
- The CODES fire software program is underway, and training has begun, we believe it will still be several weeks to iron things out and institute its full potential. I would like to thank Clerk Mogen for his dedication to this cause as he has spent significant time in this process.
- HFD Applications are online for Companies to download.
- **Dates of importance;**
  - July 4th - Glen Rock FD 4th of July picnic, headcounts must be provided tonight.
  - July 11th - The state inspection will be conducted at our training center (1pm expected).
  - July 13th - Need a fire company for a grand opening event at the Exxon Station on Goffle and Rea from 10am to noon. The owner is committing a donation for \$500.00 to our Training Center fund. Need at least one company for the two hour period.
  - July 16th - Chief's meeting at 6:45pm, General Officers Training meeting at 7:30pm
  - August 12th - Leadership Camp - Helicopter Landing at LMS
  - August 15th - Leadership Camp - HFD will be present to work with the students

### COMMITTEE REPORTS:

#### · **Communications Division:**

- The Communications Division responded to 9 alarms, held 4 meetings and 4 Truck Checks with a total of 17 events. The computers and recording equipment in the Radio Room and Fieldcomm are in good order as of June 30th, 2019.

#### · **Ladies Auxiliary:**

- Truck repairs are in process.
- Membership is well.

#### · **Training Center:**

- Training Center is off limits due to construction until further notice.
- Construction is underway on the roof operations
- Second floor window is being repaired.

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- Attic is built and complete.
- Burn building is in the process of construction, location is being dug out.
- New vehicle is being delivered in the next few weeks.

### **Exempt/Relief:**

- No Report Provided

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

- Engine Company 1:
  - No old business to report.
- Tower Company 2:
  - Status of gear that was order several months ago
    1. Clerk Mogen - Based on the communication from the vendor, gear will be delivered by the end of the week (7/5/2019)
  - 2 juniors require gear
    1. AC Hughes responded that there is used gear at HQ.
- Engine Company 3:
  - No old business to report.
- Engine Company 4:
  - No old business to report.
- Rescue Company 5:
  - No old business to report.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- Engine Company 1:
  - No new business to report.
- Tower Company 2:
  - No new business to report.
- Engine Company 3:
  - Co#3 is exploring the possibility of doing a Key Chain fundraising event on Hawthorne Day.  
Co#3 is looking for HFD approval to proceed.

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- Chief Speranza asked to wait until July 16th, Officers can vote during their meeting.
- Engine Company 4:
  - No new business to report.
- Rescue Company 5:
  - No new business to report.
- Chief Speranza:
  - Requests that the FD membership do not speak about the past incidents on Lincoln Ave and Route 208. These events are in pending litigation. Please watch what you say.
  - Confined space update; FD from Wykoff/Fairlawn/Waldwick will provide service
    - HFD Task Force could provide future service
  - Charles J. Barhorst Jr. was sworn in by Chief Speranza. FF Barhorst will join Company 1.

### **GOOD AND WELFARE:**

- Engine Company 1:
  - Thanked the FD membership and companies for their support for Ex-Asst Chief DeGroot.
  - Thanked FF Charles J. Barhorst Jr. for joining the Hawthorne Fire Department and thank his family for their support.
- Tower Company 2:
  - Nothing to report.
- Engine Company 3:
  - Nothing to report.
- Engine Company 4:
  - Nothing to report.
- Rescue Company 5:
  - Please keep 2nd Lieutenant Brian Patmos's wife, Tina, in your prayers. She is doing better.
- Chief Speranza
  - Nothing to report.

### **MEETING CLOSED TO THE BOARD AND OPENED TO THE FLOOR;**

*by Chief Joseph Speranza*

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*Ladies Auxiliary President Darlene Di Lella, asked about adding a graphic/name to the side of their truck.*

- *Chief Speranza responded, please research possible vendors and costs so the Department can understand what is expected.*

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*by Chief Joseph Speranza*

### **ADJOURNMENT:**

*Meeting was adjourned at 8:07 pm by Chief Joseph Speranza.*

Very Truly Yours,

Christopher Mogen  
Fire Department Clerk

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