

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 September 1st at 7:40pm by Chief Joseph Speranza.

The meeting this evening was located at Fire HQ and closed to the general public. *The notice was provided to the Borough Clerk on Saturday, August 22th, 2020 and published to the Fire Department's website and social channel. The public was provided an email (Clerk@HawthorneFire.org) to forward questions to the Board of Fire Commissioners.*

Before the start of the Fire Board, Chief Speranza swore in new members, Andrew Chartoff and Matthew Shea.. The Board of Fire Commissioners would like to thank you both for joining the Hawthorne Fire Department.

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*
Devin Hughes, *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

CORE STATEMENT

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

MINUTES:

Previous month's minutes have been dispersed.

DEPARTMENT BILL LIST OF EXPENSES;

provided and presented by Clerk Mogen

Nassaua NDI Diagnostics (HFD Annual Physicals-Medical Exam, PSA Tests)	\$ 13,900.00
Witmer Public Safety Group (Truck 2 - Streamlight Battery Packs)	\$ 216.00
Fremgen's Power Equipment (HFD - STIHL PreMix & 4 Cycle Fuel)	\$ 2,374.90
WL Construction Supply (Rescue 5 - Wood Cutting Rescue Master Blade)	\$ 420.00
Air Purifiers, Inc. (Engine 4 - Exhaust System Repair)	\$ 155.00
Ad Choice LED Signs (LED Street Sign Replacement)	\$ 4,800.00
Electronic Systems Solutions (Radio System Investigative Check-Drawdown)	\$ 1,000.00
Hawthorne Company 2 (8/3 Paterson & 8/4 Storm Standby)	\$ 50.00
Hawthorne Company 1 (Standby - Food (Tastee Pizza) - August 4th Storm)	\$ 50.00
Hawthorne Company 5 (Standby - Food (Shortway's) - August 4th Storm)	\$ 50.00

Total: \$23,015.90

COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD;

Presented by Clerk Mogen

- Received a personal leave of absence letter from FF. Jason Crawford of Company 2, requesting a 3 month leave. The Fire Board approved the request.
- Received a personal leave of absence letter from FF. John Hurley of Company 4, until August 15th, 2020. The Fire Board approved the request.
- Received a personal leave of absence letter from FF. Robert Barclay of Company 5, requesting a 3 month leave. The Fire Board approved the request.
- Received a letter of intent to join Company 1 from Mr. Carter Mascis, of Hawthorne, NJ.
- Received a thank you letter from new member FF. Matthew Shea.

FIRE COMPANY REPORTS FOR THE MONTH:

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

- For the month of August 2020, Engine 1 responded to; 23 Box Alarms, 3 Still Alarms, 0 Radio Alarms, 1 Drill(s) for a total of 27 Alarms, Held 3 trainings
- SCBA remains out of service
- Carter Mascias has been around for (3) months and trained with Company 1 and has shown good interest. He has now submitted a letter of intent requesting to join Company 1 in which the Officers approved.
- Engine 1 replaced the hose that was just received.
- E1 submitted via Codes, equipment request for 2 (5) gallons of VP fire for our power tools.

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- Fire & Safety is being requested to look at the front suction drain as preventative maintenance is needed due to hard water that is stuck in the open position and discharges water and the rear upper lights burnt out.

Good & Welfare;

- Ex. Asst. Chief Doug Morgan came to E1. He has been going for chemo treatments and is in good positive spirits.

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 August 2020, Company 2 responded to; 22 Box Alarms, 12 Still Alarms, 3 Mutual Aid, 2 Drill, 3 Training, 0 Radio Alarms, for a total of 37 Alarms
- First I would like to welcome Andrew Chartoff to the Hawthorne Fire Department
- A letter for personal leave was submitted for firefighter Crawford, this was a 3 month leave.
- Training is completed thru Fire & Safety and Pierce on Truck 2
- Truck radios are scheduled to be installed Sept. 3rd
- Truck 2 will be leaving shortly after the 9/11 ceremony to get pictures taken with the lights

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

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

- For the month of August 2020, Engine Co. #3 responded to 21 Box Alarms, 5 Still Alarms, 0 Mutual Aid, 3 Chief Calls, held 1 Drill for a total of 30 Alarms.
- Co.#3 would like to thank the department for the showing of support to firefighter Jim Bakker and his family for the viewing of Lillian Bakker. Our love, thoughts and prayers are with them through this most difficult time.
- Engine 3 had preventive maintenance done by FF1.
- Co.#3 will have its raffle ticket drawing on Monday, 9-8-2020 at 7pm at Co.#3. Drawing is open to all who want to come. Tickets are still available to purchase.

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

Engine CO. #4; presented by Assistant Chief Devin Hughes:

- For the month of August 2020, Engine 4 responded to, 18 Box Alarms, 6 Still Alarms (2-Fair Lawn and 1-Clifton), 2 Standbys, 0 Radio Alarm, 2 Drills, for a total of 28 Alarm.
- Engine 4 is requesting replacement of department issued desktop computer due to electrical surge during the hurricane that damaged the hard drive.

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 August 2020, Rescue 5 responded to; 28 Box Alarms, 3 Still Alarm, 0 Stand-by, 2 Training /Drills, 0 Task Force Training and 1 Mutual Aid Drill for a total of 24 Alarms.
- Vehicles and Equipment;
 - Rescue
 - Need to schedule repair work with FF1 from PM punch list
 - Unit 58
 - Pending - Request Portable Radio for Cab with charger.
 - Needs to be scheduled for brakes
 - Boat
 - Good Working Order
 - Task Force
 - Next drill scheduled September 28 at 1930 hours
 - Member Certification reviewed at the last team meeting – Process to begin September (Rescue Skill Sheet) and Completion of Rescue School will be required to maintain status. (Need Certification of members from members on Task Force)
 - Personal
 - Nothing significant to report.

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

FIRE PREVENTION REPORT;

reported by Fire Chief Joseph Speranza

- Walk through of Royal Avenue apartment complex property on Monday, September 7th at 7pm
- Fire Officers bylaws were provided to Assistant Chiefs
- Chief election bylaws were provided to Assistant Chiefs
- SCBA committee is working on providing a budget for replacing the department's SCBA expiring inventory which will be a large expense to the borough.
- Would like to thank the companies for handling the surprise visit of the borough insurance company today.
- Once the new Police Chief is announced, a meeting will be scheduled to discuss ongoing issues with the borough's dispatchers.

CHIEF'S REPORT AND CURRENT EVENTS SUMMARY;

by Fire Chief Joseph Speranza

- Tonight's meeting unfortunately continues as a limited Zoom meeting much to my and many of our members' disappointment. But with the continued limitation remaining in place and after speaking with the Mayor this afternoon, we will proceed next month's meeting as a "Go to Meeting" live virtual meeting utilizing the boroughs account without any time limitations.
- Thank you to our members attending last night for Jim Bakker's wife Lillian, it's always appreciated.
- Would like to thank Capt. Lodder, Ex. Assistant Chief DiBella for attending with me the repast of Paterson Chief Adoyoun.

- Reminder OSHA/SCBA physicals September 20th & 21st, members must complete the information online. We are utilizing time slots for ten members at a time in thirty-minute increments, masks required and every ½ hour we will be sanitizing.
- As it stands now, we will be attending the 9/11 ceremony at the WTC memorial, further detail will follow asap.
- Next Monday at 7pm anyone available for a quick walk through at the Royal Avenue apartment complex property. (It is Labor Day and we will continue the walk through).
- Training schedules have been provided to company officers for Bergenfield as we kick up our fire training program for our members. We also will be processing some drills at the training center and for the task force training.
- Fire prevention school visits are cancelled for October, we will supply fire prevention materials for the children of our school system and provide the teachers some content concerning fire prevention.
- Reminder the budget year 2021 is closing in and we will have a difficult year coming, please review your requests before submitting for consideration.

Respectfully,

Chief J. Speranza

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Communications Division:

- For the month of August 2020, the Communications Division responded to 10 Alarms, 0 Special Details, 4 Work Details and 1 Division meetings were held via Zoom teleconferencing.
- Currently one member is on medical leave, one inactive per CDC guidelines and two responding normally.
- All equipment in the Radio Room and in '57 (cascade and communications sections) is in good working order with the following exception:
 - Noise/interference issues with Fire One remain unchanged, especially with hand-held radios. We are awaiting the results of the evaluation of the receivers in the system by the vendor and their recommendation for abatement, if possible. The higher power vehicle radios continue to operate well within the system's footprint.
- Submitted 31 August 2020 by G.E. Zagatta RC2

Cadets:

- Cadets program is on hold until further notice.

Ladies Auxiliary:

- New Date: On Friday, September 17th, the Ladies Auxiliary will be holding their annual Fish & Chips Dinner at the Hawthorne Boys & Girls Club
 - 6pm - 7pm
 - \$15 for Adults, \$8 for Children
- Our volunteers will be visiting various businesses with the hope that you would kindly consider donating a gift certificate or merchandise.

- Your donation would be very much appreciated, as the proceeds generated go directly towards providing support for the Hawthorne Fire Department & our Community. If you wish to attend this event please contact Sharon at 973-626-2593
- Thank you in advance for your kindness and support.

· **Training Center:**

- The Training Center is open. Contact Asst. Chief Longo for further information.
- Waiting on the 2 sledge hammers that were ordered
- Tank Removal is pending
- DC Electric is repairing lights
- Received a donation of flares
- Police were notified due to a concern of trespassers on the property.

· **Exempt/Relief:**

- *Ex-Borough Chief Victor Tamburro* - No updates

· **Passaic County Sheriff's Department:**

- *Ex-Assistant Chief John Arturi* - OEM - No Submission

· **Radio Communications**

- *Ex-Assistant Chief Mike Nelson* - No Submission

OLD BUSINESS:

- Engine Company 1:
 - *Assistant Chief Tripicchio* - Issue with storing the little giant ladder on the apparatus.
- Tower Company 2:
 - *Assistant Chief Walker* - Waiting on the new Truck 2 plates and registration from the borough.
- Engine Company 3:
 - *Assistant Chief Longo* - Making the Fire Board aware that there are several new lighted pedestrian signs throughout the borough. Noting that the Fire Department has been asking the borough (Mayor and Council) for the past year for similar flashing pedestrian signs near the fire company houses. To help provide some type of safety for our members and apparatuses exiting and entering the roadway. This is stemming from past close calls that members had with vehicles.
- 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:

- *Assistant Chief Walker* - Traveling out of town for 9/11 pictures after the Hawthorne 9/11 Memorial Ceremony
- Engine Company 3:
 - *Assistant Chief Longo* - Notifying the Fire Board that the roadways (lines) in front of each fire company will be painted in the near future. The vendor providing the painting will be using white paint not yellow due to costs.
- Engine Company 4:
 - *Assistant Chief Devin Hughes* - Requesting a radio vendor to help program the portable radios and apparatus radios.
- Rescue Company 5:
 - *Assistant Chief Devin Hughes* - Would like research on compatible Wreckers to assist with future calls involving large vehicles. Will work with Chief Speranza and the new Police Chief.
- Chief Speranza
 - Recent testing of the department radio system was done by ESS. No issues were found. The 5G system is not causing the problems that the department is having with radios throughout town.
 - It was noted that recent alarms near the Washington School was indicating that there is a failure with the radio receiver at that location. With this knowledge and the upcoming installation of a new receiver being added to the new Storage Facility in the area, this might help with department on-going radio issues.

GOOD AND WELFARE:

- Engine Company 1:
 - Keep Ex Asst. Chief Doug Morgan in your prayers.
- Tower Company 2:
 - FF. Carley Tamburro is still recovering
 - Welcome new member Andrew Chartoff
- Engine Company 3:
 - Please keep FF. Jim Bakker and his family in your prayers.
- Engine Company 4:
 - Please keep FF. Frank Giannantonio and his family in your prayers.
- Rescue Company 5:
 - Welcome new member Matthew Shea
- Chief Speranza
 - No old business to report.

MEETING CLOSED TO THE BOARD AND OPENED TO THE FLOOR;

by Chief Joseph Speranza

- *The September 1st, 2020 meeting was closed to the public. The notice was provided to the Borough Clerk and published to the Fire Department's website and social channel. The public was provided by the Fire Department Clerk's email (Clerk@HawthorneFire.org) to submit any questions. NO submissions were received.*

MEETING CLOSED TO THE FLOOR AND OPENED TO THE BOARD;

by Chief Joseph Speranza

ADJOURNMENT:

Meeting was adjourned at 8:40 pm by Chief Joseph Speranza.

Christopher Mogen
Fire Department Clerk

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