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Borough of Hawthorne
Board of Fire Commissioners

445 Lafayette Avenue
Hawthorne, New Jersey 07506



Minutes of the meeting held on April 06, 2010.

Borough Chief Joseph Speranza called the meeting to order at 7:30pm, with a salute to the flag. In attendance to this meeting was, Engine Company 1: Asst. Chief James Counsellor, Tower Company 2: Lieut. William Redmon, Engine Company 3: Asst. Chief Jared Van Ek, Engine Company 4: 2nd Lieut. Dave Sylvester, and Rescue Company 5: Asst. Chief Brian Warner.

MINUTES

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

A motion was made by Asst. Chief Counsellor and second from Asst. Chief Van Ek that the following bills be approved and are to be submitted to the Borough Administrator for consideration:

BILLS

Macaluso's	\$6,608.00	Passaic County Mutual Aid	\$75.00
HFD Reimbursement	\$20.31	Company #3 Reimbursement	\$38.20
B&C Communication	\$153.75	B&C Communication	\$153.75
All Hands Fire Equipment	\$366.24	Advanced Air Systems	\$240.00
Ace Hardware	\$80.81	Fire Safety Testing Inc.	\$839.90
B & C Communication	\$2,220.00	Ridgewood Press	\$122.00
Triangle Trophy	\$871.00	Advanced Air Systems	\$1,153.38
Verizon	\$56.10	Verizon	\$51.52
AT&T	\$58.64	HFD Reimbursement	\$700.00
B/C Communication	\$14.91	Dell Garden	\$53.50
Somes Uniforms	\$50.00	Federated Emer. Service	\$701.14
Federated Emer. Service	\$2,244.00	B/C Communication	\$423.00
Ken's Auto Electric	\$910.00	B/C Communication	\$1,053.00
CO1-5 1 st qrt. Rent	\$1550.00 \$6200.00	CO 1- 5 1 st Phone	\$150.00
Chief Joseph Speranza	\$30.00	Clerk John Tripicchio	\$30.00

Communications:

- A letter was received from Macaluso's Restaurant thanking the Department for again having the Departments Awards Dinner at their establishment.
- The Saddle Brook Fire Department will be celebrating 100th anniversary on September 24, 2011.
- The Glen Rock Fire Department will be celebrating their 100-year Anniversary on Saturday June 12, 2010.
- The Fire Service Women of New Jersey will be hosting their 14th annual Retreat on Saturday May 1, 2010 8:30am – 4:00 pm. The retreat will be held at the Morris County Public Safety Training Academy.

- A resignation letter was received from Capt. Ronald Hill.

The Board accepted Capt. Ronald Hill's resignation with regrets.

Company Reports:

Company #1

Asst. Chief Counsellor reported that for the month of March 2010, Company 1 responded to: 23 box alarm's, held 5 training's, 0 drill, 5 radio alarm's and 1 still alarm for a total of 34 alarms.

Engine 1 is again out for repairs for the undercarriage suspension.

Members will be responding with Unit 61 as 1X.

All firefighters and other than above equipment mention issues are in good working order.

Company #2

Lieut. Redmon reported for the month of March 2010, Company 2 responded to: 23 box alarms, 0 mutual aid call, 0 still alarm, 0 radio alarm and held 2 drills, for a total of 25 alarms.

The Truck and all firefighters are in good working order.

Company #3

Asst. Chief Van Ek reported that for the month of March 2010, Company 3 responded to: 25 box alarms, 2 mutual aid calls, 0 radio alarm, 1 drills, 2 still alarm, 0 stand by's and held 0 training for a total of 30 alarms.

Federated Fire Apparatus repaired the head unit for the generator and also checked the charging system. There were no issues found with the charging system.

The rear discharge valve is not holding at this time.

Company 3 had attended a forcible entry training at the Passaic County Fire Academy.

Company 3 will also be attending the AED/ CPR Training Wednesday April 07, 2010.

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

Company #4

Lieut. Sylvester reported for the month of March 2010, Company 4 responded to: 25 box alarms, 1 still alarm, 0 radio alarm, 3 Chief's call, 0 mutual aid calls, and held 1 drills for a total of 30 alarms.

Engine 4 is still waiting on the proper Stream Light box light bulbs to come in.

Company 4 is requesting 10 red jumpsuits to properly facilitate water details, where turn out gear is inappropriate.

Following the forcible entry training at the Passaic County Fire Academy Company is requesting permission to look into and purchase a set of Haligan Bars.

At this time Capt. Mike Nelson is home from the hospital following a case of pneumonia. Capt. Nelson will be spending a few more weeks recuperating before returning back to active duty.

Other than the above-mentioned items, all equipment and members are in good working order.

Company #5

Asst. Chief Warner reported that for the month of March 2010, Company 5 responded to: 30 box alarms, 0 radio alarm, 0 training, 2 still alarms, 0 mutual aid alarms, 1 drill and 5 boat details for a total of 38 alarms.

One (1) small mask and a regulator were re-requested.

Federated Fire Service will be diagnosing the light tower as it is in need of repair.

Two (2) hand stream lights are being requested.

As a result of the resignation of Capt. Ronald Hill Company 5 had conducted an election and the results were Edward Sutherland will fulfill the line officer position of Captain and Bill Barclay as 1st Lieutenant.

All firefighters and equipment are in good working order.

Borough Chief Speranza Report:

Thanked all of the members for their time and effort the very busy holiday weekend.

The Chief reiterated that the Department made a great stop at the 236 Lafayette structure fire and also re extended thanks to the members that responded to the 2 separate motor vehicle accidents on State Highway 208.

There will be changes at this year's memorial Parade requiring the Department to be positioned at the end of the line. Step off will take place tentatively at 3:00 pm.

The Department has received an e-mail confirmation that the Department is still in the running for the open grant, which was applied approximately 1 year ago.

Engine 1, Engine 3 and Rescue 5 having been serviced more than in past years and is a growing concern. At this time Engine 1 is out again for suspension issues.

Companies are reporting that the structure firefighting gear has reached or will have reached the ten (10) year lifespan this year. We will need to replace them provided that the budget allows us to do so.

Headquarters is in need of repair in the meeting room. The leak from the exterior wall has now formed mold / bacteria and is in need of repair. Both the Mayor and Administrator were made aware of this issue. They are in the process of securing a contractor to facilitate the necessary repairs.

Department members will need to attend a new mandated course (Rights and Duties of the Volunteer) in the local government which is also endorsed by JIF.

Dates to Remember:

May 01, 2010- Borough Wide Garage Sale.

May 04, 2010- Annual Valor & Meritorious Acts Dinner (Passaic County 200 Club),

September 09, 2010 Passaic County 200 Club – Annual Beefsteak

Communication Division:

Communication Division: responded to 9 alarms, 5 work details, 1 training, and 1 meeting for a total of 16 alarms.

The CEVO class was attended by all members.

All members and equipment are in good working order.

Fire Prevention: A report is forthcoming and will be distributed.

Ladies Auxiliary: No report at this time.

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

Safety Officer's: No report at this time

Fund Drive: 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

Web Site: Any uploads will need to be presented to administrator Asst. Chief Jared Van Ek.

Old Business:

Company 1: No report at this time.

Company 2: No report at this time.

Company 3: Question the Departments position at the Memorial Day Parade.

Chief Speranza stated that it was globally agreed with EMS that either Department will be at either end of the line in the event of an incident either one may respond effectively.

Company 4: No report at this time.

Company 5: Raised concerns of members that are responding to water detail with structural fire fighting gear. Any members that are required to assist in water detail must wear the appropriate gear.

Chiefs Report: No report at this time

New Business:

Oath of Office: None at this time.

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

Good & Welfare:

Company 1: No report at this time.

Company 2: No report at this time.

Company 3: The Harley Davidson Fat Boy raffle was held. The winner of the prize was Richard Shortway.

Company 4: Capt. Mike Nelson is recuperating.

Company 5: Dominic Savastano's mother Angelina Savastano passed away. Capt. Ronald Hill resigned from the Department and FF Anthony Manzo will be leaving for the Navy next week.

Chiefs Report: No report at this time

The Board collectively regretted the passing of Angelina Savastano.

Chief Speranza temporarily closed the Fire Board session and opened the meeting to anyone from the floor wishing to be heard.

Ex Asst. Chief Degroot expressed concern of Unit 57's air tank supply that were not completely filled up to their capacity and posed a problem on Fire Ground.

Chief Speranza stated that anyone that filled the tanks must be cognizant how to operate the fill station and MUST fill the tanks to their full capacity to avoid this issue in the future.

The Communication Division expressed that they will assist by conducting weekly inspections of the tanks to insure that this issue will not re occur.

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

A Motion was made by Asst. Chief Van Ek, second by Asst. Chief Counselor that the meeting be adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

John Tripicchio

John Tripicchio
Board Secretary