

CHIEF
JOSEPH SPERANZA
973-423-5550 Office
973-423-5089 Fax



CLERK
JOHN P. TRIPICCHIO
973-423-2536 Office
973-423-5089 Fax

Borough of Hawthorne
Board of Fire Commissioners

445 Lafayette Avenue
Hawthorne, New Jersey 07506

Minutes of the meeting held on February 02, 2010.

Borough Chief Joseph Speranza called the meeting to order at 7:30pm, with a salute to the flag and a moment of silence for a Westwood Firefighter, Chris Erbek who was killed while serving our country in Iraq. In attendance to this meeting was, Engine Company 1: Asst. Chief James Counsellor, 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 Brian Warner.

MINUTES

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

A motion was made by Asst. Chief Geier and second from Asst. Chief Di Vincent, that the following bills be approved and are to be submitted to the Borough Administrator for consideration:

BILLS

AT&T	\$53.54	NDI	\$460.00
Verizon	\$56.00	Fire Companies.com	\$259.97
Verizon	\$49.74	Federated Emergency	\$230.98
Federated Emergency	\$198.00	1 st Responder	\$80.00
B&C Communication	\$54.00	B&C Communication	\$204.50
B&C Communication	\$1,153.50	B&C Communication	\$54.00
B&C Communication	\$78.00	B&C Communication	\$54.00
Interstate Battery	\$130.55	Chief Supply	\$1,214.97
Robert Moran LLC	\$325.00	John Lewis LLC	\$325.00
Verizon Wireless	\$132.62	Foremost Promotions	\$425.83
Foremost Promotions	\$590.48	B & C Communication	\$423.00
AAA Emergency	\$524.40	Passaic Cnty 200 Club	\$250.00
Succesories	\$102.41	Gates Flags	\$102.50
E-Dispatch	\$828.00	Chief Supply	\$1428.75
B&C Communication	\$2,220.00		

Communications:

- A thank you card was received from the wife of Asst. Chief Brian Warner (Kathleen) for the flower's sent.
- The Passaic County 200 Club stating that they have moved to their new address 100 Delewanna Avenue, Suite 100, Clifton, NJ 07014 sent a communication.
- A letter of intent was received from Borough resident Scott Laubshire who was a FF for the Borough of Prospect Park and has requested to join Company 2.
- A letter of intent was received from Borough resident Mark Lundin who was a FF for the Borough of Prospect Park and has requested to join Company 2.
- A communication was received from the Louis Bay 2nd Library Director Thomas Frawley advising that the Board of Trustee's granted the Department permission to utilize the meeting room on the 1st Tuesday of every month from January thru December 2010 from 7:15 to 9:00 pm.
- A three (3) month medical leave of absence letter was received from 2nd Lieut. Andrew Massey. The requested was made due to lower back surgery.

The Board accepted and granted 2nd Lieut. Massey's three (3) month medical leave of absence.

Company Reports:

Company #1

Asst. Chief Counsellor reported that for the month of January 2010, Company 1 responded to: 20 box alarm's, held 4 training's, 0 drill, 0 radio alarm and 4 still alarm for a total of 28 alarms.

Engine 1's generator is in still in need of repair. The vendor has ordered the parts, which have yet to arrive.

Engine 1's Jake brake is not functioning and is a safety concern. Emergency service has been requested.

One (1) battery for the thermal imaging camera was received.

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

Company #2

Asst. Chief DiVincent reported for the month of January 2010, Company 2 responded to: 18 box alarms, 1 mutual aid call, 0 still alarm, 0 radio alarm and held 3 drills, for a total of 22 alarms.

The Truck and all firefighters are in good working order.

Company #3

Asst. Chief Van Ek reported that for the month of January 2010, Company 3 responded to: 17 box alarms, 2 mutual aid calls, 0 radio alarm, 2 drills, 0 still alarm, and held 1 training for a total of 22 alarms.

One (1) SCBA head display is still in the need of repair.

Federated Fire Apparatus were out to address an electrical issue with the generator display and tank level gauge. Parts were needed to be ordered for both. Awaiting repairs at this time.

2nd Lieut. Andrew Massey requested a three (3) month medical leave of absence.

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

Company #4

Asst. Chief Geier reported for the month of January 2010, Company 4 responded to: 20 box alarms, 1 still alarm, 0 radio alarm, 0 Chief's call, 0 mutual aid calls, and held 2 drills for a total of 24 alarms.

Ken's Auto electric is in the process of repairing the driver side mechanical siren switch.

One (1) SCBA, and one (1) ICOM radio are both still out of service.

Engine 4 is requesting one (1) Scott pack mask and, one (1) Motorola Minitor 4 pager and / or a replacement pager.

Also requested is both smoke and carbon monoxide detectors.

All firefighters and equipment are in good working order.

Company #5

Asst. Chief Warner reported that for the month of January 2010, Company 5 responded to: 23 box alarms, 0 radio alarm, 1 training, 0 still alarms, 0 mutual aid alarms, 2 drill's for a total of 26 alarms.

The intermittent electrical issues with the Truck have been repaired and the generator was also serviced.

A list is being composed for several hand tools that are in need of replacement. A replacement battery for the PASS load nail gun is a being requested at this time. All firefighters and equipment are in good working order.

Borough Chief Speranza Report:

Thanked all of the members for a job well done and for their professionalism at the Eighth Avenue fire and Prospect Park Mutual aid fire.

The Department is currently waiting for the finance committee meeting to secure our budget for 2010. That being said we have to wait for the decision as to this year's installation diner and other various needed equipment.

Schedules were handed out to each Assistant Chief for this year's roundtables and Chief training ride along. If there are any issues with any dates please advise accordingly in advance.

As a result of the recent new application issues we have now devised a new plan to insure proper protocol prior to signing the Borough roster. It is requested that all new potential applicant's adhere to the process in order to move their application along. It is also the responsibility of the Officers to enforce this process in order to avoid further delay.

A radio guideline had been distributed last month. Companies are not complying with the guide and is being requested again to follow the guideline as outlined and is encouraged that this issue be addressed at each companies next meeting.

At the same token it is also noted that many guidelines, policies, discussion, etc. that are being approved by the Board of Fire Commissioners is not making it back to the general membership. This is not acceptable as this is how guidelines / policies are not followed or procedures are not adhered to. Again, it the duty of the Officer's to insure that any information that has been discussed or issues that have been resolved or disputed to be discussed with members. Failing to do so leads to many, already answered issues and lack of knowledge. This is unacceptable for the 2010 year.

Various concerned members had attended a FF Phil program meeting, which was hosted by a Creative Safety Product company representative. Many questions and concerns were addressed. A letter will be sent out to all commercial vendor's as well as a letter will be published in the Hawthorne Press to educate the general public. The letter is advise that advertising funds are directed to assist the FF Phil program in our's schools and the misconception of those funds going to the Department but rather to substantiate the program and is advertising booklet. The Department endorses the program that assist's in educating the children in our schools yet, the funding issue needed to be clarified.

We continue to have various equipment and vehicles issues. Due to a very limited budget it will be a challenge to secure the funds yet, we will work with council to insure the Department's safety and to continue to provide our residents a proper response time.

Lastly, we will need to discuss with council the previously submitted Ordinance changes for engineered lumber homes and storage containers. Both of these pose serious safety issues for Department members and need to be addressed in a timely fashion.

Dates to Remember:

**March 06, 2010- Kohler Distributor's Open House Day March 06, 2010- 12:30-4:30.
(21 and over member's only.)**

March 12, 2010 – Installation Dinner (pending approval)

February 11, 2010– Junior's Parent Orientation night 7pm Head quarters

May 04, 2010 – Passaic County 200 Club -Valor Awards

September 09, 2010 Passaic County 200 Club – Annual Beefsteak

Communication Division:

Communication Division: No report at this time

Fire Prevention: No report at this time.

Ladies Auxiliary: No report at this time.

Junior's/ Explorer Program: The January sign up was successful in securing three (3) new prospects. The parent orientation will be held at 7:00 pm on February 11, 2010 at Fire headquarters. Also, two (2) times a month the juniors will meet and train.

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.

Mutual Aid Meeting: No report at this time

Web Site: Any uploads will need to be presented to administrator Asst. Chief Jared Van Ek.

Roger's Fund: Ex Chief Tamburro presented the final report for the fund. In April 12, 2000 The Hawthorne Fire Department established the Roger's Fund for Una & Aoife

Roger's who were the two surviving sister's of the 60 Mary Street fire that claimed lives of James, Deborah and Colim Rogers. The funds goal was \$50,000.00 yet thru various individuals', organizations and business's the fund exceeded \$80,000.00 and was placed in a trust account.

On May 12, 2000 a check for \$10,000.00 was issued to both Una & Aoife. The balance was place in Government bonds.

In December of 2008 both Una & Aoifer met with the Roger's Committee expressing their interest in the remainder of the funds.

In March 2009 attorney Craig F. Meltzer, for Una & Aoife requested the funds to be dispersed and sent the Committee an Indemnity and Hold Harmless release.

On April 03, 2009 a check was issued in the amount of \$104,778.76 to attorney Craig F. Meltzer, Escrow Agent for Una & Aoife Roger's.

The fund has now closed as all monies were distributed.

The Committee consisted of Chief Joseph Speranza, Gene DeAugustines, Kenneth Silvestri, Joseph Metzler, Chris Qualey, John Curry, Patty Babb, Ed Kasper and Al Ribbe.

Old Business:

Company 1: No report at this time.

Company 2: There are ongoing dispatch issues, as members are not receiving the dispatch.

Chief stated that vendor B & C Communication has addressed many issues yet; there are some outstanding issues that are still being worked on. Chief also requested the Police Desk to place a double tone to insure if one misses the 1st dispatch the 2nd would be heard as a temporary fix until we locate the issue.

Company 3: No report at this time.

Company 4: Inquired as to the SCBA Fit testing

Chief stated that the fit testing machine is not working. A vendor has been called to service the unit.

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: 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: Hawthorne Day – The Department will again handle the Logistics'. The generator issue will handled differently in 2010 than last year. An increase in a larger firework show will be requested.

Good & Welfare:

Company 1: No report at this time.

Company 2: Tom Furrey is being taken care by Hospice.

Company 3: 2nd Lieut. Andrew Massey lower back surgery.

Company 4: No report at this time.

Company 5: No report at this time

Chiefs Report: Kohler Distributor's Open House Day March 06, 2010- 12:30 - 4:30. **21 and over member's only.**

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

No 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 Counselor that the meeting be adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

John Tripicchio

John Tripicchio
Board Secretary