



## Borough of Hawthorne Board of Fire Commissioners

445 Lafayette Avenue, Hawthorne, NJ 07506  
[www.hawthornefire.org](http://www.hawthornefire.org)

### Minutes of the meeting held on November 06, 2012.

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 was, Engine Company 1: Asst. Chief John Arturi, Tower Company 2: Asst. Chief John Marsch, Engine Company 3: Asst. Chief Jared Van Ek, Engine Company 4: Asst. Chief Michael Nelson, and Rescue Company 5: Asst. Chief Brian Warner.

### MINUTES

A motion was made by Asst. Chief Warner to dispense the previous Minutes while a second Motion was made by Asst. Chief Van Ek.

Motions were made by, Asst. Chief Marsch and second from Asst. Chief Arturi that the following bills be approved and are to be submitted to the Borough Administrator for consideration of payment.

### BILLS

Grainger	\$634.50	Verizon	\$50.01
Verizon	\$63.78	Verizon	\$63.78
AT&T	\$47.85	Verizon Wireless	\$102.31
David Stern's Tire	\$4,423.52	Joseph Speranza	\$30.47
All Mobile Engine	\$344.00	Fire Fighter 1 LLC	\$149.00
AAA Emergency	\$903.69	AAA Emergency	\$5,639.40
Tri Trophy	\$871.00	Macaluso's	\$3,500.00
Bill Fox, LLC	\$1,217.30		

### Communications:

- A medical leave of absence was received from Capt. William Redmon from October 08, 2012 until further notice.
- A thank you letter was received from resident's Stephanie & Robert Budelman thanking the Department for appearing for their son's birthday party.
- A notification was received from US Secure Net advising the Board and Chief Speranza that they will no longer be able to service or repair radios and / or related alike equipment as of October 2012.
- A medical leave of absence request for FF Frank Giannantonio due to an injury sustained during employment. The leave of absence was for a 4- 6 week period. (October 01- November 15, 2012).



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- Radio member George Zaggatta has been released from medical leave of absence and is able to return to full active duty as of October 07, 2012.
- A letter of resignation was submitted by Ex-Asst. Chief Richard McAuliffe.

The Board approved the leaves of absences and the active returns. The resignation of Ex-Asst. Chief Richard McAuliffe was accepted with regrets.

### Company Reports:

#### **Company #1**

Asst. Chief Arturi reported for the month of October 2012, Company 1 responded to: 31 box alarms, 3 still alarms, 0 Chiefs call, 11 radio alarms, 0 mutual aid call, 1 standby(s), 4 training(s) and held 1 drill, for a total of 51 alarms.

FF William Marra confirmed his resignation due to the fact that he resides too far away to respond. He also indicated that he was not going to transfer to any other company and that he was happy for being a part of Engine 1. All rumors that he wanted to transfer to another Company are false.

Thus FF Marra's resignation request would be dated back to October 01, 2012.

Engine 1 continues to be sluggish when ascending & inclining through-out the Borough and appears to be getting worse. There are also minor issues that are appearing more frequently.

Personally thanked each and every member of Engine 1 and the entire Department for responding during Hurricane Sandy. Each member did an outstanding job.

Thanked the Engine 4 Strike Team that was deployed to Southern New Jersey.

Thanked Rescue 5 for participating in a drill with Engine 1 at the Training Center. It went very well and Engine 1 looks forward to training again with them in the near future.

Also thanked Chief Speranza for doing an excellent job at the Route 208N brush fire, as Chief Speranza assisted to re pack the fire hose.

Congratulations to Chief Speranza, for his re-election as Borough Chief.



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Aside from the above Engine 1 is in fair working order and all members are in good standing.

### Company #2

Asst. Chief Marsch reported for the month of October 2012, Company 2 responded to: 36 box alarms, 0 still alarm, 0 Chief's call, 0 Radio alarm, 3 Mutual Aid call's, 1 standby(s), 0 training's, and held 1 drill for a total of 41 alarms.

For the 2012 Fire year Company 2 responded to 292 alarms.

With the unprecedented events of last week it was great to see all companies working together along with Hawthorne Police Department and EMS.

Captain William Redmon is at home and recovering.

Congratulation to Chief Speranza on his re-election as, Borough Chief.

The Truck, equipment and all firefighters are in good working order.

### Company #3

Asst. Chief Van Ek reported that for the month of October 2012, Company 3 responded to: 28 box alarms, 1 drill (s) 0 radio alarms, 3 still alarms, 0 standbys, 0 mutual aid and held 0 training's for a total of 32 alarms.

For the Fire Year of Engine 3 responded to 261 Box Alarms, 12 Still Alarms, 3 standbys, 3 Chief's Call's, and 15 drills for a total of 294 Alarms.

(1) set of gear was received

(1) Water Thief was received

(1) Pair of boots is being requested in size 9 ½ Wide for FF Frank Vittorio.

Commended everyone for their outstanding efforts and dedication of assisting the residents of Hawthorne, through the entire aftermath of Hurricane Sandy. An excellent job was conducted by all.

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Clerk John P. Tripicchio  
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Aside from above all firefighters and equipment are in working order.

### Company #4

Asst. Chief Nelson reported for the month of October 2012, Company 4 responded to: 28 box alarm's, 3 still alarms, 9 radio alarm, 0 training, 0 standby's, 0 Chief's call, 0 Mutual aid calls and held 0 drill for a total of 40 alarms.

Engine 4's booster tank was repaired. The LDH discharge was rebuilt and the electrical system and generator were both repaired.

FF Giannantonio requested a medical leave of absence due to a work related injury. He will be on a medical leave for 4-6 weeks.

One November 04, 2012, Engine Company 4 and 8 other Passaic County Towns were deployed to South Jersey for a 24 hours tour in Toms River providing relief coverage. They were dispatched for 8 calls and worked well with the other Departments.

(1) 2 ½ to a 1 ½ gated "Y" valve and (1) battery charger for the ICOM radio is being requested.

(1) Set of gear is still outstanding for Ex- Asst. Chief Geier.

Aside from above all members and equipment are in good working order.

### Company #5

Asst. Chief Warner, reported that for the month of October 2012, Company 5

Responded to: 43 box alarms, 0 boat assignments, 1 extrication (s), 0 radio alarm, 0 still

alarms, 0 Mutual aid alarms, 1 standby, 0 training (s), and 3 drill(s) for a total of 48 alarms.

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Thanked the members of Rescue for responding during Hurricane Sandy. As special thanks to FF's Keith Lettich, Kyle Johnson and Lt. Joseph Pagnozzi for going above and beyond the normal efforts during and after the storm.

A letter was requested to be sent to FF Brianne Jimenez who has met with Chief Speranza as well as the Officers of Rescue 5 indicating that she would return, yet her participation has been declining since May 2012.

All firefighters and equipment are in good working order.

### **Borough Chief Speranza Report:**

First and foremost could not thank the members enough that had responded during Hurricane Sandy. The Department members withheld the professional composure during it all. It was also noted that the members provided services beyond the general scope of duty.

The Hurricane aftermath will be etched in our memory for years to come. In particular, with the unfortunate loss of two residents the damages to the homes this also included some of our own members.

Thanks to the Engine 4 members that were deployed as a Task Force in Southern Jersey and the members that conducted services days after the devastation. It shows that the Department always remains and works well together during these times.

The rail road training will be rescheduled for some time in January / February 2013.

The HI numbers will need continue to be recorded on the fire reports until advised otherwise.

During this time, the emergency fuel re-filling will occur only when the gas attendant at Sunoco is shown the Fire Department ID. The limited fuel is for the FF own personal vehicle. There will be no work related vehicles re-fueled. In addition the Ladies Auxiliary refueling issue was resolved. In the near future, specified times for both the Police and Fire Department will be secured for refueling and will be advised accordingly.

Prior to any election for Firematic Officer ship, the "potential officer or potential nominee" must provide Clerk Tripicchio with certifications that are required by both the State of NJ and The Hawthorne Fire Department "before" they enter their respective company's election



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process. No elected member that does not have their certifications will be eligible for election.

On behalf of Mayor Richard Goldberg, Borough Administrator Eric Maurer, OEM Coordinator McAuliffe, Lieut. Van Der Hook and Lieut. John Carbone thanked all the members for the dedication.

### Dates to Remember

**November 17, 2012- Pump Certification (Engine 1, 3 & 4)**  
**November 18, 2012 Memorial Breakfast 8:00 am St. Anthony's Church**  
**November 26, 2012 – 7:00 pm – NJ Transit Training @ Van Dyke's (Times to follow)**  
**November 29, 2012 – Department OSHA Physicals Make Up**

**December 14, 2012 – Toys for Tots Drive – Shortyway's Barn 8:00 pm to close**

**January 11, 2013 Installation Dinner (Macaluso's)**

### COMMITTEES

**Communication Division:** Responded to 50 alarms, 3 work sessions, 1 drill, and 2 events for a total of 56 alarms.

All members, radios and equipment are in working order.

**Fire Prevention:** No report at this time.

**Ladies Auxiliary:** No report at this time.

**Junior's/ Explorer Program:** *No report at this time.*

**In School Program:** No report at this time

**Van Hook Scholarship:** No report at this time.

**Open House:** No report at this time.

**Mutual Aid Meeting:** No report at this time.

**Hawthorne Day:** No report at this time.

**100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary:** The Coin Toss was canceled and will be rescheduled for spring 2013.

**Memorial Park:** No report at this time

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### **Old Business:**

Company 1: No report at this time  
Company 2: No Report at this time.

Company 3: No report at this time.

Company 4: No report at this time.  
Company 5: No report at this time.  
Chiefs Report: No report at this time.

### **New Business:**

Oath of Office: None

Company 1: No report at this time.

Company 2: Inquired if the Department can purchase generators for the Fire Houses.  
*Chief stated that we would not be able to get them from FEMA yet we will request them in the 2013 budget.*

Company 3: No report at this time.  
Company 4: No report at this time.  
Company 5: No report at this time.

Chiefs Report: Warned that as result of Hurricane Sandy the trees remain fragile. As a result, the upcoming Nor'easter may bring more trees down and we to keep this in mind when responding.

### **Good & Welfare:**

Company 1: Ex- Asst. Chief Robert Foley had knee surgery and is recovering. Ex Asst. Chief Robert Shannon had a scope and is recovering. Toys for Tot will take place at 8:00 pm on December 14, 2012 at Shortway's Barn. The band Plan B will again be performing. There is a \$5 donation and/or an unwrapped toy of \$5 or more.

Company 2: Capt. William Redomon is home recovering.

Company 3: Thanked all that attended the Company 3 Pancake breakfast.

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Company 4: No report at this time.

Company 5: No report at this time.

Chief: Thanked all that had responded during, and after the storm safety check resulting from Hurricane Sandy.

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

FF Gerald Flanagan stated that Engine 4 members enjoyed the experience of assisting in south Jersey.

FF Jason Goodrich asked the Board if the Department can assist the Moonachie Fire Department with providing assistance to obtain goods.

*Chief Speranza stated that he would call the Chief of Moonachie to see what they need and if we can assist in anyway.*

Asst. Chief Marsch added that once items that are needed are known we should comprise a list to see what we can full fill and/or ask the pubic to donate items.

No other requests were made from the floor; the meeting was re-opened to the Fire Board.

A Motion was made by Asst. Chief Warner second by Asst. Chief Marsch that the meeting be adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,  
*John Tripicchio*  
Board Secretary