



Borough of Hawthorne
Board of Fire Commissioners

445 Lafayette Avenue, Hawthorne, NJ 07506
www.hawthornefire.org

Minutes of the meeting held on January 5, 2016

Borough Chief Joseph Speranza called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm, with a salute to the flag and a recital of the Pledge of Allegiance. In attendance at this meeting were, Engine Company 1, Asst. Chief John Arturi, Tower Company 2 Lt. Ronald Walker on behalf of Asst. Chief David Maher, Engine Company 3, Asst. Chief Joseph Longo, Engine Company 4, Asst. Chief Michael Nelson, and Rescue Company 5, Asst. Chief Brian Warner

MINUTES

A motion was made by, Asst. Chief Arturi, while a second was made by Asst. Chief Warner to accept the Minutes as read.

The Departments bills were read as follows:

BILLS:

Macaluso's	\$ 500.00
Pinnacle Wireless	\$ 300.00
Penguin Management, Inc.	\$ 828.00
Ace Security	\$ 55.00
Fire & Safety Services, LTD	\$ 83.55

Motions were made by, Asst. Chief Warner and a second from Capt. Walker, that the bills be approved and are to be submitted to the Borough Administrator for the final consideration of payment.

The Board were all in favor to submit the bills for final consideration.

Communications:

- Medical note was received from Gary J. Drillings, MD, PA Orthopedic Surgery and Sports Medicine on December 17, 2015 stating that Anthony DiVincent will be able to return to active duty on January 4, 2016.
- Letter of intent was received from Daryl Kallenberg for assignment to Company #2.
**HFD Member application packet was provided to Capt. Walker*
- Letter of intent was received from Wayne Stephens for assignment to Company #2.
**HFD Member application packet was provided to Capt. Walker*



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- Letter of request for a 'leave of absence' from Ken Silvestri from January 25, 2016 – February 29, 2016.

Company Reports:

Engine Company #1

Asst. Chief Arturi reported for the month of December 2015, Company #1 responded to: 15 box alarms, 1 still alarm(s), 0 radio alarm(s), 0 standby(s), and held one 0 drill(s), for a total of 16 alarms. In addition held 2 training(s).

Officers 2016: Asst. Chief Christopher DiBella, Capt. John Tripicchio, 1st Lt. John Carlo and 2nd Lt. Robert Luscombe

Engine Company #1 all equipment and members are in good working order.

Tower Company #2

On behalf of Asst. Chief Maher, Lt. Ronald Walker reported for the month of December 2015, Company 2 responded to: 16 box alarms, 2 still alarm(s), 0 Chief's call(s), 0 radio alarms, 0 standby(s), and held 1 drill(s) for a total of 19 alarms. In addition, held 1 training(s).

Happy New Year and welcome Chief DiBella and Chief Van Der Velde to the Board.

Letters of intent were received from Daryl Kallenberg and Wayne Stevens to join Hawthorne Fire Department and be assigned to Company #2. Both applicants live within the Borough and have continued to show interest over the course of the past few months.

Received a medical note from Anthony DiVincent returning him to full duty effective January 4, 2016.

The bucket power issue still needs to be corrected. Is there another vendor we can use for the electrical issues?

It seems the new compressor for the horns at Company #2 are not working properly. Scales Industrial Tech was notified and we are currently awaiting a service call. This should be a warranty issue.

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One set of turnout gear was sent out to IRS for repairs (B. Marsch's coat; D. DeRisi's pants)

2016 Officer's: Asst. Chief David Maher, Capt. Ronald Walker, 1st Lt. Mark Lundin and 2nd Lt. Travis Lodder

2016 Driver's: Ex-Asst. Chief John Marsch, William Redmon, Brian Vanderhook and Andrew Skae

2016 Alternates: William Seidel, Jason Crawford, Bill Marra and Dennis McCarvill

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

Speranza: 'Contact Fire Safety, we have a vendor account with them; currently work on Engine 1.

Engine Company #3

Asst. Chief Joseph Longo reported that for the month of December 2015, Company #3 responded to: 15 box alarms, 0 radio alarm(s), 2 still alarm(s), (3) mutual aid response(s), 0 standbys, and 1 drill(s) for a total of 21 alarms. In addition held 0 training(s).

Engine Company #3 is waiting to hear back from AAA Emergencies regarding the exchange of 5" vinyl hose to cloth hose.

Looking for an update on the 'tool list' that was handed in months ago; tools needed for Company #3.

New turnout gear has been distributed to all Company #3 members who were on the list for fittings. FF J. Kuiken is still waiting for new bunker pants from the vendor due to mistake made by vendor.

Company #3 would like to congratulate all the incoming Officers, we wish you much success and luck; and to the outgoing Officers, we thank you and bid you a job well done.

Congratulations to Lindsay Flowers as our new Fire Clerk, we wish you much success and luck as well. We also want to thank Capt. John Tripicchio for a job well done after 10 years of dedicated service as Fire Clerk.

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2016 Officers: Asst. Chief Joseph Longo, Capt. Andrew Massey, 1st Lt. Dominick DeGroot and 2nd Lt. Michael Van Lenten

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

Engine Company #4

Asst Chief Michael Nelson, reported for the month of December 2015, Company #4 responded to: 14 box alarms, 1 still alarm(s), 6 mutual aid response(s), 1 radio alarm(s), 1 drill(s), 0 standby(s), for a total of 23 alarms. In addition held 0 training(s).

Company #4's apparatus will be going to Fair Lawn DPW tomorrow to address the issues with the light tower and a few lighted switches. The rear intake valve is not operating properly and needs to be looked at as well as the hydraulic generator which unexpectedly shut down last week.

Inquiring on the status of the SCBA masks for FF C. Irvolino (size Large) and FF J. Padilla (size Medium). Also, requesting a 10' pony length of 5" hose with a 6" NS swivel and a 4 ½ NS swivel end to replace our current one which is leaking. Currently we have (5) SCBA regulator displays that are not working properly and need to be repaired.

I would like to say it has been an honor and a pleasure to have worked with the Board for the past four years. I wish the new Chief's and all Dept. Officers a safe, healthy and productive year.

2016 Officers: Asst. Chief Peter Van Der Velde, Capt. Dave Sylvester, 1st Lt. Devin Hughes and 2nd Lt. Gerry Flannigan

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

Speranza: 'Make a copy of the list of repairs and he will work on it'.

Nelson: Confirmed that Fair Lawn DPW has a copy of the list of problems. **Provided copy of list to Chief.*

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Rescue Company #5

Asst. Chief Warner reported for the month of December 2015 Company #5 responded to: 19 box alarm(s), 0 still alarm(s), 0 radio alarm(s), 0 standby(s), 1 drill(s) for a total of 20 alarms. In addition held 0 training(s).

Requesting (3) pairs of extrication gloves (1 XXL, 2 XL) and (2) LED light boxes.

2016 Officers: Asst. Chief B. Warner, Capt. B. Laube, 1st Lt. J. Pagnozzi and 2nd LT. A. Manzo

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

Borough Chief Speranza's Report:

I would like to wish all members and their families a safe, healthy, and happy New Year.

On behalf of Board I would like to thank our departing Officers and wish them well. It has been a pleasure working with you and we look forward to seeing you back shortly. As for our new Officers, welcome and we wish you the very best.

Thank you for the outstanding attendance for George Lodder's passing and funeral service, it was a job well done by the entire Department, especially Company #2 for coordinating everything and accommodating the family during this tough time.

Thank you Capt. John Tripicchio for your service to the Department, it has been a pleasure having you on board; I know you will continue to mentoring Lindsay as we move forward. Lindsay, welcome aboard.

Reminder to the Department that our installation dinner is next week. Again, this year it will be an open bar as long as it is approved by your companies. The dinner will continue to be buffet style as we have done in past. I'd like to remind everyone that it continues to be difficult to cover the expenses for this dinner with a limited budget to maintain. With this being said, it is crucial that head counts be accurate from all fire companies; you will be held accountable for your numbers. Each companies seating will be determined by the head count provided. Final numbers are due NO LATER than this Friday. Unfortunately, any members wishing to extend the invitation to their family members (other than spouse or significant other) will be personally responsible for the expense or/ the sponsoring fire company. The cost per guest is as follows:

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Under 21 ... \$ 57.00 per head
Over 21 ... \$ 57.00 per head + \$ 12.00 for open bar.

Again, all fire companies are prorated to \$12.00 per member (and guest) for open bar. Each company is responsible for their members.

Reminder, LOSAP is due no later than the 10th – 15th of January. These documents need to be turned over to the Borough ASAP.

NOTE:

- Unit #58: Is out of service until further notice. Currently having significant issues with the engine – will be going to Hawthorne Chevy for further evaluation/repair.
- Unit #57: Be careful when operating, it may not start. There are issues with the onboard generator pending repair (repair cost is estimated at \$7,000.00). Will be discussing these repairs with the administration.

The Fire County Coordinator for 2016 was announced today by the Passaic County Mutual Aid Association, we welcome Alan DeVechio into the position. Mutual aid zones have been revised; Hawthorne remains in a central zone, but it has been completely otherwise re-aligned. Our current cutoff is North Haledon (does not mean that we will not be called to response) – we are pushing more towards Totowa and West Paterson. Zones are now assembled as task forces. 3rd zone, South, will be all paid departments. The coordinator for the 3rd zone has yet to be determined. A revised plan will be distributed to the Asst. Chief's ASAP.

I would like to again wish everyone a safe, healthy, and happy New Year.

Dates to Remember:

- January 10th, 2016 – 10:00AM @ FHQ for the Officer's Reorganization Meeting
- January 15th, 2016 – 7:00PM @ Macaluso's for the Department Installation Dinner
- Fit Testing (Companies 2, 3, 4, and 5) Pending date (scheduling within the next 4 weeks)



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COMMITTEES:

Communication Division: Members of the Communications Division reported that for the month of December 2015, Communications Division responded to: 0 alarms, 16 radio alarm(s), 0 still alarm(s), 0 standbys, and 0 drill(s) for a total of 16 alarms. In addition held 0 training(s) and 4 meetings.

With the exception of the above, all members, computer and recording equipment in the Radio Room and Fieldcomm are in good working order.

Glenn Rees: There are issues with the radio switch box and field com.

Speranza to Lt. Pagnozzi: Requests that Lt. Pagnozzi contact the Fair Lawn DPW and get something setup.

Pagnozzi: This is going to take some time to get accomplished as the FL DPW is backed up.

Speranza: We will be going with Plan B for on-board generator.

Speranza: Vendor coming out to take care of compressor tomorrow.

Glenn Rees: Look at quick connect. At a drill in Wyckoff and drained down to almost 3k right away since it was leaking. As soon as you spin it around it leaks air.

Speranza: Will let you know the status of the repair. It will take some time as it is not a 'quick fix'.

Fire Prevention: No report at this time.

Speranza Note: Stated that there are issues with 55 Westervelt. Will inform Board further if issues are not reconciled.

Ladies Auxiliary:

S. Speranza: Happy New Year and thank you for all who came out and participated in the Annual Toy Drive hosted at Shortway's and the delivery of the toys. It was another year with a great turnout.

Junior FF's (Explorer Program): No report at this time.

In School Program: No report at this time.

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Hawthorne Day: No report at this time.

100th Anniversary:

June 18th 2016 3:00PM – 9:00PM @ Kohler
Fireworks estimated \$5,000.00 – Equivalent to Hawthorne Day

Acct. Balance:

Depositing \$114.00 next week from t-shirt money.
\$14,928.56

Sponsor Letter and Donation Sheet:

Ex-Chief Tamburro is still reviewing. Company #1 requested mailing go out after the fund drive, postponing until mid-January, need to show final draft at Officer's meeting December 15, 2015 to have mailed by January 15, 2016.

Commemorative Coins:

Ex-Chief Tamburro has proof and needs to correct dates. EC Tamburro and Scott Geier spoke with Chief Speranza – HFD to buy members, life members, Ladies Auxiliary and juniors. This will be discussed with Officers on 12/15 for approval. Price quoted at quantity of 400 @ \$6.25 each = \$2,500.00.

T-Shirts:

Are still available for purchase. Members are encouraged to promote and purchase.

Beer Garden:

Mr. Thomas has denied the request for a beer garden.
Location pending – maybe move event to Grand or Llewellyn and block off (Company #2); they will cover the insurance. Lt. T. Lodder is to discuss with Company #2; N. Mayben to check with PCSD for coverage of beer garden.

Ad Journal:

Progress – if non-business wants to buy pages pay same pricing as business.

Fundraising Opportunities:

Devils game February 26, 2016 @ 7:00PM. Cost per ticket is \$60.00 each. Lt. T. Lodder is to look at the September 11, 2016 Devils game flyer to compare.
Possibly host a 'Beef Steak'.

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Blue Knights:

Will be held at the Boys & Girls Club – date still pending (possibly April 30, 2016). Run will be held early in day.

Next meeting will be held on January 20, 2016 likely at Company #3.

Speranza: A reminder will be sent out to members for the next meeting.

Ordinance Committee:

Training Center:

Speranza: We have received the money from Glen Rock (in hand) and has been deposited into a Merner Acct. and assigned to the Department for use with the training center committee.

Longo: Tomorrow the fence company is coming out to look at the perimeter of the training center so we can get an estimate for replacement/repair – Peter is meeting with the vendor in the morning. Due to the Borough's placement of mulch, it keeps knocking the fence down leaving for public safety concerns – suggested placement of Mafia Block in this area for stability to prevent this from occurring in the future. Once the money is in the account we can start finishing the trench and confined space projects. There is a list and it is being worked on starting with priorities first. Currently working on scheduling with Ex-Asst. Chief Marsh to finalize the steps. Deck still has to be built. Once all of the above has been completed we can move onto the next phase.

Speranza: January 15th a temporary budget will be in place and we can hopefully get the Mafia Block then or/ the Department purchase and charge back to the Borough. Will get back to him regarding.

Longo: Will continue to meet with vendors, get pricing and submit to Board for review/approval.

Speranza: Hawthorne will be working with Glen Rock's committee on this project moving forward.

Safety Officers: A meeting will commence in January 2016 with report to follow.

Exempt/ Relief: No report at this time.

Website: No report at this time.

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Old Business:

Company 1:

Arturi: Would like to make a motion as to whether the Board would like to move forward with the fan requests for the individual engine companies. Does not see the need for each company to have one since Tower #2 and Rescue #5 currently have on their apparatus', thinks we could spend the money more wisely on other necessities.

Longo: 'Let's talk about it further and see what direction to take'.

Speranza: 'We will meet about it once again and move from there'.

Arturi: Also, still waiting for a 10' length pony, 5" with 6" steamer.

Speranza: Will look into purchasing (color red)

Company 2: No report at this time.

Company 3:

Longo: Would like to know the status on the equipment list that was handed in.

Speranza: There is a P.O. pending.

Longo: What is the status on the cloth hose?

Speranza: It will take approximately 4-6 weeks. It is currently in process - the vendor will come and swap out.

Longo: Tablet still needs to be mounted on apparatus.

Speranza: Recommends Pinnacle mount and program the tablets when they come out.

Longo: Inquired if the Department has any additional SCBA harnesses. Company #3 has multiple members scheduled to attend the academy within the upcoming months and has concerns regarding the amount of gear needed taking away from the Department during emergencies. *Passaic County Fire Academy requires that all students have NFPA approved structural firefighting gear/accessories along with (1) SCBA pack/ (1) spare bottle. Also, concerned about using the new fire gear for these courses and it being damaged; suggested going through old gear and utilizing these garments in place.

Speranza: Requests that Capt. Tripicchio or Clerk Flowers write a letter to the academy stressing our concerns. *Note, we are expecting to have new gear arrive within the next couple weeks which could supplement. Suggests that Sunday (January 10th) both he and Chief Longo meet early and take an inventory of junior gear and take the necessary steps



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from there. Will continue to work with Department companies to ensure all students have the gear needed for the course this way one company is not left short on equipment.

Arturi: Will reach out to Academy to discuss concerns and options. Will report back to Chief or Board as to what the outcome is.

Company 4:

Nelson: Inquired on the status of the antenna replacement with Pinnacle?

Speranza: This is currently being worked on; this is still pending with the Borough.

Company 5:

Warner: Inquired on who didn't have tablets installed. (Companies 2, 3, and 4 still need to be installed)

Speranza: Pinnacle will be hired to install and setup the tablets.

Chief's Report:

Speranza: Will be meeting with Officers next Monday to discuss radio equipment and frequencies. Agenda will be to go over the driver's radios, Kenwood radios, meeting mutual aid requirements/Passaic County Mutual Aid. Pinnacle will be hired and contracted to setup and install the remaining tablets and ensure the current are operative.

Arturi: Company #1 does not have a low band radio

Speranza: Department is working on getting them – this will take some time. Looking into getting a Kenwood so that it is compatible with current equipment.

New Business:

Oath of Office: No report at this time.

Company 1: No report at this time.

Company 2:

Capt. Walker: Inquired on the bucket leads that were requested; where do we go from here?

Speranza: There is a P.O. in place.

Capt. Walker: Tower #2 has (2) new members interested in joining the Department/Co#2.

Speranza: Procedure is to wait (3) months to ensure prospected members will be committed, applications can be distributed after (1) month and turned in following the suggested guidelines. If you would like to expedite the process, this can be done. Keep in

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mind that new applicants are required to have a background check which is a timely process. Once application is submitted it will take about (3) months for them to become a member.

**(2) Applications were provided to Capt. Walker*

Company 3: No report at this time.

Company 4: No report at this time.

Company 5: No report at this time.

Capt. John Tripicchio: Alec from Company #1 is back after 8 months. Application has been completed. A letter is to be issued to the Exempt Association and Borough advising them of his return.

CHANGE OF OFFICERS (NEW/INCOMING OFFICERS TAKE PLACE AT BOARD)

-Arturi replaced by Asst. Chief DiBella

-Nelson replaced by Asst. Chief Van Der Velde

-Tripicchio replaced by Clerk Flowers

Chief's Report:

Speranza: Welcome's all new Board members and thanks the outgoing members.

Good & Welfare:

Company 1: All members and equipment are good and in working order.

Company 2: All members and equipment are good and in working order.

Company 3: All members and equipment are good and in working order.

Company 4: All members and equipment are good and in working order.

Company 5: All members and equipment are good and in working order.

Chief's Report: All members and equipment are good and in working order.

Chief Speranza temporarily closed the Fire Board session and opened the meeting to public.

G. DeGroot: Why is the radio volume so low on last two fire call? Could barely hear coming across the air

Nelson: Has not had any equipment failures recently. 1 receiver down about a month ago.

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Speranza: We will continue to monitor. Keep your ears open.

Nelson: Issue with PD with who's in service for FD – need to relay correct information.

Speranza: Are we missing it or are they not relaying it correctly.

Tamburro: Be sure you are keying the radios correctly when using. Hit the key, wait, and then speak clearly into the radio.

G. DeGroot: Company #3 doesn't have the spanner wrench for 5" connections.

Speranza: Department bought for companies in previous.

G. DeGroot: Company #3 never received.

Speranza: Will work on purchasing.

T. Lodder: Thanked everyone for attending George Lodder's funeral services. The outcome was great.

Speranza: Wishes the Lodder family the best.

Arturi: Congratulations to everyone and to Chief DiBella on his promotion to Battalion Chief in Passaic.

Chief Speranza closed the Fire Board session to the public.

Speranza: Thank you all, and again, congratulations to all the new members.

Chief Speranza closed the Fire Board session to the public.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lindsay Flowers
Board Secretary