



Borough of Hawthorne Board of Fire Commissioners

445 Lafayette Avenue
Hawthorne, New Jersey 07506

Minutes of the meeting held on October 7, 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: Capt. Anthony Di Vincent, Engine Company 3: Asst. Chief Jared Van Ek, Engine Company 4: Asst. Chief James Geier, and Rescue Company 5: Capt. Brian Warner.

MINUTES

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

HFD Reimbursement	\$486.93	Verizon	\$31.87
Verizon	\$54.45	Verizon Wireless	\$127.58
HFD Reimbursement	\$283.94	AT&T	\$46.90
Ridgewood Typewriter	\$95.35	Hawthorne Public School	\$112.50
First Priority	\$4,593.70	BC Communication	\$963.44
Technical Fire Service	\$675.00	Ken's Auto Service	\$145.00
Chief Supply	\$240.00	AAA Emergency	\$108.43
Asst. Chief Van Ek	\$116.47	Gates Flags	\$497.90
Chief Supply	\$240.00	Ken's Auto	\$85.00
Verizon Wireless	\$125.87	Gempler's	\$937.25
The Fire Store	\$21.78	The Fire Store	\$100.69

Communications:

- A thank you note was received from FF Robert Bell thanking the Department for the support and flowers that he received.
- A thank you note was received from Hilda Malandrino thanking the Department for the flowers.
- An e-mail was received from Borough resident Joe Rooney thanking the Department for responding to his residence during the heavy rainstorm in September while he was on vacation.

- A medical note was received from Kayal Orthopaedic Center releasing FF Craig Irvolino back to active duty effective November 01, 2008.
- A letter was received from Borough resident Robert B. VanDuesen Jr. requesting to join the Department. (CO 4).
- A communication was received from the Hawthorne Ecumenical Council extending an invitation to the Department to join in the 2008 CROP walk. The CROP walk will commence at 4:00 pm on Sunday, October 19, 2008. Anyone interested may contact Reverend Stuart H Smith 973 427 4098.
- A letter from Borough resident Brendan Duffy requesting to join the Department. (CO 4).
- A communication from the Hawthorne Chamber of Commerce requesting the Department to participate in the Annual Santa Parade that will be held on Friday, December 05, 2008 at 6:00pm. The rain date will be December 12, 2008. (Copies to Asst. Chief's).
- A letter was received from Borough resident and Junior Fire Fighter Jacob Gaechter requesting to join the Department. (CO 3).
- A communication was received from the NJ Firemen's Home thanking the Department for delivery of the bench in honor of Ex Fire Clerk Kenneth Silvestri.
- A communication was received from the NJ Firemen's Home requesting consideration of a donation to assist in supporting the Annual Firemen's Home Christmas Party that will be held on December 14, 2008 at 2:00pm.
- Two applications were received Borough residents Robert Van Duesen (CO 4) and Joseph Fitzmaurice (CO5). Both applications were being returned due to uncompleted applications.

Company Reports:

Company #1

Asst. Chief Smith reported for the month of September 2008 CO 1 responded to: 19 box alarms, held 1 training, 1 drill's, 1 radio alarms and 1 still alarm for a total of 23 alarms.

Engine 1 has extended an invitation to each company's members who would like to attend this year's Wallington Holiday Parade. If interested please contact Asst. Chief Smith for further details.

All firefighters and equipment are in good working order.

Company #2

Capt. Di Vincent reported for the month of September 2008 CO 2 responded to: 20 box alarms, held 2 drills, 0 radio alarms, 0 mutual aid calls and 0 still alarms for a total of 22 alarms.

The mechanic removed the cracked snow chain rod bracket and will be replacing it shortly.

All firefighters and equipment are in good condition.

Company #3

Asst. Chief Van Ek reported that for the month of September 2008 Engine 3 responded to: 19 box alarms, 0 radio alarm, held 1 drill, 1 mutual aid call, 1 still alarms 1 stand-by and 2 training for a total of 25 alarms.

First Priority came out again to address the passenger side suction valve. The Company re tested the valve and the problem was not fixed. First Priority was requested to come back out to re check their work.

Company 3 received two 10' lengths of 1 ¾ hose and two lengths of 2 ½ hose.

One SCBA has been received back from repairs and one regulator has been sent out for repairs.

All firefighters and equipment are in working order.

Company #4

Asst. Chief Geier reported for the month of September 2008 Engine 4 responded to: 20 box alarms, 3 still alarm's, 1 radio alarm, and held 2 drill's for a total of 26 alarms.

Three SCBA bottle were sent out for repairs and are yet to be returned.

The number five-side discharge has been repaired.

All firefighters and equipment are in good working order.

Company #5

Capt. Warner reported that for the month of September 2008 that Company 5 responded to: 25 box alarms, 0 radio alarm, 0 training and 2 drills for a total of 27 alarms.

First Priority has inspected the Rescue trucks awning. They will be ordering the part so that awning may be repaired.

The new boat was been tested and is going in for engine repairs on Wednesday, October 8, 2008.

All equipment and Truck are in good working order.

Borough Chief's report:

I thank all of the members that responded to the 89 Franklin Avenue Fire. It was a great stop and everyone came home safe.

I also want to extend thanks to all of the Department members and the Ladies Auxiliary that assisted is the clean up at Fire Headquarters.

Our annual Open House will be combined with the Hawthorne Education Foundation's Ducky Derby. This is the annual year the both events are combined and it should be a great event as both serve as a great cause for the Borough residents and our children.

All apparatus and Department members should be in place by 11:00am with the Open house to kick off at 1:00pm.

The training center Phase I will commence the end of October beginning of November. Phase II should commence the middle of November. Members are urged to participate so that we may see completion in 2009.

The State of NJ Assembly 213th Legislature passed bill # 3207 that prohibits sales of novelty lighters that are appealing to 15 years of age or younger. Action will be taken should a local vendor disobey the newly passed law.

Scholarships from the PBA 200 Club are available for graduating Senior of the Borough. Applications are available and will be located at Fire Headquarters. They must be post marked by January 21, 2009. Any member interested in an application should contact Chief Speranza.

The annual physicals will take place on Sunday, **November 3rd at 9:00am to 11:30 am** and **Monday November 4th at 6:30pm to 8:30pm.**

Since we will be combining our Physical with North Haledon a proposed December date may be available depending on the availability of the doctors.

Our Annual Memorial Day Ceremony / Breakfast will be held on **November 16, 2008**. We will meet in front of St Anthony's RC church in full dress at 8:00am.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

October 12, 2008 – Open House / Fire Prevention
October 15, 2008- 8:30- 11:30am In School Program
October 17, 2008 – 9:00am In School Program
October 20, 2008- Driver Drill
November 3, 2008 - Annual Physicals
November 04, 2008 -Annual Physicals
November 16, 2008 - Annual Memorial Ceremony

Committees:

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

Training Committee: There will be an interview process slated for October 20, 2008 for the 2009 Safety Officers.

Ladies Auxiliary: Fish & Chips will be held on October 22, 2008. The dinner will be held at Company #1 and will commence at 5:30pm and 6:30pm. The costs for tickets are \$12.00 and are available through Dot Geier 973 423-2399.

The Ladies Auxiliary van has been sent out for a repair estimate due it numerous needed repairs and safety issues.

Communication Committee: No report at this time.

Fund Drive: No report at this time.

In School Program: **October 15, 2008- 8:30- 11:30am In School Program**
October 17, 2008 – 9:00am In School Program

Van Hook Scholarship: No report at this time.

Open House: Assignment has been handed out to each company.

Bon Fire: No report at this time.

By Laws Ordinance: No report at this time.

Old Business:

Company 1: No report at this time.

Company 2: No report at this time.

Company 3: No report at this time.

Company 4: Inquired as to when the Junior Fire Fighters are going to be rotated between companies.

Chief Speranza stated it is understood that the Juniors will start to rotate on about October 15, 2008

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: Inquired if Engine 1 has been placed on the Internet for a price of \$450K.

Chief Speranza was unaware of the advertisement yet stated that the information is public information that may have been provided by the Borough.

Company 3: No report at this time.

Company 4: No report at this time.

Company 5: No report at this time

Chief:

Good & Welfare:

CO 1: No report at this time.

CO 2: Robert Bell is back to active duty.

CO 3: Ex - Asst Chief Dan Oliver had a recent heart attack. Information as to the medical condition will be provided at a later date. FF Henry Joustra has fallen and is recovering.

Lieut. Ben Veenema's wife Stacey had emergency surgery due to an ectopic pregnancy.

CO 4: No report at this time.

CO5: No report at this time.

Chief: Detective Robert King was involved in a motor vehicle accident (that Department assisted in) and is doing well.

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

Ex - Asst Chief Brian Van Hook stated that the 60-minute bottle that was lent to Company 4 is being returned. Also, reiterated that the Chief of the Department needs representation at the Wildwood Convention as it counts for one Passaic County vote. Also, the Exempts and Relief meeting is scheduled for Friday, October 10, 2008

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

A Motion by Asst. Chief Smith, second by Asst. Chief Geier that the meeting be adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

John Tripicchio

John Tripicchio
Board Secretary