



Borough of Hawthorne
Board of Fire Commissioners

445 Lafayette Avenue
Hawthorne, New Jersey 07506

Minutes of the meeting held on March 01, 2011.

Borough Chief Joseph Speranza called the meeting to order at 7:30pm, with a salute to the flag. In attendance to this meeting was, Engine Company 1: Asst Chief James Counsellor, Tower Company 2: Asst. Chief George Webber, Engine Company 3: Asst. Chief Jared Van Ek, Engine Company 4: 1st Capt. Michael Nelson, and Rescue Company 5: Capt. Edward Sutherland.

MINUTES

A motion was made by Asst. Chief Counsellor to dispense the previous Minutes while a second Motion was made by, Asst. Chief Van Ek.

Motions were made by, Asst. Chief Weber and second from Asst. Chief Van Ek that the following bills be approved and are to be submitted to the Borough Administrator in consideration for payment:

BILLS

| | | | |
|-------------------|------------|--------------------|----------|
| Company 1 | \$47.63 | Company 1 | \$101.82 |
| Joseph Pagnozzi | \$50.00 | Robert Lamb | \$50.00 |
| AAA Emergency | \$2,026.40 | Edward Sutherland | \$46.86 |
| Verizon | \$59.35 | Verizon | \$50.04 |
| Verizon Wireless | \$138.35 | Ken's Auto Service | \$203.95 |
| AAA Emergency | \$716.04 | MES | \$775.13 |
| Zoll | \$326.33 | B/C Communication | \$177.00 |
| B/C Communication | \$154.00 | | |

Communications:

- A 1-month medical leave of absence was requested by, FF Thomas Bakker Sr. due to a finger injury.
- A 3- month medical leave of absence was received from Lieut. Andrew Massey, commencing on March 01, 2011 for back surgery.

- Received a medical note allowing Ex Asst. Chief George Degroot to return to active duty as of March 01, 2011.
- A letter of intent was received from Ryne R. Barry to join the Department and be assigned to Company 4 (CO4).
- Leonia Vol. Fire Department will be holding a Memorial dinner for Chief Troy Wright on Sunday March 13, 2011. For more info call 201 592 5796.

The Board of Fire Commissioners collectively granted the leave of absence to Lieut. Massey, FF Bakker Sr. and Degroot's return to active duty.

Company Reports:

Company #1

Asst. Chief Counsellor reported that for the month of February 2011, Company 1 responded to: 23 box alarms, held 0 training's, 4 drills, 0 radio alarm, 1 Chief's call and 2 still alarms, for a total of 30 alarms.

The heater in rear cab was repaired.

All firefighters and other than above equipment mentioned issues are in good working order.

Company #2

Asst. Chief Webber reported for the month of February 2011, Company 2 responded to: 23 box alarms, 3 still alarms, 0 chiefs call, 0 radio alarm, 1 mutual aid, 0 stand by 0 training's and held 1 drill, for a total of 28 alarms.

FF George Lodder has returned from hospital.

The Bullard Thermal Imaging camera is currently out of service awaiting new batteries.

The Truck and all firefighters are in good working order.

Company #3

Asst. Chief Van Ek reported that for the month of February 2011, Company 3 responded to: 20 box alarms, 1 drill, 0 radio alarm, 2 still alarms, 1 standby, 1 mutual aid and held 2 training's for a total of 27 alarms.

Federated Emergency Services is to make repairs on March 04, 2011.

Engine #3 received 8 lengths of 1 ¾ inch hose and 2 stream light batteries.

Ex-Asst. Chief George Degroor returned to active duty.

Lt. Andrew Massey requested a 3 month medical leave of absence.

FF Thomas Bakker Sr. requested a 1 month medical leave of absence.

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

Company #4

Capt. Nelson reported for the month of February 2011, Company 4 responded to: 24 box alarms, 6 still alarms, 0 radio alarms, 0 training, 0 standbys, 0 Chief call, 0 mutual aid calls and held 2 drills for a total of 32 alarms.

Engine 4 received 200 ft. of 5-inch hose and has requested an additional 100 feet in order to fill the hose bed.

A 5 inch gate valve is the process of being delivered.

A request for 2 LED front bumper emergency lights which were damaged as a result of snow pile while turning a corner during the restricted street width.

One (1) 2 ½ inch gate valve is still needed.

Received batteries for AED and 2 small scba Scott masks.

One (1) pager and charger is also requested.

A letter of intent was received from resident Ryne Barry.

Other than the above-mentioned items, all equipment and members are in good working order.

Company #5

Capt. Sutherland reported that for the month of February 2011, Company 5 responded to: 27 box alarms, 0 radio alarm, 0 still alarms, 0 mutual aid alarms, 1 standby's, 2 training, 1 drills for a total of 31 alarms

All firefighters and equipment are in good working order.

Borough Chief Speranza Report:

Thanked all that assisted with George Lodder's medical condition and specifically thanked Relief Assoc. President John Lane for his efforts.

OHSA will be inspecting the firehouses for violations. An inspection of your firehouse garage must be in accordance with the OSHA standards. (see Chief Speranza for a copy of OSHA's check list).

As we all know NJ has a seat belt law that requires all to wear seat belts while in a vehicle. The Department is no exception to this rule and it required by NJ Law that that all FF boarding an apparatus MUST utilize seat belts. Again, there is no exception to this rule.

The Department is moving forward with by laws and new procedure and / or guidelines. It is expected that all of these are placed in your Company's proper location for ease of view and reference when the time is needed or required.

The Department will be applying for a NJFFS grant in the amount of \$5,000.00 for previously purchased radio's in 2010. If the grant is awarded we are looking to purchase of new radios that are narrow band compliant and also save money for the Borough.

As a result of the budget not yet approved the Installation dinner has been put off for an April date to be determined at a later date.

The new member protocol requires a backgrounds check. The Department is looking at ways to conduct and recommend same at a later date.

The budget meeting was attended and some changes had incurred. The budget included a reduction in the supplies line that will allow the Department to secure paper products and cleaning products from the Borough account.

A Volunteer Service Dinner / Centennial Celebration will be held on May 19, 2011 from 6:30 - 9:30 pm at the Indian Trail Country Club. This dinner will be presented by the Christian Health Care Center.

Dates to Remember:

March 11, 2011 – RJ Dansen Beefsteak Benefit (7 pm)

March 19, 2011 – Company 1 Comedy Dinner.

March 22, 2011 Hawthorne Day meeting 7:00pm at Borough Hall.

May 19, 2011 - Volunteer Services Dinner.

COMMITTEES

Communication Division: Responded to 14 alarms, 3 work sessions and held 1 meeting for a total of 18 events for February 2011.

One (1) new prospective member (Frank Orsi) had attended a meeting.

All members and equipment are in working order.

Fire Prevention: Will be placed in the mailboxes of each Assistant Chief.

Ladies Auxiliary: No report at this time.

Junior's/ Explorer Program: New class started and there are fifteen (15) members.

Discussion was held as to the application process that in the event a Jr. reaches their 18th birthday than they can apply to their company of their choice via letter of intent.

Chief Speranza stated that if a junior is an active member they are excluded from the three (3) month waiting period and can join once the application process is complete.

Safety Officer's - No report at this time

In School Program: No report at this time.

Van Hook Scholarship: Requested the Board to approve the selling of raffles at Hawthorne Day. Awards will be handed out May 18, 2011 at 7:30 pm.

Board collectively approved the selling of the raffles at Hawthorne Day.

Open House: Open for further discussion.

Mutual Aid Meeting: No report at this time.

Web Site: No report at this time.

Hawthorne Day: March 22, 2011 Hawthorne Day meeting 7:00pm at Borough Hall.

Old Business:

Company 1: Inquired as to a copy of the Department's insurance policies.

Chief Speranza stated that the Borough is in the process of securing a copy for headquarters.

Company 2: Inquired we need to shift the Installation dinner to a different program.

Company 3: Also asked about changing the installation dinner yet keep at same venue.

Company 4: *Inquired as to the Installation dinner and to also change program and is in favor for a Friday night.*

Company 5: Agrees with the companies as to the dinner.

Chiefs Report: *Chief Speranza stated upon completion of the budget we will further discuss.*

The 2nd reading of the By Law 17-5 election section 2 (E) was conducted.

New Business:

Oath of Office: Laurie A Foley (CO1) & Justin Molnar (CO2) was sworn in.

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: Comedy Dinner March 19, 2011 - 7 pm.

Company 2: Thanked the members and the Relief Association for Lt. George Lodder's assistance.

Company 3: Carolyn Joustra has returned home.

Company 4: No report at this time

Company 5: No report at this time.

Chiefs Report: No report at this time.

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

Ex Asst. Chief van Hook inquired how the Department is installing the CO Detectors and if there are any liabilities attached.

Chief Speranza stated that the Department installs them in good faith and in a reasonable and prudent manner.

Ex Asst. Chief Joseph Metzler provided an "unofficial" verbal audit report and made various recommendations to the Board.

In addition discussion ensued as to the FF Phil program and to disengage the use of their services.

Chief Speranza required the Advisory Board to look into the matter and provide recommendations to the Board for further consideration.

Metzler also discussed that any future financial procedures have to be presented to the Department for a vote prior to them being activated.

Ex Borough Chief Tamburro inquired as to a Department picture that was posted on E-bay and on sale for \$29.95.

Chief Speranza stated that he secured the picture for free and also placed it into a frame for Company 1 again at no cost to the Department.

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

A Motion was made by Asst. Chief Weber, second by Asst. Chief Counsellor that the meeting be adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,
John Tripicchio
Board Secretary