

Chief Joseph Speranza
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Clerk Christopher Mogen
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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 August 6th, 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 Clerk Mogen

Occupational Medical Associates (Blanket PO - New Member Medicals)	\$ 1,100.00
Passaic County Community College (Situational Awareness Class)	\$ 650.00
Bergenfield Fire Training Center (Live Fire Training)	\$ 4,000.00
Fremgen's Power Equipment (Blanket PO - Various Supplies throughout 2019)	\$ 200.00
Firefighter One (Blanket PO - SCBA Repairs)	\$ 1,000.00
Bill Fox (Various Badges)	\$ 600.00
Fire and Safety Services, LTD (Engine 1 - Emergency Repairs/Invertor)	\$ 1,000.00
Firefighter One (Repairs based on Annual Maintenance to T2, E4, R5, 59)	\$ 5,000.00
Electronic Systems Solution (Unit 58 Radio Upgrades)	\$ 1,290.36
State Line Fire & Safety Inc. (Emergency Rescue 5 - Hydraulic Real/Tool)	\$ 465.00
Yankee Propane Inc. (Training Center Propane)	\$ 38.39
Downes Tree Service (Training Center Repairs)	\$ 1,300.00

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Electronic Systems Solutions, Inc. (HFD - Kenwood Radio Repair)	\$ 182.00
Strategic Safety Dynamics, LLC (4)Sets of Full PPE, (4) Boots)	\$ 9,353.60
Electronic Systems Solution (5) HFD Pages, Chargers and Antenna)	\$ 2,800.95
Electronic Systems Solution (HFD Portable Radio Replacements and Chargers)	\$ 3,293.50
Witmer Public Safety Group (10) Super Pass Alarms)	\$ 5,603.90
PC Richards (6 Notebook Computers – 1/Per Company & Radio Room)	\$ 2,400.00
Technical Fire Services (Annual Fire Apparatus Pump Testing - Engine 1 & Engine 4)	\$ 350.00

Total: \$ 40,627.70

COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD;

Presented by Clerk Mogen

- FF Thomas Kennedy from Company 1 provided a medical letter from his physician to continue to be on medical leave. The Fire Board approved an additional 3 month leave.
- FF Craig Irvolino from Company 4 provided a new address letter, he now resides at 3 Midland Ave, Hawthorne, NJ

FIRE COMPANY REPORTS FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL:

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

- For the month of July 2019, Engine 1 responded to; 26 Box Alarms, 1 Still Alarms, 1 Radio Alarms, 1 Drill(s) for a total of 30 Alarms
- Engine 1 also held 4 Additional Trainings
- Engine 1 Equipment Request:
 - (1) Icom Pager clip
 - (1) Ex Asst. Chief hat badge
- Received (3) three month leave of absence from FF Tom Kennedy.

With the 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 July 2019, Company 2 responded to; 34 Box Alarms, 2 Still Alarms, 1 Mutual Aid, 1 Drill, 2 Training, 0 Radio Alarms, for a total of 37 Alarms
- Ex. Asst Chief Anthony DiVincent is back from medical leave
- Received Milwaukee power tools from Godwin Tool
- Waiting for date to draw sample of hydraulic fluid for testing and for the ladder to be greased properly
- Two (2) members received their PPE gear

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 July 2019, Engine Co. #3 responded to 35 Box Alarms, 2 Still Alarms, 1 Mutual Aid, held 1 Drill for a total of 39 Alarms with 2 additional training.
- Engine Co. #3 is waiting to hear back from 50 as of when our 4 Scott Packs will be serviced in house.
- All 5" hose has been put back on Engine

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 July 2019, Engine 4 responded to, 32 Box Alarms, 8 Still Alarms, 0 Standbys, 1 Drill, for a total of 41 Alarms including 8 mutual aide to Glen Rock.
- Engine 4 has an open repair items that need to be fixed by FFI, when time allows in house repairs, which are 90 percent.
- One set of PPE gear ordered

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 July 2019, Rescue 5 responded to; 34 Box Alarms, 2 Still Alarm, 0 Special Event, 3 Training /Drills for a total of 39 Alarms.



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- Vehicles and Equipment;
 - Rescue
 - Holmatro Hydraulic Equipment on order PO Issued - 6 Weeks Delivery
 - Request UHF Radio on HPD Frequency for Cab
 - Request batteries and 2 new hand lights
 - Unit 58
 - PM completed with Hawthorne Chevy - repair issues outstanding - parts on order
 - Request Portable Radio and VHF Mobile Radio for cab
 - Boat
 - Good Working Order
 - Request a list of members from Companies interested in training
 - Rescue Task Force
 - Next drill scheduled August 26 at 1900 Hours
 - Member Certification - Process to begin (Rescue Skill Sheet)
 - 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

- The Fire Department was invited to the Christain Health Care Center - A Celebration of Excellence gala on Wednesday, October 23, 2019.
- The Fire Department was invited to Mary Help of Christians Academy for the Saint Joseph Chapel Groundbreaking Ceremony on Saturday, September 14, 2019 at 11:30 am.
- The Borough will be holding an Ethics training presentation on Tuesday, September 24, 2019. Time to be determined.
- The Hawthorne Green Team has invited the Fire Department to participate in the 9th Annual Green Fair at the Farmer's Market on September 8, 2019, from 9:00am to 2:00pm
- As the Borough is exploring doing Criminal History Background checks. Chief Speranza provided an overview of how the Glen Rock Fire Department has dealt with the request.
- Senate, No 2651, State of New Jersey, 218th Legislature has presented the following;

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- Allows certain volunteer firefighters, rescue and first aid squad members to claim \$5,000 income tax deduction.
- New Jersey General Assembly has announced that a piece of legislation, A5263, which requires four-year public institutions of higher education to award college credits to firefighters for certain courses completed at county fire academies.
- Legislative Update; ACR-232, bill would permanently protect the New Jersey State Firemen's Association Relief Fund.

CHIEF'S REPORT AND CURRENT EVENTS SUMMARY;

by Fire Chief Joseph Speranza

- I would like to thank the members and officers for again providing the borough a professional, compassionate and dedicated service to our residents.
- I also would like to thank our members and auxiliary for their efforts as we continue to ramp up our training agenda. This month at our officers training workshop which is Tuesday the 20th, we will be introducing an officers training format which will enable the department to prioritize objectives with our officers
- The department is expecting to conduct on very short notice a department drill for Lincoln Avenue properties adjacent to Sunoco.
- We have processed a purchase request for replacement portables, additional pagers and a new mobile radio for Unit 58. Included is the replacement of the Hurst tool converting to the Holamatio tool with the portable pump assembly for Rescue 5.
- Unfortunately expenses this year have hit hard at the departments budget and we will be forced to sacrifice an item such as the mid-summer picnic. We are doing as much as possible to maintain the "stay behind picnic" during the convention as well as the ribbon cutting ceremony for our training center.
- We are requesting the Board to decide the fate on the Hawthorne Day "Live Burn" this year as this another item, we could save funds for other options.
- It is also the time of year we ask our company officers to provide a budget request for items considered for the 2020 budget year to avoid short falls as has been this year.
- We do need head counts of available members through the convention period and expect we will be co dispatching with surrounding departments.
- I am pleased to announce the increase to our clothing allowances which will be provided to both officers and members, the increase is expected at 10% for both allowances.
- I have requested use of the pool after closing on Monday August 19th for a water training event from 8:15pm to 9:30pm.

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- Leadership Camp Program is next week, helicopter landing Monday the 12th, time approx. 9:00 am. Need a commitment for an Engine and Rescue truck.
- Camp Program from HFD Thursday, August 15th at 11:45 am to 2:00 pm. Need a firm commitment for at least ten (10) members and a fire company by this Friday or we will have to withdraw from attending.
- OSHA Physical program is set for September 8th and 9th, kindly follow time slots which will be provided shortly to help the process.
- With our goal being heart health and members well-being, an option is being made available to members over the age of 50 to attend a new physical provider in Fair Lawn in place of the NDI physical on the 8th and 9th of September (Advanced Health Care). This provided will also be able to assist a of the members by utilizing their own insurance for a “Plaque Artery Scaling Test” which is a significant step up from the Cardiac Doppler Test. (This test is typically covered by healthcare insurance providers).
- With the recent near miss incidents on Goffle Rd near Engine 3 and Lincoln Ave near Engine 4, I ask our officers and members to be cautious and vigilant with traffic. If possible, utilize the apparatus as a block when backing into the fire house and for our members protection. We will also be seeking additional measures to ensure incident safety on active road surfaces.
- If an incident occurs do your best to obtain the license plate of a vehicle disobeying traffic control so as we can provide the into to our police department.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

· **Communications Division:**

- Ex Asst Chief Mike Nelson, commented that the department has spoken to multiple contractors to help is the radio signals. Awaiting on the Borough’s feedback and approvals.
- Police radio band is moving forward to a State frequency
- Chief Speranza will be meeting with the Mayor and Adminatator on September 20 to discuss options and issues.

· **Ladies Auxiliary:**

- No member from the Ladies Auxiliary was in attendance.

· **Training Center:**

- Training Center is off limits due to construction until further notice.
- State has approved the Training Center as a Class A Live Burn facility
- The Department has our Firefighter 1 Class Room Certification

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- For future visits from neighboring departments, the HFD needs the board to approve the set fees or donation for using the Training Center.

Exempt/Relief:

- The Fire Department Memorial Breakfast is scheduled for November 10, 2019.
- 25 % and 7 years is now required for the Firefighter Relief Fund, waiting on Exempt to follow.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Engine Company 1:
 - Requires Passaic County ID application
- Tower Company 2:
 - Requires Passaic County ID application
- 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:
 - No new business to report.
- Engine Company 4:
 - No new business to report.
- Rescue Company 5:
 - No new business to report.
- Chief Speranza:

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- Public Safety Grant Application - DART drones Flight School, was submitted.

GOOD AND WELFARE:

- Engine Company 1:
 - Nothing to report.
- 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
 - No Live Burn during this years Hawthorne Day - Approved by the Board
 - Helicopter - Engine 4 & Rescue will be attending
 - Leadership Camp - Waiting Company Participation
- Stay behind Picnic will be scheduled for September 14 & 15th
- Training Center Ceremony - Schedule for October, Department will research costs for an exterior Plaque
- The ongoing Bergenfield Live Fire Training
 - Asst. Chief Longo has been impressed after visiting the facility twice.

MEETING CLOSED TO THE BOARD AND OPENED TO THE FLOOR;

by Chief Joseph Speranza

- *Nothing*

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ADJOURNMENT:

Meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm by Chief Joseph Speranza.

Very Truly Yours,

Christopher Mogen
Fire Department Clerk

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