

Chief Joseph Speranza
973.423.5550 Office
973.423.5089 Fax



Clerk John P. Tripicchio
973.423.2536 Office
973.423.5089 Fax

Borough of Hawthorne Board of Fire Commissioners

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

Minutes of the meeting held on August 8, 2015.

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, Licut. Ronald Walker, Engine Company 3, Asst. Chief 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 Arturi, while a second was made by Asst. Chief Warner to accept the Minutes as read.

The Departments bills were read as follows:

BILLS:

Gates Flags	\$161.60	Confined Space LLC	\$500.00
HFD Reimbursement	\$12.93	CO1-4 (\$1,700.00)	\$6,800.00
CO 5	\$450.00	CO 1-5 (\$45.00)	\$225.00
Asst. Chief's 1-5 (\$30.00)	\$150.00	Joseph Speranza	\$30.00
John Tripicchio	\$30.00	AAA Emergency	\$1,587.00
AAA Emergency	\$1,000.00		

BOND BILLS

AAA Emergency	\$20,320.40	AAA Emergency	\$51,212.80
Coast Fire Lighting	\$1,820.00		

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

The Board were all in favor to submit the bills for consideration.



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Communications:

- A medical note was received from FF Thomas Kennedy who is able to return to active duty eff. 07/01/15.
- 125th Anniversary Parade East Rutherford 09/26/15 8:30 am. Visit Rutherford 56Engine 3 Parade on Facebook for all info.
- Pequannock Twps. WETDOWN Engine CO 1, 10/03/15 2-7 PM at 30 Jackson Avenue Pompton Plains, NJ.
- Thank you letter from the Smith, Phillips and Warner families,
- A medical note was received by FF Robert Taglibue dating back to 3/05/15 to present.
- Company 1 requested the use of the dunk tank for Hawthorne Day.
- Company 5 endorsed Chief Speranza for the 2016-2019 term for Borough Chief.

The Board accepted all communications as read.

Company Reports:

Company #1

Asst Chief Arturi reported for the month of July 2015, Company 1 responded to: 19 box alarms, 0 still alarm(s), 0 radio alarm (s), 0 standby(s), and held 3 drill (s), for a total of 22 alarms. In addition held 1 training(s).

Fire & Safety has replaced the rear ladder compartment, tightened the front inlet clamp located underneath passenger side crew cab door. All outstanding issues that had to be addressed have been taken care of.

We are still waiting for quotes for the sight rods and (1) additional rear shelf.

FF Thomas Kennedy returned to active duty.

All other equipment are in working order and with the exception to the above.

Company #2

Asst. Chief Maher reported for the month of July 2015, Company 2 responded to: 19 box alarms, 1 still alarm(s), 0 Chief's call, 0 Radio alarms, 0 standby(s), and held 1 drill (s) for a total of 21 alarms In addition, held 2 training (s) and responded to 0 mutual aid call(s).

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There is radio interference after it rains that is now effecting Chanel 1. This is a concern when on operating on a fire scene.

The aerial inspection has been completed.

Members are complaining of not receiving the transmissions through the pagers.

Company 2 requested to attend the Wallington Parade.

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

Company #3

Asst. Chief Joseph Longo reported that for the month of July 2015 Company 3 responded to: 18 box alarms, 0 radio alarm (s), 0 still alarm(s), 0 standbys, and 2 drill (s) for a total of 20 alarms. In addition held 2 training (s) and 1 mutual aid response(s).

Probationary FF Jose Padilla, transferred to Engine 3 from Rescue 5 and is enrolled in FF1.

A list was turned in for (6) members that need Fire Protection gear.

Requested 10 hose straps
Received 3 helmets (2 Lieut., 1 Capt.)

Company 3 is requesting that the Borough repaint the do not block grid the same and Ambulance, as the Engine is unable to enter and egress from the station due to traffic. This is an ongoing concern that needs to be addressed.

Ex-Asst Chief George Degroot is recovering from his operation and is in a rehabilitation program. Company 3 wished him a speedy recovery

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

Company #4

Asst Chief Michael Nelson, reported for the month of July 2015, Company 4 responded to: 21 box alarms, 4 still alarm(s), 0 radio alarm(s), 1 drill (s), 0 standby(s), for a total of 26 alarms. In addition held 0 training (s) and 4 Mutual Aid call (s).

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FF Carlos Rivera suffered heat exhaustion while attending PT at the County Academy. He was transported to hospital and will follow up with his primary care physician.

Received 2 medium masks.

Requested 2 probationary shields

The light tower has to be adjusted as it is no longer sitting correctly into its cradle.

The cab warning light remains on and will not shut off.

FF George Rege continues the rehabilitation program.

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

Company #5

Asst. Chief Warner reported for the month of July 2015 Company 5 responded to: 21 box alarms, 0 still alarms, 0 radio alarm, 0 standby(s), 2 drill (s) for a total of 23 alarms. In addition held 1 training (s).

The Res Q jacks stabilization system have been received

The boat has been repaired and is back in service.

Training will be held for the new Res Q jacks and the new extrication tool.

Fire Marshall Gene Deugstines is on medical leave due to a leg injury.

All firefighters and equipment are in good working order.

Borough Chief Speranza Report:

Thanks to all of the members that paid their respects to Asst. Chief Warner's family. Thanked all of the Lieutenants that conducted the Department drill. Many things were learned and we will develop further based on what was observed.

We are also in the process of adding two more drills before the summer is over.

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The Training Center - thanked Captain Van Der Velde, Asst. Chief Longo and Lieutenant Carlo for all of their continued hard work at the Center. Copeland Construction has donated labor and concrete at the Center.

The sizing of turn out gear for several members were completed and will arrive in several weeks. The hose nozzle order was also placed and is expected to be here by the end of August.

New gas cards will be distributed for vehicle specific coding and usage.

We are continuing to have radio transmissions issues and it is believed that there is a fracture in an antenna as we have learned that when it rains the transmission is affected.

The Borough has been informed of the situation and is in the process of addressing same.

Communications Specialist was also contacted and will be involved in the repair of our communications system. Once this has been completed it will be broadcasted to all members. We thank Borough Administrator Maurer for his assistance to the understanding this issue and for addressing same.

The Department was award the "First Twenty Grant". A Department overview profile will be completed in the next two months and we will provided a report. The assessment team will consist of doctors and nurses from the University of Texas. They will assess and provide insight as to wellness, fitness and both individual and team building programs. For more info visit www.firsttwentywellness.com.

With the upcoming Firemen's Convention we will need a head count so that we can determine our coverage.

Dates to Remember

August 06, 2015- Safety Town

August 15, 2015 - Fishing Trip

August 17, 2015 – Helicopter Landing -Lincoln Middle School

August 20, 2015 – Lincoln Middle School / Leadership Camp/ meet 11 AM at Headquarters

September 11, 2015- 9/11 Memorial Presentation

October 20, 2015 – 9am / 12 noon Coin Toss

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COMMITTEES

Communication Division: Responded to 19 alarms, held 2 meeting (s) & 1 drill for a total of 22 alarms.

Both the Radio Room and Field com are all working with no issues.

Fire Prevention: Fire Marshall DeAugustines is on a medical leave. Capt. Dibella, Alan DelVecchio and James Booth will be utilized for any investigative purposes during his medical leave.

Ladies Auxiliary: No report at this time.

Junior FF's (Explorer Program): No report at this time.

In School Program: No report at this time.

Hawthorne Day: No report at this time.

100th Anniversary: A food caterer is booked, Kohler has approved their property to host the event. Looking into the area for a beer garden. Ad Journal is being developed. T-shirt order has to be placed by the end of August. Commemorative "Challenge Coins" are being looked into. Need pictures from each company. 10/25/15 coin toss. 08/15/15 fishing trip.

Chief Speranza added that he is looking into a professional wrestling and / or food truck vendors fund raiser. Also, recommended that we print up staff shirts for the members.

Ordinance Committee: Ex Chief Tamburro met with the Borough Officials and will report back to the Board as ordinances develop. This process will take 1 ½ years.

Training Center: 2 hydrants were installed, signs are needed, stairs are being secured down with concrete, confined space area will be worked on next. Looking into possible grants since this Center will be used cooperatively. We still need many items to be donated and it is asked for everyone to ask around to get these items.

Safety Officers: No report.

Exempt/ Relief: County Caucus 08/06/15 at the Hawthorne Boys & Girls Club

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Website: No report

Old Business:

Company 1: No report at this time.
Company 2: 2 members need PPE.

Company 3: No report at this time.

Company 4: Explained the issues with our transmission lines. There are issues with the repeaters and antenna that is being looked at by a vendor to repair same.

Company 5: No report at this time.

Chiefs Report: No report at this time.

New Business:

Oath of Office: None

Company 1: Clarified that the last 100 year meeting that Company 1 was misrepresented and that there was no issue with the T shirt lay out. The issue was that at Fire Board it was stated that the proof would come back to the companies approve or disapprove then it would be decided. It appears that the one and only proof that was given was simply approved with no input from the companies.

Scott Geier stated that the committee was shown various T shirts and they picked the best one they believed was the right one to fit all of the vehicles.

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: FF Thomas Kennedy returned to duty and Asst. Chief Arturi has gout and is unable to don on his FF boots.

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Company 2: No report at this time

Company 3: George Degroot in in rehab.

Company 4: No report at this time.

Company 5: Gene DeAugstines is on medical leave, George Zaggata returned to active duty. Thanked all that attended the wake.

Chief: No report at this time.

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

Capt. Van Der Velde expressed his disinterest in attending the 9/11 Memorial based on last year's memorial.

Chief Speranza stated that he will speak to the Mayor.

Joseph Metzler advised the Board that he has a toilet that he can donate.
Asst. Chief Longo thanked Mr. Metzler for his donation.

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

A motion was made by Asst. Chief Longo, and a second by Asst. Chief Warner that the meeting be adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,
John Tripicchio
Board Secretary