

Chief Joseph Speranza
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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 4th, 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 are 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:*

- **Occupational Medical Associates** (8 New Member Testing): \$1,360.00
- **Nassau NDI Diagnostics**
(OSHA-Mandated Department Physicals [98], PSA Blood Testing [20]): \$15,500.00
- **Yankee Propane Inc.**(Training Center Propane): \$38.39
- **AAA Emergency Supply Co.** (Face piece repair): \$304.49
- **AAA Emergency Supply Co.** (Gas Detector Repairs & Testing): \$240.00
- **FireFighter One, LLC** (Department Supplies-Decontamination wipes, Barricade Tape, Kevlar Head Harness, Extruded Interlocking Matrix 12-Foot): \$1,106.32
- **FireFighter One, LLC** (Face piece repair & Firefighter protective clothing): \$644.40
- **FireFighter One, LLC** (Stretcher bridle sling nylon, Patient tie-in system for one-piece litter [red/blue], Patient tie-in system pelvic harness [yellow/black]): \$596.18
- **FireFighter One, LLC** (Epic 1 First Addition Scott Safety Epics/Decontamination wipes/6" Helmet Shield): \$706.14
- **HFD** (ICE Sign-LED Parts): \$1,148.60
- **HFD** (HQ-Surveillance Camera & Cable): \$316.96
- **FireFighter One, LLC** (Engine 4 - Light Tower Repair): \$824.00
- **FireFighter One, LLC** (Rescue Truck - Reservoir Repair): \$1,372.76
- **Broadhurst Sheet Metal** (5-7 Generator Repairs): \$800.00
- **FireFighter One, LLC** (Generator Repairs – Air Leak): \$500.00
- **A-Van Electrical Supply, Inc** (Sureway 1022 12V 18AH Battery [2]): \$98.00
- **Holzberg Communications Inc.** (ICOM Software): \$380.00
- **Company #3** (Standby—Food [Hawthorne Diner] August 4th Storm): \$55.64



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- **HFD** (Annual FD & EMS Picnic—Food & Supplies): \$134.83

Total: \$26,126.71

Previous Total: \$26,264.65

Removed: Max Grafix (Blue/Yellow Chevrons), -\$137.94

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

- Notice of change of address submitted by FF Jason Crawford of CO#2.
 - Acknowledged by the Board.
- Request for three (3) month leave of absence from FF Tom Incorvaia of CO#5.
 - Request approved by the Board.
- Letter of resignation of FF Michael Naumov of CO#5.
 - Acknowledged by the Board.
- Letter of resignation of FF Jason Goodrich of CO#5.
 - Acknowledged by the Board.
- Letter of resignation of position of 2nd Lieutenant by Robert Luscombe of CO#1.
 - Pending further review by the Board.
- Request for three (3) month leave of absence from Lt. Robert Luscombe of CO#1.
 - Pending further review by the Board.
- Endorsement of Assistant Chief Peter Van Derr Velde for Borough Chief in the upcoming election by Company #4.

FIRE COMPANY REPORTS FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST:

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

- 30 8-8 alarms; 4 1-1 alarms (1 Mutual Aid to Wyckoff); 2 RA alarms; 2 drills for a total of 38 alarms. Engine 1 held 2 additional training.
- AC Arturi received two (2) letters from Lt. Robert Luscombe (Received by Clerk Amber Hechinger) requesting a leave of absence and resignation of position of 2nd lieutenant effective 8/14/18. Engine 1 accepted his requests with regret.
- The members of CO#1 have voted Ex-AC Kevin Foley to the position of 2nd Lt.
- **Repeated Equipment Request (Broken down by month requested):**
 - **March 2018:** Ratcheting hydrant wrench; Four (4) Stortz Spanners—received one (1); One (1) yellow pony length 6" diameter 11 feet
 - **April 2018:** Mask straps; Three (3) antennas for Kenwood Radios; Two (2) pagers—both have been received; One (1) med mask
 - **May 2018:** Three (3) water can straps
 - **July 2018:** Caution tape; two (2) cans of ethanol (Moto Mix); AA Batteries; 5" Stortz Cap; Mask straps; pager battery for Minitor 4.
 - **August 2018:** Mask cleaner
 - **September 2018:** One (1) Black Helmet; Three (3) Kenwood Radio Antennas; Two (2) Motorola (High Band) Antennas.
- AC Arturi extends his thanks to Chief Speranza and the members of the Department who showed up for Joe Peccini's wake.



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

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

- 31 box alarms; 7 still alarm; 1 mutual aid(s); 2 drills; 1 additional trainings; 0 snow stand-by for a total of 42 alarms.
- Received change of address letter from FF Jason Crawford. (Submitted to Clerk Amber Hechinger)
- CO#2 has completed their required harassment training.
- **Equipment Request:** High Band Motorola Antennas

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

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

- 32 box alarms; 6 still alarms; 0 mutual aid(s); 1 drill(s) for a total of 39 alarms. Engine 3 held 0 additional trainings.
- Engine 3 is having electrical issues. Air conditioning is also malfunctioning and will be scheduled for service with Fair Lawn DPW.
- CO#3 has received new sets of Turn Out Gear.
- CO#3 requested equipment needed for Stokes Baskets several months ago and inquires as to the status of the order. According to Chief Speranza, the order was delayed due to the company originally ordered from only accepting credit cards—We cannot use vendors that do not accept Purchase Orders from Volunteer Fire Departments.

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

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

- 32 box alarms; 8 still alarms; 0 radio alarms; 1 drills for a total of 41 calls. 8 mutual aids to Glen Rock have not been included in this total. Engine 4 held 0 additional trainings.
- Engine 4 repairs on light tower by FF1 are complete and light tower is in working order.
- AC Van Derr Velde inquires as to the status of previously requested equipment. According to Chief Speranza, Fire Clerk Chris Mogen has submitted the PO.

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

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

- 34 box alarms; 3 still alarms; 1 Special Event Standby; 2 drills/trainings for a total of 40 alarms.
- Fire Fighter 1 currently has Auxiliary Air Compressor in shop for rebuilding;
 - New air compressor will need to be purchased as FF1 cannot replace parts. Chief Speranza recommends speaking to Hawthorne Auto Body for repair/replacement before escalating issue of replacement to the town.
- On August 5th, 2018 at approx.. 2145 hours, Rescue was involved in a backing incident at Headquarters.
 - Approximate damage ranges \$8,000-\$10,000; Received one (1) estimate, in process of scheduling two (2) others due to Borough requirements.
- Front scene lights flashing each time they are operated; Upgrade by manufacturer failed.
- PO has been issued for lighting upgrade on Unit 5-8. On order.



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- PO has been issued for tire replacement.
- Boat is in good working order.
- Kyle Johnson remains on medical leave until released by physician in September.
- Fred Buschner remains on medical leave until December 18th, 2018.
- Received letter of resignation from Michael Naumov (Submitted to Clerk Amber Hechinger)
- Received letter of resignation from Jason Goodrich (Submitted to Clerk Amber Hechinger).

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

FIRE PREVENTION REPORT; reported by Fire Chief Joseph Speranza

- Report of a 6-story project at the end of Wagaraw Road. More information to come as updated.

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

- Thanks extended to the members who participated in the recent drill and for completing the survey. Additional thanks to those who attended the picnic. With over 60 people in attendance on one of this summer's nicest days, it was a tremendous success. Congratulations to Team Tower for their Corn Hole Championship.
- Chief Speranza thanks Clerks Amber Hechinger and Christopher Mogen, their spouses and his wife, Stacy Speranza, for helping with the preparation of this event. Thanks is also extended to those who helped clean up afterwards.
- On behalf of the attending children at the Leadership Camp Program, Capt. Knepper and himself, thanks is extended to Tower 2 and Rescue 5 for their participation in making it a special day for the kids. An additional thanks is extended to Engine 4 and Rescue 5 for covering the helicopter landing at the Leadership Camp as well.
- Regarding the drill survey: There is a drill report that has been provided to the Assistant Chief's which is confidential. It is expected that each AC would review this report with their Officers. It has been specifically provided as there are [anonymous] survey comments that should be reviewed as an effort to learn and understand. As management, it must be understood that such feedback is needed in order for our members to have an honest and open line of communication to the Department without fear of consequence, both good and bad.
- After reviewing the surveys, an understanding has come of a few deficiencies and successes of the drill that have prompted the creation of a Training Schedule that has been released and provided to our members and Officers. These trainings have been provided to improve our members' capabilities and assist Officers in discovering the Company needs.
 - AC Hughes is requesting a change of date for Rescue 5's training as he has received a lot of push back. AC DiVincent also requests a change of date.
 - Chief Speranza reminds the Company's that these trainings are meant as an answer to concerns voiced by our members. They are designed to empower each of you with knowledge, self-confidence and act as a tool for our Officer's with which to better help your members be successful. He will discuss dates once more with the Assistant Chiefs.
- Training tomorrow night (September 5th) has been moved to Van Dyk Park Place Community Room for the N Transit Seminar: Part One.



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- **Sunday, September 9th from 9:30-11:30AM and Monday, September 10th from 6:30-8:30pm are the Department OSHA-Mandated Physicals. If you have had a DOT Physical in 2018, please provide a copy of the paperwork to Chief so you do not have to participate.**
- SCBA Physicals will be held—the schedule has been provided via e-mail.
- Please submit your Wildwood headcounts ASAP.
- **Saturday, September 15th:** “Stay Behind Picnic” is expected to begin at 4:00pm. Head counts needed ASAP in order to ensure there is enough food and refreshments for all.
- Hawthorne Day assignments have been provided to Officers. Review the changes with your Assistant Chief as sheets have been provided to them in order to attempt to not make it such a long day for our members. If your Company is doing something (ie: Food sales, etc) that requires an all-day attendance, that is up to your Officers’ discretion.
- Assistant Chief Department Assignments have also been provided for Department Projects.
- School Visit Schedule has been coordinated and provided in reference to date changes. October 18th at Jefferson School; October 19th at Washington School and Boys & Girls Club. St. Anthony’s has not responded.
- School begins Thursday—Please respond accordingly.
- Chaplain Stanley has invited our members to participate in a Softball Tournament with local first responders. Each team donates \$100. Will be followed by a picnic.
- eDispatch may go down again due to issues with Verizon service. They have been unwilling to help us fix our outage issues so we are changing providers. Chief Speranza will keep up communication on when/if eDispatch services are interrupted. We appreciate your patience while we resolve these issues.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- **Communications Division:**
 - 23 alarms; held 3 meetings; 1 drill; 3 truck checks; 1 mutual aid to Haledon for a total of 31 events.
 - Computers and recording equipment in the Radio Room and Fieldcomm are in good working order as of July 31st, 2018—with exception of right & left rear running, clearance, and strobe lights.
- **Ladies Auxiliary:**
 - Chief Speranza welcomes Auxiliary to come to Hawthorne Day at 5:30 if they would like, though it is not required attendance.
- **Training Center; by Assistant Chief Joseph Longo:**
 - Assistant Chief Longo reports that **not one member** showed up for the clean-up day at the training center with the exception of Assistant Chief’s John Arturi and David Hughes. He extends his thanks to the two of them for their assistance and once again extends the invitation to our members to join in to help on the next date.
- **Exempt/Relief:**
 - In regards to new member Ryan Anderson being sworn in tonight: his NJFMA application is with the Borough Clerk, but he is able to be sworn in.
 - Ex-BC Vic Tamburro is still not in receipt of Nicholas Filingiri’s NJFMA application. It was handed back to Clerk Amber Hechinger as he did not fill in his birthplace.



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- *Reminder: These applications will not be accepted if they are incorrect/incomplete and will be handed back to the Assistant Chief of the prospective member. This may cause a delay in the swear-in date.*

OLD BUSINESS:

- I. Engine Company 1: AC Arturi intends to have another group come back for more cleaning at the Training Center. In regards to issues responding in Paterson—There has been lot of fighting going on between gangs within the town. He urges caution when responding and when going up/down the hill.
- 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: Regarding Fire School—AC Arturi inquires if the members having issues getting into Fire School would be able to attend Bergen Academy.
 - Clerk Chris Mogen will look into the finances to see if it is affordable. Chief Speranza acknowledges the need for sending members that are on for at least one (1) year and the expense of sending them to Bergen.
- II. Tower Company 2: No new business to report.
- III. Engine Company 3: AC Longo voices Fire School concerns as well.
 - Chief Speranza will meet with Eric if need be to see if there is more money to be had in order to get these members Fire 1 certified.
- IV. Engine Company 4: AC Van Derr Velde voices Fire School concerns as well.
 - Chief Speranza requests a solid headcount from all Assistant Chief's of the members that need to be sent for Fire 1. They should be on for at least one (1) year before they are sent. Once headcounts are received, he will meet with Eric to discuss the financial concern.
- V. Rescue Company 5: No new business to report.
- I. Chief Speranza: Swearing-in of Firefighter Ryan Anderson of CO#5.

GOOD AND WELFARE:

- Engine Company 1: AC Arturi extends thanks to all those who attended Joe Peccini's wake and funeral.
- 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: Nothing to report.

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

- Bob Foley of CO#1: Inquires how many be sent to Fire School and, in the event that Eric will not give the Department the funds, can we take the additional funds from Fund Drive? Another option presented is the possibility of splitting the cost with Glen Rock.

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- Chief Speranza replies that we will have a more concrete answer once a headcount is received from the Assistant Chief's and he has had a meeting with Eric discussing these concerns.

- Vic Tamburro of CO#2: Inquires as to memo about reporting damaged gear sent out in a Department newsletter. He questions which Ordinance it references in which damage of equipment must be reported to the Borough Chief.
 - Clerk Chris Mogen references Ordinance 25-28 on the Borough website. He will send out a follow-up email to clarify.

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

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting was adjourned at 8:11pm by Chief Joseph Speranza.

Very Truly Yours,

Amber Hechinger
Board Secretary

Js/ Jt