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Borough of Hawthorne Board of Fire Commissioners

445 Lafayette Avenue
Hawthorne, New Jersey 07506

Minutes of the meeting held on March 04, 2008.

The meeting was called to order by 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: Jared Van Ek, Engine Company 4: Capt. Michael Nelson and Rescue Company 5: Asst. Chief John Gurriell.

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 Gurriell, that the following bills be approved and submitted to the Borough Administrator for consideration.

AT &T	\$85.06	Occupational Medical	\$195.00
Ronald Hill	\$160.00	NJ Fire Equipment	\$968.28
AES	\$139.97	West Marine	\$24.99
Verizon	\$25.88	Verizon	\$58.09
Company 1-4 (each)	\$1,550.00	Company 5	\$450.00
Asst Chief 1-5 (each)	\$30.00	Company 1-5 (each)	\$45.00
Chief Speranza	\$30.00	Clerk Tripicchio	\$30.00
Verizon Wireless	\$130.25	Middlesex Cnty FA	\$300.00

Communications:

- A thank you letter was received from FF Ralph Mantello & Diane Kennedy for the gifts that were sent to them.
- A communication was received from the Passaic County 200 Club advising that the Valor Awards dinner will be held on Tuesday May 6, 2008 and will be held at the Brownstone in Paterson, NJ.
- A letter of intent was received from resident Justin Siek requesting to join the department. (Copy to CO3).

- A letter of intent was received from resident Arica Longo requesting to join the department. (Copy to CO3).
- A letter of intent was received from resident Doreen Marie Venick requesting to join the department. (Copy to CO 5).
- A letter was received from Dayna Van Hook expressing displeasure with the Department's handling of the passing of Michael Warnet.
- A medical note was received from the Garden State Ortho Assoc. for FF Kyle Johnson who is released and may drive yet has restrictions for heavy lifting / pulling.

Company Reports:

Company #1

Asst. Chief Smith reported for the month of February, 2007 CO 1 responded to: 18 box alarms, held 4 trainings, 0 Drills, 0 radio alarms and 0 still alarms for a total of 22 alarms.

Engine 1 is out for repairs and will be out of service for undetermined amount at this time.

Company 1 will be responding with Unit 5-8 & Unit 6-1.

The high intensity spotlight has been replaced.

All firefighters and equipment are in good working order.

Company #2

Asst. Chief Vanderhook reported for the month of February, 2008 CO 2 responded to: 23 box alarms, held 2 drills, 0 radio alarms, 0 Mutual aid call and 0 still alarm for a total of 25 alarms.

All firefighters and equipment are in good condition.

Company #3

Asst. Chief Van Ek reported that for the month of February, 2008 Engine 3 responded to: 22 box alarms, 0 radio alarms, held 2 drills, 0 mutual aid calls, 1 still alarm for a total of 25 alarms.

The vendor 1st Priority repaired the air valve and will be securing a rebuild kit for another one.

One of the rotators is out on the light bar and will be replaced with LED's.

Also, the rubber gasket in front of the grill is deteriorating and will need to be replaced.

Engine 3 will be requesting to attend Totowa's training in June and the paperwork will file shortly. *Any other Company wishing to join Company 3 should contact Chief Van Ek.*

FF Scott Singletary has moved to another town and has not been responding to Chief Van Ek communications. Once the correct address is located the Department will need to send a letter as to his intent.

All firefighters and equipment are in working order

Company #4

Capt. Michael Nelson reported for the month of February 2008 Engine 4 responded to 21 box alarms, 1 still alarm, 1 radio alarm, and held 1 drill for a total of 24 alarms.

A stream light box with charger base is needed as well as 3 steam light survivor batteries.

FF Ken Kotran began Firefighter 1 in the Middlesex County Fire Academy.

All firefighters and equipment are in good working order.

Company #5

Asst. Chief Gurriell reported that for the month of February, 2008 that Company 5 responded to: 24 box alarms, 0 radio alarm, 2 trainings and held 1 drill for a total of 27 alarms.

A Scott multi-gas meter has been sent out for repairs. The scheduling of the Hurst equipment for service will commence soon.

Ralph Mantello is out on medical leave.

All equipment and Truck are in good working order.

Borough Chief's report:

Effective Wednesday March 5, 2008, all non holiday Monday thru Friday alarms between the hours of 6:00am to 6:00pm if there are Chief Officer's in the Borough and are available to respond it is requested to "call in service" en route to their respective fire house with their respective radio ID number. This will assist the Police Department to insure that there is a Chief Officer available as needed for incidents and for other Department obligations.

This will also alert Chief Speranza of the command and the type of incident to determine if he will need to respond.

FF George Lodder has been added as Safety Officer due to his training and certifications.

It is requested that every company review the water operations guidelines as we enter the change of season which brings in potential flooding.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

April 26, 2008- Installation Dinner 2008
May 6, 2008 – Tricky Tray (Ladies Auxiliary)

Committees:

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

Training Committee: No report at this time

Ladies Auxiliary: **May 6, 2008 – Tricky Tray.** Tickets \$35.00 contact Dot Geier.

Communication Committee: No report at this time.

Fund Drive: No report at this time.

Scholarship: No report at this time

Old Business:

Company 1: None to report at this time

Company 2: Inquiry was made as to the status of the "promised" snow blowers from the Borough.

Chief Speranza stated that the Borough has been sent letters and we have not received a response.

Also, are we able to resolve the returning of documents for the blue light permits.

Chief Speranza stated that we all have to be diligent when completing the applications so that they are completed correctly to avoid their return.

Company 3: Requested an update as to the Hepatitis B shots.

Chief Speranza stated that a protocol is being established which will include Occupational Medical Associates and the Borough Nurse.

Company 4: None to report at this time

Company 5: None to report at this time.

Chiefs Report: Congratulated Asst. Chief Gurriell who had attended the Mayor's previously scheduled team meeting.

New Business:

Oath of Office: None

Company 1: None to report at this time

Company 2: Inquired as to the awards that will be issued at the Installation dinner.

Asst Chief Smith indicated that several requests were made Company 2 members will be up for an award and the other consideration was not approved due to the time frame it had occurred.

Company 3: None to report at this time

Company 4: None to report at this time

Company 5: None to report at this time

Chief: The Police Department was given Carbon Monoxide guidelines along with recommendations.

The letter received from Dayna Van Hook was slighted due to the fact that the Department has established many guidelines for Department members that were approved by the Board. For instance a funeral protocol that is strictly followed, there is a fire fighter injury protocol that was established, the Department acknowledges the Department members with gifts either of by a way of flowers, fruit basket or a card for illnesses, deaths and births. As to the letter the Department shows sympathy and did so in that instance by having members show up for Michael Warnet, a gift was sent and the family was supported. This was over and above what was established with the previously approved funeral protocol as the Department acknowledged the passing was a relative of the Departments own. The Department again extends there Sympathy with the entire Warnet family and re enforced that the Department does show care when it is informed of such an event.

Good & Welfare:

CO 1: No report at this time

CO 2: No report at this time

CO 3: Requested the status of Florence Bay.

Chief Speranza stated that Mrs. Bay has been moved to a home where she is being monitored.

CO 4: No report at this time

CO5: No report at this time

Chief Speranza: The Department along with North Haledon FD will be scheduling dates for the mandated classes in the near future. Also, the Department will be contacting Dr. John Stroebeck of the Heart and Lung Center to discuss possible MRI of the heart for Firefighters or possible lecture on the heart.

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

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

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

Respectfully Submitted,

John Tripicchio

John Tripicchio
Board Secretary