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Borough of Hawthorne Board of Fire Commissioners

445 Lafayette Avenue
Hawthorne, New Jersey 07506

Minutes of the meeting held on June 03, 2008.

The meeting was called to order by Borough Chief Joseph Speranza at 7:30pm with a salute to the flag. In attendance to this meeting was Engine Company 1: Asst. Chief Mark Smith, Tower Company 2: Asst. Chief Brian Vanderhook, Engine Company 3: Asst. Chief Jared Van Ek, Engine Company 4: Captain Michael Nelson, and Rescue Company 5: Captain Brian Warner.

MINUTES

A Motion by Asst. Chief Van Ek and a second by Asst. Chief Smith, that the minutes of the previous meeting be dispensed as they were previously distributed to the Board.

BILLS

A Motion by Asst. Chief Vanderhook, and a second by Asst. Chief Van Ek, that the following bills be approved and submitted to the Borough Administrator for consideration.

Verizon	\$53.52	Verizon	\$26.59
AT & T	\$93.16	1 st Priority	\$4,987.53
WS Darley	\$1,137.40	Blanket PO CO 1-5 rent	\$21,750.00
NJ Vol. Fireman's Assoc	\$25.00	Tri-Lex	\$1,794.90
Advanced Air Systems	\$1,029.88	AAA Emergency Supply	\$1,937.25
Ken's Auto Electric	\$736.42	Home Supply	\$47.76
Home Supply	\$178.42	Chief Robert Moran	\$250.00
Verizon Wireless	\$127.90	Defender Industries, Inc	\$6,200.00

Communications:

- A thank you card was received from FF Bill & Robert Barclay for the Department extending sympathy and attendance at the viewing of their grandmother.
- A thank you card was received from the Capt. Joseph Longo for flowers and attendance of services for grandmother, Carmela Pirone.
- A thank you card was received from Capt. Brian Warner and family thanking the Department for the flowers sent for the birth of their newborn son, Sean.

- A thank you card was received by FF Mark Walker and Lori Walker for the flowers that were sent for their newly adopted daughter Jessica.
- Boonton Fire Department Parade, August 30, 2008, 1:30pm. Will be held rain or shine. (Copies to Asst. Chief's and posted)
- NJ Firefighter Bicycle Parade to benefit the St. Barnabas Hospital Burn Center. The event will be held on Sunday July 27, 2008. \$45 per person, \$150 per 4-person team. For more details e-mail: FTR@hotmail.com. (Copies to Asst. Chief's and posted)
- A thank you card was received from FF James Baker thanking the Department for the fruit basket for his hip surgery.
- A medical note was received from David A. Czerminski DC clearing Dominic Degroot to return to active duty, effective May 20, 2008.
- A letter was received from Company 1 suggesting the Department utilize the John Vittorio Memorial Fund to purchase a bench and have it engraved in his remembrance.

A motion was made and the Board approved the medical note.

Chief Speranza acknowledged Company 1's suggestion, which will need to be discussed further with John Vittorio's parents.

Company Reports:

Company #1

Asst. Chief Smith reported for the month of May 2008 CO 1 responded to: 18 box alarms, held 2 trainings, 0 Drill, 0 radio alarms and 2 still alarms for a total of 22 alarms.

Company 1 submitted a letter suggesting the use of the John Vittorio Memorial fund to purchase an engraved bench.

Engine 1's will return to Fire & Safety on Monday June 9, 2008 for further repairs on the front suction. One SCBA it still out for repairs.

All firefighters and equipment are in good working order.

Company #2

Asst. Chief Vanderhook reported for the month of May 2008 CO 2 responded to: 17 box alarms, held 01 drill, 0 radio alarms, 3 mutual aid calls and 0 still alarms for a total of 21 alarms.

All firefighters and equipment are in good condition.

Company #3

Asst. Chief Van Ek reported that for the month of May 2008 Engine 3 responded to: 17 box alarms, 1 radio alarm, held 1 drill, 1 mutual aid call, 2 still alarms and held 3 trainings for a total of 25 alarms.

Engine 3 is continuing to experience paint issues and will now require the assistance of the Borough Administrator and Borough Attorney, as this has been an ongoing issue that has yet to be resolved.

Engine 3 along with Unit 58 will be attending Totowa's training on Saturday June 21, 2008 at 1 pm.

AAA Emergency will be repairing 3 SCBA due to issues concerning the heads up display.

The requested copies of Apparatus drivers NJ Drivers Licenses have been turned in to Chief Speranza.

All members that needed to complete the AIG Retirement paperwork have done so with the assistance of AIG's Financial Advisor at the June 02, 2008 meeting.

All firefighters and equipment are in working order.

Company #4

Capt. Nelson reported for the month of May 2008 Engine 4 responded to: 20 box alarms, 3 still alarm's, 0 radio alarms, and held 1 drill for a total of 24 alarms.

One thermal imaging camera battery is requested.

FF Kenneth Kotran has completed Firefighter 1.

All firefighters and equipment are in good working order.

Company #5

Capt. Warner reported that for the month of May 2008 that Company 5 responded to: 17 box alarms, 0 radio alarm, 0 training and 1 drill for a total of 18 alarms.

The AED has been upgraded.

Company 5 thanked all the members that supported the annual Pasta Diner.

All equipment and Truck are in good working order.

Borough Chief's report:

I thank all the members who had the inspection on June 02, 2008. Once again we all pulled together in short notice. Mayor Botbyl informed us that he would seek an Ordinance change pertaining to future Inspections.

All Assistant Chief's and Captains are requested to monitor apparatus drivers responding to and returning from alarms to insure that due caution is applied.

A recent report has provided that there are two "NO Entry" buildings in the Borough due to structural hazards. They are 18 Eighth Avenue and 126 Mountain Avenue.

The St. Anthony's Annual Feast will begin on June 11 and run through June 14, 2008. Just a reminder to expect different travel patterns during that time.

There has been suggestion's of a Department picnic directly after the Memorial Day Parade. It is requested that the Assistant Chief's secure feedback from each Company for further discussion.

Due to recent complaints of members tampering with Borough Equipment a letter will be sent to each Company outlining that any misuses or tampering of Borough Equipment is in violation of Borough Ordinance 17-15. Any member that is found violating this said Ordinance shall lead to suspension and / or expulsion from the Department. This is not an accepted practice and will not be tolerated by the Department.

Engine One will be out for repairs on June 09, 2008.

On **June 23, 2008** the OSHA mandated classes will be conducted and will be held at North Haledon's Company Two. The class will begin at 7:15pm.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

June 23, 2008 – OSHA Classes, North Haledon Company 2 - 7:15pm

Committees:

Fire Prevention / In School Program: The report will be placed in each Asst. Chief's mailbox.

Training Committee: No report at this time.

Ladies Auxiliary: No report at this time

Communication Committee: No report at this time.

Fund Drive: No report at this time.

In School Program: No report at this time.

Golf Committee: The Committee will be deciding to reduce the amount of players needed from 100 to 80 based on the current economy and other issues. The Committee will meet again to further discuss.

Van Hook Scholarship: Scholarships were handed out to two recipients. One of which is now a full time member. Progress is being made for the previously proposed Clam Bake.

Open House: Will be scheduled with the Asst. Chief's accordingly. Two new vendors will be attending this year's Open House to display their new products.

Bon Fire: No report at this time.

By Laws Ordinance: No report at this time.

LOSAP: Valic Senior Financial Advisor representative Phillip Nuccetelli met with members on June 02, 2008. All questions and the necessary forms for members were completed at that time. Anyone that did not attend must contact the AIG Retirement advisor Phillip Nutticello at 800 892 5558 ext 89586, or via email Philip.nuccetelli.sr@aigretirement.com. Also, any member that would like to access the AIG account can do so on line by logging onto AIG retirement.com.

Old Business:

Company 1: Requested status on the blue light permits.

Chief Speranza stated that Mayor Botyl needs copies of the old permits for all renewals. If they are initial permits they are simply signed and submitted to the State.

Company 2: Requested the status of the Borough needing copies of the driver's license. Also, asked if the gate at Lafayette Hills has been repaired.

**Chief Speranza advised this is what is required by the Borough, the Safety Division and the Insurance Company and we will adhere accordingly. As to the gate it is now functioning properly.*

Company 3: Requested status on storage containers.

**Chief Speranza stated that Council might adopt a plan to deal with these issues.*

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 at this time

Company 1: No report at this time.

Company 2: The laptop has a broken screen and is in need of repairs.

**Captain Warner advised that we could secure a new screen and replace the old one. Captain Warner will research further and will work with Asst. Chief Vanderhook to repair the laptop.*

Company 3: Will be attending along with Company 5 to the Midland Park car show from 12-3pm.

Company 4: Letter of resignation was received from Lieut. Devin Hughes.
**Accepted and approved by the Board. Company 4 will elect a new Lieut. at their next Company meeting.*

Company 5: None to report at this time

Good & Welfare:

CO 1: No report at this time.

CO 2: No report at this time.

CO 3: FF Jim Baker & FF Alan Anema are recovering.

CO 4: Inquired as to Joseph Mascara's visit from Florida.
**Chief Speranza has not heard from Mr. Mascara and will find out further if he will be visiting and his whereabouts.*

CO5: No report at this time.

Chief: Advised that the engraved bench for Ken Silvestri is now in and a date will be scheduled for the presentation at the Boonton Firemen's home.

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

Lieut. John Arturi thanked the Department for attending his Mother's visitation services.

John Arturi Jr. thanked the Department for sending flowers to his father, Liet John Arturi when he was ill.

Ken Silvestri reminded all members to attend the Passaic County Firemen's Association meeting, which will be held on Friday June 06, 2008 at 8pm. The meeting will be held in Prospect Parks firehouse located on Brown Avenue.

Chief Speranza urged all to attend to support the Association.

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

A Motion by Asst. Chief Smith, second by Asst. Chief Van Ek the meeting is adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

John Tripicchio

John Tripicchio
Board Secretary