

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 September 07, 2010.**

Borough Chief Joseph Speranza called the meeting to order at 7:30pm, with a salute to the flag and held a moment of silence in remembrance of September 11, 2001 tragedy. 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 Counsellor to dispense the previous Minutes while a second Motion was made by Asst. Chief Warner.

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

**BILLS**

PA Auto Parts	\$13.76	Ken's Auto Electric	\$693.20
HFD Reimbursement	\$34.54	Parkwood Deli	\$2,145.00
Yankee Propane	\$36.00	Ace Hardware	\$352.27
B/C communication	\$802.00	Josuha Marcus LLC	\$1,982.00
AT &T	\$49.34	Verizon	\$52.49
Verizon	\$47.10	Giant Tire	\$64.20
MES	\$3,380.32	Verizon Wireless	\$144.26
All Hands Fire Equip.	\$531.94	AAA Emergency	\$249.75
AAA Emergency	\$179.00	AAA Emergency	\$350.00
AAA Emergency	\$158.07	Motorola	\$250.38

**CAPITAL BUDGET Expenses:**

Mardell Electrical Contracting	\$4,800.00	Climate Plus Control	\$13,500.00
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## Communications:

- A thank you letter was received from Lieut. George Lodder's family, thanking the Department for the gift sent in remembrance of Charlotte Eibeling's.
- A thank you note directed to both Chief Joseph Speranza and Fire Marshall Gene DeAugustines was received from Roosevelt school thanking them for their visit.
- Received a letter of intent from Borough resident, Andrew Skae requested to join the Fire Department and be assigned to Company 2.
- The Passaic County 200 Club will be hosting their 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Beefsteak dinner on Monday September, 27, 2010. The event will take place at 6:00 pm at the Brownstone (Paterson NJ). Donation is \$60.00. Call (973) 733-0777 or visit [www.PC200CLUB.ORG](http://www.PC200CLUB.ORG).
- FF Frank Giannantonio requested military leave from August 10, 2010 thru August 29, 2010. He will return on August 30, 2010.
- A retirement dinner will be held for Police Department Lieut. Gary Nelson on Saturday September 25, 2010. The event will take place at Ossy's Café (Hawthorne NJ) at 7:00pm. Tickets are \$70.00 per person. For more call Capt. Richard M. McAuliffe 973-342-2057, or Susan Witkowski 973-427-4493.
- The State of New Jersey Higher Education Student Assistance Authority (HESAA) announced their 2010 application process cycle for the Dana Christmas Scholarship for Heroism. The application along with one (1) referral must be sent in by October 15, 2010.
- A medical note was received from the NJ Spine Institute, LLC advising Lieut. Andrew Massey may return to active duty, effective September 01, 2010.
- FF Stephanie Hill requested a three (3) month personal leave of absence for attending school abroad.
- Ex-Chief Victor Tamburro requested an addition (3) three month leave of absence.

*The Board of Fire Commissioners collectively granted FF Stephanie Hill, FF Frank Giantonio and Ex-Chief Victor Tamburro their absences and also granted Lieut. Massey's reactivation.*

## Company Reports:

### Company #1

Asst. Chief Counsellor reported that for the month of August 2010, Company 1 responded to: 31 box alarms, held 0 training's, 4 drills, 0 radio alarms and 1 still alarm for a total of 36 alarms.

Vendor Ken's Auto service has repaired the emergency lighting master switch and perimeter lights.

Engine 1 requested the following to replace previously damaged and necessary equipment:

- 300 Feet of blue 2 ½ inch line
- 100 Feet of yellow 1 ¾ line
- (2) Two 6 foot yellow 1 ¾ line
- (4) Four hose straps

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

### **Company #2**

Asst. Chief Di Vincent reported for the month of August 2010, Company 2 responded to: 29 box alarms, 1 mutual aid call, 1 still alarm, 0 radio alarm, 0 training's and held 1 drill, for a total of 32 alarms.

The Truck and all firefighters are in good working order.

### **Company #3**

Asst. Chief Van Ek reported that for the month of August 2010, Company 3 responded to: 28 box alarms, 1 mutual aid call/drill , 0 radio alarm, 1 drills, 1 still alarm, 0 stand by's and held 3 training's for a total of 34 alarms.

Engine 3 attended the Passaic County Mutual Aid drill in West Paterson on Sunday August 08, 2010. Thank you to other Officers and members that participated from Engine Company's 1 and 4.

The open door sensor on the apparatus still needs to be resolved. Vendor Excelsior Fire Apparatus was contacted to make the necessary repairs and no response was ever received.

The right hand air valve for the 6" intake is becoming increasingly difficult to activate and is in need of repair.

Lt. Andrew Massey returned to active duty effective September 01, 2010

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

### **Company #4**

Asst. Chief Geier reported for the month of August 2010, Company 4 responded to: 27 box alarms, 2 still alarms, 0 radio alarms, 1 Chief call, 0 mutual aid calls, and held 1 drill for a total of 31 alarms.

Engine 4 will be out of service for repairs for an undetermined time. Unit 6-1 will be utilized until its return.

Engine 4 has (1) one SCOTT scba out of service along with (1) one spare bottle. It was also noted that (1) one bottle has yet to be sent out for repairs and remains at headquarters.

Repairs have been made to the Firehouse siren.

Company 4 will have (8) eight members that will be attending the Firemen's convention.

Engine 4 is again re-requesting 10 jump suits needed for water rescue operations assistance.

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

### **Company #5**

Asst Chief Warner reported that for the month of August 2010, Company 5 responded to: 34 box alarms, 0 radio alarm, 0 training, 0 still alarms, 0 mutual aid alarms, 2 drills for a total of 36 alarms

Rescue 5 will be conducting the drown proofing class that will be held at the municipal pool at 7:00 pm on Monday, September 20, 2010. This drill is open to the entire Department.

Rescue 5 is requesting service for an oil change.

Letters need to be sent to Sterluis Castillo and Dario Darius as to their intentions.

All firefighters and equipment are in good working order.

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

The Officers meeting was changed from September 21, 2010 to September 22, 2010.

Tower 2's ladder certification will take place in late November while Engine Company 4 will secure their pump certification sometime in November.

Engine 4 will be Hawthorne's 1<sup>st</sup> company to have 5 inch hose. There will be 700 feet of 5 inch hose which will be ordered and placed into service.

**Dates to Remember:**

**September 20, 2010 - Rescue 5 drill - Municipal Pool (7 pm).**

**September 27, 2010 - Passaic County 200 Club – Annual Beefsteak (7 pm).**

**October 02, 2010 – Hawthorne Day.**

**October 09, 2010 – Safety Town – (9 am).**

**October 17, 2010 - Driver's Training Municipal Pool lot (8:30 am).**

**Communication Division:**

Communication Division: responded to 7 alarms, 3 work details, 1 drill and 3 meeting for a total of 14 alarms.

The computer in Unit 57 has reached its usable lifespan. The unit has no ability to be upgraded / supported therefore it is in the need of replacement.

The ANI display screen at Fire Desk is inoperative due to failure of the MDC1200 format decoder, which has been sent out for repair on August 02, 2010.

The transmissions lines previously tangled were freed.

All members and equipment are in good working order.

**Fire Prevention:** 16 Valley Street, 7 McKinley and 134 3<sup>rd</sup> avenue homes have oxygen in use.

**Ladies Auxiliary:** Shirley Short way was sworn in to the Ladies Auxiliary.

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

**Safety Officer's:** October 17, 2010 Driver's Training 8:30 am at the Municipal Pool Lot. It was recommended that the Department utilize (1) one accountability board. This will be tested for (3) three month time span.

**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:** October 10, 2010. This year we will not be able to have the sprinkler trailer. We will although have a car show added this year.

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

**Web Site:** No report at this time.

**Hawthorne Day:** The Department is responsible for Logistics that includes lighting, Fireworks and off road assistance.

**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

The third reading of the By Laws was conducted. The Chief suspended the meeting and opened it to the public for any questions or comments. With no questions from the public the public portion was closed and reopened back to the Board.

*A vote of the By Laws will commence at October's Fire Board.*

**New Business:**

Oath of Office: Donald Kinarr III was sworn in and assigned to Radio Room.

Company 1: No report at this time.

Company 2: Requested the suspension of By Laws for 17-4 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieut. Requirements and also 17-5 to continue to have their meeting "open" for Election/ Nominations until December.

*The Board will vote on these (2) two request's at the October Fire Board.*

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: No report at this time

Company 2: Will celebrate their 100 year anniversary on September 27, 2010. It is open to Department members. The event will take place at 7:30 pm at Company 2.

Company 3: Carolyn Joustra is improving daily.

Inquired if the Department would like to purchase 511 tactical uniforms for Class C assignments.

*Chief Speranza presented same to the Board who will decide at the October Fire Board.*

Company 4: No report at this time

Company 5: Will be conducting their annual fall Football Mania fundraiser. See any member for Company 5 for more details. Also, laser tag team of (5) five players for Hawthorne Day's play is now open. A (5) five player team entry fee is \$125.

Chiefs Report: No report at this time

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

Fred Buckner requested clarification as to voting privileges as the By Laws states Fire Fighters only.

*Chief Speranza reiterated that Fire Fighters are defined as members of the Fire Department that have voting rights.*

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

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

Respectfully Submitted,

*John Tripicchio*

John Tripicchio  
Board Secretary