



Borough of Hawthorne  
Board of Fire Commissioners

445 Lafayette Avenue  
Hawthorne, New Jersey 07506

**Minutes of the meeting held on May 01, 2012.**

Borough Chief Joseph Speranza called the meeting to order at 8:30 pm, with a salute to the American Flag. Following the flag salute a moment of silence was held for the recent passing of Ex-Asst Chief of Company 2, Robert Bell. In attendance to this meeting was, Engine Company 1: Asst. Chief John Arturi, Tower Company 2: Capt. William Redmon, Engine Company 3: Asst. Chief Jared Van Ek, Engine Company 4: Asst. Chief Michael Nelson, and Rescue Company 5: 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieut. Joseph Pagnozzi.

**MINUTES**

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

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

**BILLS**

Federated Emer Service	\$2,500.00	Verizon Wireless	\$119.41
Verizon	\$61.87	Verizon	\$51.42
ATT& T	\$48.36	Hawthorne FD Reimb.	\$28.00
Hawthorne FD Reimb.	\$275.00		

**Communications:**

- Resignation letter from Vincent Corasio Jr. was received (CO 1).
- A medical leave of absence for Leon Bay for an undetermined period of time.
- A letter of intent was received from Borough resident Joseph Magnifico (CO1).
- A letter of intent was received from Borough resident Thomas Hook (CO1).
- An extension of medical leave of absence from Ex Asst. Chief Richard McAuliffe was requested for 6 (months) as the injury he has sustained will take 5 months to recover.

- The Department has been requested to partake in a helicopter landing for a wedding on July 21, 2012. The ceremony will take place at the Hawthorne Gospel Church (times top follow).
- A letter of intent from resident Scott Laubshire to join and be assigned to CO2.
- A letter of intent from resident Mark Lundin to join and be assigned to CO2.
- Company 1 requested the use of the Department Dunk tank for Hawthorne Day.
- The Knights of Columbus will be hosting their 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Tank Pull on Sunday June 24, 2012. Register on line at [www.tankpullknoc.org](http://www.tankpullknoc.org).
- The Exempt Fireman's Association will be hosting a trip to Fenway Park to see the Boston Red Sox play the Toronto Blue Jays. The date is June 27, 2012. Game time is 1:35 pm. Donation \$150. For tickets call Ex-Chief Stan Kutel at 201 967 5607.
- Van Dyke's Park Place thanked the Department for the attending their facility and for making future recommendations. Also stated that they can host "Understanding Alzheimer's" program.
- The Knights of Liberty Motorcycle Club are looking for Fire Department members.
- St .Barnabas will be hosting their 25th Valor Awards on October 25, 2012. The Event will be held at the Valley Regency in Clifton, NJ.
- NJ Metro Fire Photograph's Association Annual "Photo Night" will be held on May 12, 2012. It will be held at the H.P Becton Regional High School in East Rutherford, NJ. Doors open at 4:00pm and donation is \$8.00.

### Company Reports:

#### Company #1

Asst. Chief Arturi reported for the month of April 2012, Company 1 responded to: 20 box alarms, 1 still alarms, 0 chiefs call, 0 radio alarms, 0 mutual aid calls, 0 stand bys, 4 training's and held 1 drill (s), for a total of 26 alarms.

Engine 1 has transmission issues when placed in reverse or drive and is in need of repair.

The Nedereman exhaust system in the engine room is still not functioning.

FF Nicholas Canova was injured at the 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue fire and is undergoing medical care for a possible meniscus tear. Future medical notification is forthcoming.

Aside from the above Engine 1 is in fair working order and all members are in good standing.

## **Company #2**

Capt. Redmon reported for the month of April 2012, Company 2 responded to: 21 box alarms, 1 still alarm, 0 Chiefs call, 0 Radio alarm, 2 Mutual Aid call, 0 stand bys, 0 training's, and held 3 drill(s) for a total of 25 alarms.

Company 2 and the Bell family thanked all that had attended and assisted with Ex Asst. Chief Robert Bell's visitation and funeral proceedings.

Company 2 also thanked all members that assisted Company 2 during their personnel shortage.

Tower 2 is out for service to repair the pulley bushings on the aerial ladder.

A request for five (5) Gemtor safety harnesses was made.

Letters of intent were submitted from Mark Totaro and Scott Laubshire.

One (1) prospective Company 2 member is in the process of attending the Department mandated physical.

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

## **Company #3**

Asst. Chief Van Ek reported that for the month of April 2012, Company 3 responded to: 19 box alarms, 3 drills (s) 0 radio alarm, 1 still alarm, 0 standby, 0 mutual aid and held 1 training for a total of 24 alarms.

A request of a vendor to be contacted to repair the high idle switch.

There is condensation in the air compressor's line that connects to the apparatus is in need of repair.

A wire tether for shore line and the airline is in need to be installed.

The Storz adapter was received.

The following equipment was also requested: One (1) stream light box charger, 1 pair of size 13 ½ boots, four (4) sets of gear are in need of cleaning.

Two (2) sets of gear need to be replaced immediately.

Also, recognized the member's dedication, tremendous effort and teamwork displayed by members, at the several incidents over the last two weeks. Also, appreciated the

cooperation on the fire ground and the many compliments that were given about the Department via residents and neighboring Fire Departments.

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

#### **Company #4**

Asst. Chief Nelson reported for the month of April 2012, Company 4 responded to: 19 box alarms, 1 still alarm, 0 radio alarm, 0 training, 0 standby's, 1 Chief call, 0 Mutual aid calls and held 2 drill(s) for a total of 23 alarms.

Received one (1) 4" to 5" inch Storz adapter.

One (1) gas meter is still being repaired.

Equipment being requested 1 hydrant wrench, 4 lengths of 1 3/4" hose, one length of 2 1/2" hose, and three lengths of 5" inch hose. Two (2) probationary shields.

#### **Company #5**

2<sup>nd</sup> Lieut. Pagnozzi reported that for the month of April 2012, Company 5 responded to: 20 box alarms, 0 radio alarm, 0 still alarms, 0 mutual aid alarms, 0 standby, 0 training, and 5 drills for a total of 25 alarms.

Thanked all that had assisted Rescue 5 at the Department drill.

All firefighters and equipment are in good working order.

#### **Borough Chief Speranza Report:**

Thanked Patrica Bungert, the Canine Company representative and Companion America Advocates for presenting the Department and EMS, six (6) oxygen pet masks.

Special thanks went to all of the members that have fought the recent fires. Most notable, the responses to the Eighth Avenue house fire, was a stubborn type fire due to fire load, the Prescott / N. 12<sup>th</sup> house fire that had loaded fire arms posing projectile threat during extinguishment efforts, the Hawthorne Ave. garage fire have high heat and exposure issues, and the commercial vehicle fire that contained plumbing service supplies that posed projectile threats during extinguishment. There were minor injuries during some of the aforementioned and those fire fighters are currently recovering. All of the fires posed great danger's in their own way in a short span of time. All of which came under control due to Department efforts and superior training.

The Department has shown great respect by attending Ex-Asst, Chief Robert Bell's visitation and funeral proceedings. The Department displayed professionalism and expressed dedication.

The Department's Drill conducted on the 1600 Route 208 property was a huge success. Those that participated displayed dedication for a prolonged period of time that extended past the projected time frame.

Thanks to all of the Ladies Auxiliary, Radio Communication Division, the Mutual Aid Departments, Hawthorne Police Dept, Downes Tree Service, Hawthorne and Glen Rock EMS, and all of the officers that assisted with the drill and the Hawthorne Animal Hospital. A special thanks to Chiefs of the day Zach Alkes and Jack Murphy.

The Departments PPE are in need of repair and / or replacement. A meeting will be held between Departments Officer to devise a plan to achieve the goal to repair / replace all gear that needs to be this year.

The radio pagers and additional radios for both Fire Desk and Unit 5-7 have been placed on order and should be here in near future.

The Police/ Fire Desk will be installed next week at Fire Headquarters. Once again it is reminded that we must be cognizant and not to speak loudly near the police Departments dispatch center. As a result of the transition Unit 5-7 will be a rolling response Command Center for a 2 month period or until Police headquarters dispatch center is complete.

Repair to apparatus's will be as follows:

Tower 2 is out for repairs and should be back by May 10, 2012.

Rescue 5 is being scheduled to go out for the D Deck repairs.

Engine 1 will be sent to Ruscon for what is expected to be extensive repairs to transmission and could be out for an undetermined time.

### **Dates to Remember**

**May 16, 2012 – Hawthorne Day Meeting, 7:00pm at Borough Hall**

**May 20, 2012 – Training Center - Clean Up**

**May 21, 2012- Department Meeting at Fire HQ – 7:00 pm**

**May 28, 2012 – Memorial Day Parade – Times to follow**

### **COMMITTEES**

**Communication Division:** The fire computers / desk has been dismantled for the incoming Police dispatch center

All members and equipment are in working order.

**Fire Prevention:** No report at this time.

**Ladies Auxiliary:** *No report at this time.*

**Junior's/ Explorer Program:** *No report at this time.*

**Safety Officer's:** Accountability is still an issue and will need to be addressed.

**In School Program:** No report at this time.

**Van Hook Scholarship:** No report at this time.

**Open House:** No report at this time.

**Mutual Aid Meeting:** No report at this time.

**Hawthorne Day:** Anyone wishing to sell anything at Hawthorne Day must attend the next Hawthorne Day meeting on May 16, 2012 at Borough Hall.

**100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary:** The Murder Mystery Dinner was cancelled due to lack of cooperation of selling tickets. More ideas are forthcoming and will be presented to Fire Board in future.

**Memorial Park:** There were some changes made to the initial plans. There was a discussion to utilize LED lighting and making a smaller waterscape.

**Training Center:** The Department clean up will be on May 20, 2012.

**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:**

Oath of Office: None

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: Ralph Malandrino was in hospital and is now home recovering. Leon Bay was also hospitalized and had surgery and has been released from hospital. FF Nick Canova was insured at the Eight Avenue fire and is due for an MRI to knee. Ex- Asst Chief Robert Shannon fell twice and is now recovering.

Company 2: Thanked all that had attended Ex Asst Chief Robert bell's funeral procedures.

Company 3: No report at this time  
Company 4: No report at this time

Company 5: Porterhouse Steak Dinner will be held on June 28, 2012 at 7:00 pm and will be held at the Brownstone. Donation is \$120.00.

Pasta Dinner will be held on Sunday May 12, 2012, \$12 for adults and \$8 for children.

Chiefs Report: Will discuss with Borough Council the coronary screening test that has been limited to 12 members.

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

Asst. Chief John Marsch expressed that Company 2 appreciated the attendance of Departments members that had attended Ex- Asst Chief Robert Bell's visitation and funeral procedures.

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

A Motion was made by Asst. Chief Van Ek, second by Asst. Chief Arturi that the meeting be adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,  
*John Tripicchio*  
Board Secretary