



Borough of Hawthorne Board of Fire Commissioners

445 Lafayette Avenue
Hawthorne, New Jersey 07506

Minutes of the meeting held on July 07, 2009.

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. Mark Smith, Tower Company 2: Asst. Chief Anthony DiVincent, Engine Company 3: Asst. Chief Jared Van Ek, Engine Company 4: Asst. Chief James Geier, and Rescue Company 5: Asst. Chief John Gurriell.

MINUTES

The previous Minutes were read. A motion to accept the Minutes as read was made by Asst. Chief Van Ek and Asst. Chief Smith.

Motion by Asst. Chief Smith and Asst. Chief Geier, that the following bills be approved and submitted to the Borough Administrator for consideration:

BILLS

HFD Reimbursement	\$254.55	Ken's Auto	\$237.76
Fire & Safety	\$3,826.25	Kens Auto	\$90.00
B & C Communication	\$494.00	B & C Communication	\$89.05
Luscher's Auto	\$310.63	Ridgewood Press	\$657.40
Ace Hardware	\$96.63	Verizon Wireless	\$156.39
Verizon	\$31.54	Verizon	\$56.03
Turn Out Uniforms	\$73.98	Somes Uniform	\$32.00
Twister Display	\$113.00	Chief Supply	\$5,038.82
B / C Communication	\$963.50		

Communications:

- Oakland Fire Department will be celebrating their 100th year Anniversary on September 12, 2009.
- The 9th Annual Brothers Helping Brothers Golf Classic will be held on Friday, September 25, 2009 at Gamblers Ridge 181 Rte 539, Cream Ridge NJ 08514.

This outing benefits financial assistance to families of fallen firefighters. For more info contact Michelle McDonnell at 732 355 0707.

- A medical note for FF Tom Bakker Sr. to return to full active duty on July 5, 2009.
- A letter of intent was received from Borough resident Sterluis Castillo. (Copy to CO 5)
- A letter from FF Kenneth Kotran was received requesting a (3) three-month leave of absence.
- A letter from FF William Smith re requesting an additional (3) three months leave of absence.
- A letter was received from FF George L. Rege advising the Board of an address change.
- A letter was received from FF Robert VanDeusen advising the Board of an address change.

The Board accepted Kenneth Kotran's leave of absence for (3) three months.

The Board requested sending a letter to FF William Smith informing that the recent (3) three month leave of absence request was accepted yet, we will need to send a letter to him advising that this is now (9) nine months and should another request come in it will be further reviewed as the limit is a (one) 1 year.

Company Reports:

Company #1

Asst. Chief Mark Smith reported that for the month of June 2009 responded to: 17 box alarms, held 5 training's, 0 drill, 0 radio alarms and 7 still alarm for a total of 29 alarms.

The annual maintenance on Engine 1 was completed last week. In addition, several lights of the apparatus were replaced by the Officers.

Engine 1 is in fair working condition.

All firefighters and equipment are in good working order.

Company #2

Asst. Chief DiVincent reported for the month of June 2009 responded to: 15 box alarms, held 2 drills, for a total of 17 alarms.

(1) One box of fuel additive is being requested at this time.

FF William Seidel and FF Keith Weber have completed Fire Fighter 1.

All firefighters and equipment are in good condition.

Company #3

Asst. Chief Van Ek reported that for the month of June 2009 responded to: 15 box alarms, 2 mutual aid alarms, 0 radio alarm, held 2 drills, 0 chief's call, 2 still alarm and 1 training for a total of 22 alarms.

Vendor Ken's Auto Electric completed the wiring of battery chargers and the thermal imaging camera.

Vendor 1st Priority conducted an inspection of the deck gun and foam tank level indicator. The inspection provided that the deck gun needs a valve rebuilt as it is not functioning properly and the foam tank level indicator has to be replaced. Parts will need to be ordered.

Engine 3 will has been assigned to cover North Haledon on July 11, 2009 for their firework display.

Engine 3 will also be attending West Paterson Muster on Saturday July 18, 2009. An open invitation for other Companies to join is also extended.

I will be on vacation from the dates of July 10-18, 2009 and July 24-31, 2009.

FF Jacob Gaechter has completed the Fire Fighter 1 program.

All firefighters and equipment are in working order.

Company #4

Asst. Chief Geier reported for the month of June, Company 4 responded to: 16 box alarms, 0 still alarm, 0 radio alarm, 1 Chiefs calls, and held 2 drill for a total of 20 alarms.

A battery for the HT 100 is being requested at this time, as the battery will no longer hold a charge.

An eyeglass kit is being requested for Ex. Asst Chief Brian Van Hook.

The # 6 cylinder on Engine 4 has an exhaust leak, which requires repairs.

A request is being made for smoke and CO2 detectors.

All firefighters and equipment are in good working order.

Company #5

Asst. Chief Gurriell reported that for the month of June 2009, Company 5 responded to: 22 box alarms, 0 radio alarm, 0 training, 4 drills and 1 extrication demo for a total of 27 alarms.

The cab windows are not operating properly and repairs are being requested.

FF Ralph Mantello has returned from the medical leave.

FF Donald Kinard is out on medical leave due to a hip injury.

Company 5 is requesting the use of the pool on Monday nights for water rescue training.

All firefighters and equipment are in good working order.

Borough Chief Speranza Report:

In light of various ongoing investigation's within the Department we are we will be taking proactive measures.

We will be taking precautionary measures in securing activity in and out of Borough owned and / or rented facilities. As further information is secured and further action is needed I will inform the Assistant Chief's accordingly.

I am also forewarning any member or member's whose inappropriate behavior places the Department in harm's way will be faced with the stiff disciplinary action.

Further, any and all equipment that a member needs will now require their Assistant Chief's approval. A new equipment form will need to be completed and approved by their Assistant Chief in order to receive the needed equipment. There will be no exceptions to this rule.

Also, no Borough vehicle will be removed from Headquarters unless authorized by the Chief.

We will also be looking into upgrading the security system that includes an accountability system that would capture who enters or who exit's the Borough facilities previously mentioned.

On the business end the Borough has rejected the \$475,000.00 grant at this time. A further explanation from the Borough will be sought to further explain the rationale to their decision.

A meeting will be conducted with Mayor Goldberg and Finance Manager Mary Jean Hewitt will be held this week to discuss Valic's program (LOSAP).

Another meeting will be held this week with NJ State and the Mayor Goldberg to discuss the tanker issues. There is possibility if Hawthorne does store the tanker the driving duties may also include the Passaic County Sheriff's Department.

I thank all the members who attended the Passaic Avenue fire for a job well done.

We also received the Memorial bench for FF John Vittorio. We will need to assemble then bench and then schedule a Memorial down at the Wag Ball Fields.

Dates to Remember:

July 20, 2009 – Valic representative will be at HQ at 7:00 pm
September 26, 2009: Hawthorne Day

Communication Division responded to 9 alarms, ran 5 work details and held 4 meetings for a total of 18 alarms.

We are experiencing issues with the USP system in the radio room. They are not operating properly when we experience power line surges.

The Verizon leased telephone lines for "low band" radios at Fire Desk continue to have chronic noise problems. Signal 1 will address these lines.

All members, radio, computer and recording equipment in the Radio Room and Field Comm are in good working order.

Fire Prevention: Hybrid vehicles pamphlet has been distributed to the Board.

Ladies Auxiliary: 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

Toy Drive: No report at this time

Mutual Aid Meeting: No report at this time

Juniors: The Junior's will be rotating again this month.

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: No report at this time.

Company 5: No report at this time.

Chiefs Report: No report at this time.

New Business:

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: Joseph Peccini's son Joe Pecinni passed away last week. He was a former member of Company 1. Our condolences and prayer's are with sent to his family.

Company 2: No report at this time.

Company 3: No report at this time.

Company 4: No report at this time.