



## 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 December 02, 2013.

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 and held a moment of silence for the passing of Ex firefighter Tony Desalvo. In attendance at this meeting was, Engine Company 1: 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieut. John Carlo, Tower Company 2: Asst. Chief John Marsch, Engine Company 3: Capt. 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 Warner, to dispense the previous Minutes and was seconded by Asst. Chief Marsch. All were in favor to dispense.

Motions were made by, Asst. Chief Nelson and a second from Asst. Chief Warner that the following bills be approved and are to be submitted to the Borough Administrator for consideration of payment. All were in favor to submit for consideration.

### BILLS

Alan Briteway Electric	\$862.35	Fire Fighter 1 LLC	\$470.60
Dell's Garden	\$101.95	HFD Reimbursement	\$106.50
Campbell Supply	\$2,181.26	Bill Foxx LLC	\$1,026.20
AAA Emergency Supply	\$1,2202.20	Campbell Supply	\$254.08
Fire Fighter 1 LLC	\$514.00	AAA Emergency Supply	\$1,208.43

### Communications:

- A letter of resignation was received from FF Stephanie Hill (CO4) and Karen Arsenault (CO5) with regrets.
- A letter of intent was received from residents Kyle Little, (CO3), Josef Axthammer (CO 5) and Guillermo Cunningham (CO5).
- A medical leave of absence was received from FF Thomas Kennedy starting from December 02, 2013 (CO1).
- The Scholarship Committee made a request to the Board for permission to conduct the 50/50 raffle at the installation dinner.
- An excuse letter was received from Assistant Chief John Arturi due to indispensable business.



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- Engine 1 requested permission to attend the Wallington Parade in 2014.
- Company 4 requested that the Board send a letter to FF Robert Van Duesen who has not upheld Borough Fire Department Ordinances.

The Board accepted all communications as read and stated above.

### **Company Reports:**

#### **Company #1**

Asst. Chief Arturi reported for the month of November 2013, Company 1 responded to: 15 box alarms, 1 still alarm(s), 0 radio alarm (s), 0 mutual aid call, 0 standby(s), 2 training(s) and held 1 drill (s), for a total of 19 alarms.

Engine 1 is in fair condition.

FF Thomas Kennedy requested a medical leave of absence starting on December 02, 2013.

Asst. Chief Arturi will plan an "active shooter" presentation with the Passaic County SWAT commander in January 2014 for Company 1 yet opened to all members.

Congratulations to Tower 2 for taking 3<sup>rd</sup> place for best appearing aerial at the Wallington Parade.

Wished all members and their families a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

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 November 2013, Company 2 responded to: 14 box alarms, 8 still alarms, 0 Chief's call, 0 Radio alarms, 0 standby(s), 0 training(s), special detail (s) and held 1 drill (s) for a total of 23 alarms.

Tower 2 responded to 3 mutual Aid calls to Paterson.

(9) Nine SCBA bottles were sent out for hydro testing.  
Congratulations to Julian Rullman for joining the Department.

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Ex-Asst Chief John Peterson is in good spirits and is looking to be on the liver transplant list. Keep him in our thoughts and prayers.

Happy Holidays to the Department.

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

### Company #3

Asst. Chief Van Ek reported that for the month of November 2013, Company 3 responded to: 14 box alarms, 0 radio alarms, 2 still alarm(s), 0 standbys, 0 mutual aid, held 0 training (s) and 1 drill (s) for a total of 30 alarms.

The Donaldson Service indicator for the air filter has been repaired.

Letter of intent was received from resident Kyle Little.

FF John Neibo has not responded to the Boards hearing and a letter of removal is in order.

Engine 3 will be covering Prospect Park on December 14, 2013 from 4:30 pm until about 10:30 pm.

Aside from above all firefighters and equipment are in working order.

### Company #4

Asst. Chief Nelson reported for the month of November 2013, Company 4 responded to: 15 box alarm's, 3 still alarms, 0 radio alarms, 0 training, 0 standby's, 0 Chief's call, and held 1 drill (s) for a total of 19 alarms.

Repairs were completed for the on board generator. While Engine 4 was at Campbell Supply the front discharged was found to be leaking and the air actuator intake valves were not working. Both have been diagnosed for repairs.

(4) Four box lights have been requested.

A resignation letter was received from FF Stephanie Hill.

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

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Happy Holidays to all members and their families.

### Company #5

Asst. Chief Warner reported for the month of November 2013, Company 5 responded to: 14 box alarm's, 0 still alarms, 0 radio alarm, 0 training, 0 standby's, 0 Chief's call, 0 training (s), and held 3 drill (s) for a total 17 of alarms.

Rescue 5 & Engine 4 attended Wurtsborough, NY for a live burn training. The training went very well and future drills are being considered.

Letter of resignation was received from Karen Arsenault.

Letters of intent was received from Josef Axlhammer and Guillermo Cunningham.

Requesting the Hurst tools to be serviced.

Wished members and their families' happy holidays.

All firefighters and equipment are in good working order.

### Borough Chief Speranza Report:

In 2013 the Department has grown and allowed progression to develop which has enhanced the Department's functionality and overall composition.

Certain highlights are as follows: rebuilding of the training center, replacement of turnout gear, bolstering of companies, the 911 Memorial, the Department sign, the ever growing Explorers program, growth and development of internal training. Thanks to all of the members that made this happen.

In 2014, we look to continue to move forward.

We are scheduling SCBA FIT testing for the Department - January 2014, the replacement of Engine 1, process to refurbish Engine 3, replace the Chief's vehicle, SCBA bottles, the 100<sup>th</sup> year Anniversary carnival, continue the replacement of outdated turnout gear and further integration of companies via cross training and Department drills.

2014 will also re test current officers and train incoming officers and to uphold their elected positions.

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We are currently looking to have Dr. Peter Berger host the Cardiac Doppler Testing program.

A social media policy is being adopted and needs to be reviewed at each respective companies meeting for a January 2014 Fire Board approval.

Happy Holidays and a Safe New Year to all members and their families.

### Dates to Remember

December 07, 2013 – Santa Parade  
December 07, 2013- Train Toy Drive 10:00 am -11:00 Royal Avenue  
December 07, 2013- NYC Bus Trip - Company 2 - 3:00pm  
December 14, 2013- Department Toy Drive - Shortways  
December 22, 2013- Department Santa Run/ Toy Delivery

April 18, 2013- Ladies Auxiliary Fish & Chips Dinner - 5:30-7:30 pm

### COMMITTEES

**Communication Division:** No report.

**Fire Prevention:** Decker Dodge will soon be car wash and oil change business in near future.

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

**Junior FF's (Explorer Program):** Needs more used gear for the attendees.  
All Department members can attend at any time to assist.

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

**Van Hook Scholarship:** 50/50 to be held at installation dinner.

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

**Passaic County Mutual Aid Meeting:** No report at this time

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

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**100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary:** The Games and Chance contract was executed. A sub committee was formed to assist in the various agendas. The Police will be needed and will be next on the list to complete. Department members are needed to assist and run the carnival and also get on the committee.

**Safety Officers:** No report at this time.

**Uniform Committee:** No report at this time.

### **Old Business:**

Company 1: No report at this time.

*Company 2: Requested several PASS devices and stream lights*

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: Julian Rullman (CO2)

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.

Chief's Report: No report at this time.

### **Good & Welfare:**

Company 1: The Training Center's leak has been fixed.

Company 2: NYC bus Trip December 07, 2013. 3:00 pm \$35.00 donation.

Company 3: FF John Neibo needs to return Department equipment.

Company 4: The house next to Engine 4 has been taken down.

Company 5: No report at this time.

Chief: Thanked all that attended Ex FF Tony Desalvo wake. Sunday 1 pm Firemen's home.

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

Captain Van Der Velde stated that FF Robert Van Duesen resides in Totowa and not Hawthorne as it has been confirmed on his social media page.

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

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

Respectfully Submitted,  
*John Tripicchio*  
Board Secretary