



Borough of Hawthorne Board of Fire Commissioners

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

Minutes of the meeting held on March 04, 2014.

Borough Chief Joseph Speranza called the meeting to order at 7:35 pm, with a salute to the flag and a recital of the Pledge of Allegiance. A moment of silence was held for LODD of Captain Gregory Barnas (Wallington Incident). 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.

A special presentation was given by Newark Ex- Deputy Chief Peter Partridge thanking the Departments overwhelming response to the fire and after for recovering some of his valuables at his Pasadena residence.

MINUTES

A motion was made by Asst.Chief Van Ek, to dispense the previous Minutes and was seconded by Asst. Chief Warner. All were in favor to dispense.

Motions were made by, Asst. Chief Arturi and a second from Asst. Chief Nelson 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 the bills for consideration.

BILLS

Bobs Tires	\$30.00	Tanis Hardware	\$51.43
Ridgewood Press	\$106.00	Micro Center	\$1,796.74
Fire Fighter 1	\$100.27	American Flow Inc.	\$192.63
AAA Emergency	\$1,176.51	Yankee Propane	\$36.00
AVAN	\$160.00	Company 1 #	104.98
HFD Reimb.	\$158.86	NJ Vol. State Dues	\$25.00
PA Auto Parts	\$300.00		

Communications:

- A medical note from FF Joseph Magnifico was received as to changing his personal leave to a medical leave for a medical procedure.
- A letter of intent was received from resident Christopher Dzpovski (CO 5).
- A medical note was received from FF Frank Giannantonio returning to active duty.
- A medical note was received from Ex Asst. Chief Brian Van Hook.
- A medical leave of absence was received for Ex Asst. Chief George Degroot.



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- A resignation letter was received from FF Salvatore Occhipinti.
- An extension of personal leave of absence was received from FF John Hurley.
- The removal from the Department roles letters were sent to FF Robert Van Duesen and Jacob Gaetcher.

The Board accepted all communications as read.

Company Reports:

Company #1

Asst. Chief Arturi reported for the month of February 2014, Company 1 responded to: 31 box alarms, 2 still alarm(s), 2 radio alarm (s), 0 mutual aid call, 0 standby(s), 2 training(s) and held 2 drill (s), for a total of 39 alarms.

Ex Asst. Chief Robert Foley, had surgery and is recovering.
FF Thomas Kennedy had surgery and doing well.
FF Joseph Magnifico requested a medical leave of absence due to a surgical procedure.

Engine 1 turned over the manufacturing dates of the structural gear.

FF Robert Luscombe has acquired a RV and a drill will be scheduled along with Rescue 5 in the near future.

Company 1 acquired their AED / CPR recertification's.

Engine 1 is in fair condition. All equipment is in working order and all members are in good standing.

Company #2

Asst. Chief Marsch reported for the month of February 2014, Company 2 responded to: 31 box alarms, 5 still alarms, 0 Chief's call, 0 Radio alarms, 0 standby(s), 0 training(s), and held 0 drill (s) for a total of 37 alarms. 2 Mutual Aid calls were conducted for Paterson FD and North Haledon FD.



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The new positive pressure fan had an issue when running at full capacity. Further tests are being conducted to rectify same. During the ladder tests, it was discovered that all of the ladder belts are aging and need to be replaced.

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

Company #3

Asst. Chief Van Ek reported that for the month of February 2014 Company 3 responded to: 28 box alarms, 3 radio alarm (s), 0 still alarm(s), 0 standbys, 0 mutual aid, held 0 training (s) and 1 drill (s) for a total of 32 alarms. Also included 1 Mutual aid response to Haledon.

All (6) six of Engine 3's batteries were replaced. The main light bar is not rotating due to several bulbs that have burned out.

(2) replacement batteries are needed for stream lights and (1) SCBA harness is in need of repair.

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

Company #4

Asst. Chief Nelson reported for the month of February 2014, Company 4 responded to: 30 box alarm's, 1 still alarms, 3 radio alarms, 0 training, 0 standby's, 0 Chief's call, and held 1 drill (s) for a total of 35 alarms.

Ex Asst Chief Brian Van Hook is on medical leave, FF Frank Gianntonio has returned to active duty and FF John Hurley has requested an extension of his personal leave.

The Thermal Imaging Camera has been repaired. The (4) four new box lights have been installed on the Engine. The high band radio has been re programed to include the Glen Rock FSD frequency. The shore air supply line is in need of repair.

(1) Pair Extra Large gloves.

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

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Company #5

Asst. Chief Warner reported for the month of February 2014, Company 5 responded to: 31 box alarm's, 4 still alarms, 0 radio alarm, 0 training, 1 standby(s), 0 Chief's call, 0 training (s), and held 0 drill (s) for a total 36 of alarms. 2 Mutual Aid call (Paterson and Haledon) and 1 hydrant detail.

The light tower is repaired and back in service.

A letter of resignation was received from FF Salvatore Occhipinti

All firefighters and equipment are in good working order.

Borough Chief Speranza Report:

ISO conducted a records review and was very pleased with the Departments record keeping. The ISO report also mentioned some additional recommendations to assist us in obtaining a better rating which would lead to further saving's to the Borough taxpayers.

The Department along with several mutual aid towns did a phenomenal job at the Pasadena fire limiting the fire spread.

A special thanks for Engine 4 and Rescue 5 who went back to the home and recovered valuables for the Newark Deputy Chief, Peter Partridge.

Thanks to the Ladies Auxiliary and the Communications Division for their response to the Pasadena fire which was outstanding.

We have presented and attended the 2014 Budget / Finance meeting. As expected there was some ebbs and flows in the reductions and gains in certain lines, yet overall the meeting went well. The budget shopudl be approved in the near future. Some of the discussion's included the replacement of outdated structural gear and the self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) bottles.

Thanked all of the Officers who participated in the immediate response for gear inventory prior to the finance committee meeting.

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The Department applauds Mayor Goldberg, Borough Administrator Eric Mauer, CFO Mary Jean Hewitt and the finance committee for having an open mind as to the Departments concerns.

We have acquired a 2002 Chevy Impala for possible use in the Department.

In sad news, the Jersey City Captain / Wallington FF Gregory Barnas visitation / funeral times will be given later on this evening.

The Department recertification of CPR / AED training is taken place.

There is legislative bill in the Senate to have reflective stickers forewarning of a solar paneled house.

June 06, 2014 Hawthorne High School Stone cold program.

Tower 2 and Rescue 5 have been added to Paterson and Haledon mutual aid plans.

In closing thanks to all of the members and officers for being vigilant during the 2014 winter weather and the escalation of responses.

Dates to Remember

March 15, 2014- 7:00pm – Company 1 Comedy Dinner w/ Uncle Floyd

April 14, 2014 –St. Barnabas Burn program 7:30pm FHQ

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

June 06, 2014- HHS Stone Cold Program -9:00 am.

COMMITTEES

Communication Division: February 2014, responded to: 19 box alarm's and held 4 meetings.

There is an issue with the generator that needs to be serviced. In addition, the cascades air compressor may be leaking. (2) SCBA bottles would not fill and some were not yet hydro tested.

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Chief has a log as to all of the tested bottles and will check those bottles against his list.

Fire Prevention: 55 Westervelt needs lock boxes to be installed. The elevator is not yet functioning and a walk thru is still being requested.

Ladies Auxiliary: April 18, 2013- Ladies Auxiliary Fish & Chips Dinner 2 seating's - 5:30 & 7:30 pm at the Hawthorne Boys & Grils Club. Assistance will be needed by all members. They are also looking to purchase a utility truck from the Washington Twps. FD in near future.

Junior FF'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.

Passaic County Mutual Aid Meeting: No report at this time

Hawthorne Day: No report at this time.

100th Anniversary: Next meeting March 24, 2014. Chairman George De Groot expressed we need members for committees and to get more involved. All the necessary paperwork is moving forward.

Asst. Chief Marsch asked if additional members are needed beyond the 2 previously required.

Chairman stated this is a Department effort that needs to participate fully for it to be a success. Letters are being sent to vendors due to limited spots.

Safety Officers: Will work on a driving policy for the Department. A meeting will be scheduled for April.

Uniform Committee: No report at this time.

Exempt Association: President Tamburro expressed that all used gear can be donated to the Firemen's Mission Club.

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Chief Speranza stated that currently we are supplying outdated gear to the junior's program that has exploded in the past year to 32 members.

Old Business:

Company 1: Active Shooter seminar is postponed to April 21 or 28.
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: Inquired if the used 2002 Chevy Impala will take over Unit 61.
Chief stated this will need to be discussed / finalized with counsel.

Company 2: Inquired as to standby's if they are Fire Report vs LOSAP
Discussion was held.

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: 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: No report at this time.

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

Captain Peter Vandervelde advised there is a fund was established for Captain Gregory Barnas for donations and will close soon.

Frank Orisi requested that a letter be sent to his employer for allowing FF to respond during fire calls.

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, and a second by Asst. Chief Marsch that the meeting be adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

John Tripicchio

Board Secretary