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Borough of Hawthorne  
**Board of Fire Commissioners**

445 Lafayette Avenue  
Hawthorne, New Jersey 07506

**Minutes of the meeting held on February 07, 2012.**

Borough Chief Joseph Speranza called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm, with a salute to the American Flag. 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: 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 Warner.

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

**BILLS**

AT&T	\$47.90	Verizon	\$61.75
Verizon	\$47.90	Turn Out LLC	\$191.96
Fire Companies	\$931.89	AAA Emergency	\$458.00
Ace Security	\$180.00	AAA Emergency	\$594.00
Kens Auto Electric	\$205.00	Rosenbauer Aerial	\$19.01
Tanis Hardware	\$140.51	AAA Emergency	\$229.00
Fire Service Safety	\$957.00	Verizon Wireless	\$119.22
Passaic Cnty Mutual Aid Assoc.	\$75.00		
1 <sup>st</sup> Responder Newspaper	\$80.00		

**Communications:**

- A medical note was received for FF Jason Crawford returning back to active duty on 02/16/12. It was noted that the initial medical leave was reported to the Borough via the Ambulance Corps therefore, was not reported to the Board of Fire Commissioners.

- A medical note was received for Capt. Christopher Dibella who was cleared by the Advanced Orthopedics & Hand Surgery Institute to return to active duty, effective 02/06/12.
- A thank you note was received from the Salomone family for attending Chief Paul Salomone Sr. (West Paterson) funeral services.
- The West Paterson Fire Department thanked the Department for attending Chief Paul Salomone Sr's funeral procession.
- FF Andrew Skae (CO2) submitted a 3-month leave of absence due to schooling effective February 01, 2012 through April 30, 2012. It was also advised that he is around the weekends and would attend fire calls.
- Ex-Asst. Chief Richard McAuliffe (CO2) requested a 3-month leave of absence effective January 01, 2012 through March 31, 2012.
- Ex-Asst. Chief Anthony Di Vincent (CO2) requested a personal 3-month leave of absence effective February 01, 2012 through April 30, 2012.
- A resignation letter was submitted by Zachary Hines (CO2) effective January 01, 2012.
- The Lankoka Harbor Vol. Fire Co #1 requested donation for a 24 year old FF that was injured and has no funds to pay for medical treatment. Donations can be sent to The Dan Inglis Charitable Fund and mailed to the Lanoka Harbor Fire Co PO Box 8 Lanoka Harbor, NJ 08734. (Copies to Asst. Chief's)

The Board accepted the resignation with regrets and approved all (3) three month leave of absences.

### Company Reports:

#### **Company #1**

Asst. Chief Arturi reported for the month of January 2012, Company 1 responded to: 24 box alarms, 4 still alarms, 0 chiefs call, 0 radio alarms, 0 mutual aid calls, 0 stand bys, 4 training's and held 2 drill (s) , for a total of 34 alarms.

Engine 1's rear portable tripod lights were repaired & are now back in service.

The Thermal Imaging Camera is not charging.

Engine 1 is having transmission issues when it downshifts from 1<sup>st</sup> to 2<sup>nd</sup> gear.

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 January 2012, Company 2 responded to: 29 box alarms, 0 still alarm, 0 Chiefs call, 0 Radio alarm, 0 Mutual Aid call, 0 stand bys, 0 training's, and held 3 drill(s) for a total of 32 alarms.

The Truck's low alarm for the antifreeze was activated and was serviced on 01/31/12.

Capt. Redmon will be handling all cross training drills for Company #2. Any Company that would like to cross train must contact Capt. Redmon.

One (1) MSA meter is out for repairs and one (1) salvage tarp is still in use at the Highview Terrace location.

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

## **Company #3**

Asst. Chief Van Ek reported that for the month of January 2012, Company 3 responded to: 29 box alarms, 1 drill, 0 radio alarm, 0 still alarms, 0 standby, 0 mutual aid and held 2 training's for a total of 32 alarms.

Engine 3's side intake for pumping is "freezing up" and the foam gauge level is no longer working. Request was made for a vendor to conduct the necessary repairs.

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

## **Company #4**

Asst. Chief Nelson reported for the month of January 2012, Company 4 responded to: 29 box alarms, 1 still alarm, 0 radio alarm, 1 training, 0 standby's, 0 Chief call, 0 Mutual aid calls and held 1 drill(s) for a total of 33 alarms.

The light Tower is in the process of being scheduled for repairs via Ken Auto Electric.

The gas meter has been placed back into service.

The Thermal Imaging Camera has been temporarily repaired with a new charging system and noted that there is a need for permanent repair.

A set of gear was received for FF Chris Geier.

A request for three (3) 50 ft. lengths of 5 inch hose, one (1) pair of suspenders, and one (1) battery for the MT1000 low band portable.

All equipment and members are in good working order.

### **Company #5**

Asst. Chief Warner reported that for the month of January 2012, Company 5 responded to: 32 box alarms, 0 radio alarm, 0 still alarms, 0 mutual aid alarms, 0 standby, 0 training, and 2 drill for a total of 34 alarms.

Received two (2) NY Roof style hooks.

Requested one (1) adult & one (1) child pad for the ZOLL AED.

The 02 sensor in the natural gas meter needs to be replaced.

Five (5) LED Survivor lights need to be repaired and or replaced.

All firefighters and equipment are in good working order.

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

55 Westervelt Avenue property is in the process of being renovated to become an active Apartment complex.

An internal audit is being conducted for Officer Certification's to insure the elected 2012 Officers have proper certifications. If they do not they will have to secure by April 01, 2012. If certifications are not obtained by the specified date, the Officer will be suspended from their position until they are properly certified.

The 2012 Officer Sub-committee document was explained and handed out to each Line Officer.

An inventory of each apparatus's equipment has been requested so we have a current update on record for the upcoming ISO rating.

The Department will be cross training with the North Haledon Fire Department to formulate a unilateral RIT team. The initial meeting will be with the Department Captains at 8:00 pm on February 20, 2012, at Company #2 in North Haledon.

Passaic FD will be assisting the Department with Department's RIT training. The RIT Training will commence on March 05, 2012 with Tower 2 and Rescue 5. The remaining Engine Companies will be scheduled at a later date.

Beginning on Monday February 13, 2012, the Police Department will utilize the radio room as their communication center for a period of 60 days. Since it will be an active dispatch center the Communication Division will be utilizing Unit 5-7. It is also expected that members should be courteous and be cognizant of our noise levels when entering the building and near the dispatch center being that it is an active dispatch center for the allocated time.

The ongoing dilemma with the static IP address for the CAD program is actively being addressed with various vendors. We are also researching the possibility of the Department being integrated with the Police Department's CAD center provided that we have a software package that can be linked with the system.

The ground ladder testing for the Engines will begin on February 08, 2012. Both the Tower 2 and Rescue 5's ladders have been previously tested.

The Department narrow banding process has been addressed by the Borough which has approved the Bond Ordinance. Thus allowing the Department to purchase the remaining radios and becoming compliant with mandated Federal Narrow Banding.

Included in the process, is that the Department is looking to purchase pager / radios to replace the ongoing issues with pagers. Quotes are currently being secured to provide to the Borough for all of the above mentioned items by March 06, 2012.

Vendor Valley Health Net has been selected as the new physical medical facility for our new member physical and /or members that couldn't make the annual physical. All members that didn't complete the annual physicals need to do so by April 01, 2012.

The Department has submitted a proposal for the FOB system to the Borough who are considering same.

The Department Financial Audit February 20, 2012.

### **Dates to Remember**

**February 08, 2012- Ground Ladder Testing Engine Companies**

**February 20, 2012 – North Haledon – Dept. Captains Meeting @Co #2 8:00pm**

**February 20, 2012- Safety Officers Meeting @ Headquarters**

**February 20, 2012- 100 Year Anniversary Meeting @ Headquarters**

**February 20, 2012- Department Financial Audit @ Headquarters**

**March 05, 2012 - RIT Training Tower 2 Rescue 5**

**April 06, 2012- Ladies Auxiliary Fish & Chips Dinner @ CO – 5-6PM & 6-7Pm.**

### **COMMITTEES**

**Communication Division:** Responded to 18, alarms, 1 work session, and held 5 meetings for a total of 24 alarms.

The repeater is currently being repaired by Motorola.

All members and equipment are in working order.

**Fire Prevention:** A report was placed in the Asst. Chief's mailboxes.

**Ladies Auxiliary:** The Fish & Chips dinner has been changed to April 06, 2012 (Good Friday) there will be 2 seating's 5-6 pm and 6-7 pm.

There is also a friend of a Ladies Auxiliary member that needs donations and a beefsteak is being scheduled. Details to follow.

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

**Safety Officer's:** Asst. Chief Arturi advised that the accountability radios are being distributed with accountability tags. Also, Company 1 has viewed power point presentation on the newly adopted Accountability procedure.

**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:** No report at this time.

**100 Anniversary:** A meeting was held on Monday to discuss Fund raising discussion. Several ideas were discussed including to bring the circus to the Borough in 2012. The contract for the circus has been received and will be discussed at the next meeting.

It was requested that 2 members from each company attend so everyone has been informed.

Officers were selected and Minutes will be provided to each company via e-mail.

It was advised that the meetings are not long and are generally on Monday nights as everyone is available. It was discussed possibly to move to another night rather than Monday. Next meeting will be on February 20, 2012.

A request to the Board was made to secure \$100.00 so that account can be established. The Board approved same.

**Memorial Park:** Ex-Asst. Chief Geier advised that LAN Associates provided a draft for the park and was publically displayed and discussed. Fund raising will be needed and the Rotary Club has already started same.

Next meeting will be on February 15, 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: Inquired what had sparked the Department to audit Officer's as to their certifications.

*Chief Speranza stated that he was forewarned that a State Audit is would be taking place and wanted to be in complaint.*

Company 3: No report at this time.

Company 4: Ex-Asst Chief John Lane is scheduled for knee surgery and will be requesting a medical leave in near future.

Company 5: No report at this time.

Chiefs Report: The Atlantic Stewardship has selected the Department to secure the Tiding benefit for the amount of \$1,500.00. It was considered to deposit the funds for the Memorial Park. This will be discussed further via a Department meeting.

**Good & Welfare:**

Company 1: March 24, 2012 7:00 pm Comedy Dinner, \$35.00 donation. The show will have for 3 comedians that will be headlined by Vic Dibedetto and Goumba Johnny (formerly of WKTU). See any Company 1 member for tickets.

Company 2: No report at this time.

Company 3: Company 3 is conducting a super 50/50. The drawing will be March 17, 2011. See any Company 3 members for raffles.

Company 4: Annual Rose sale will take place on February 11, 2012 through February 14, 2012 at the Municipal Pool lot.

Company 5: Will be hosting Steak and Cigar night that would be hosted at the Brownstone, details to follow.

Chiefs Report: No report at this time

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

Ex Asst. Chief Geier inquired as to the 2 portable radios that were taken off Engine 4 that were not yet returned. Also inquired as to FlamSim training.

*Asst. Chief Arturi advised that he was under the impression that the radios were re id and have been returned. He expressed that he will follow up accordingly.*

As to Flame Sim it has not been yet approved for Department training and would be considered in the future.

Ex-Asst. Chief Smith requested that the Department should consider to take the Department Memorial that is situated at the Municipal Building be moved to the Monument Park and placed near the entrance. A discussion was held and it would be brought up at the Exempt meeting to further discuss.

Ladies Auxiliary Stacy Speranza advised that the Hawthorne Softball team will be hosting a pasta dinner at Shortway's on February 20, 2012 Cost is \$50.00.

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 Arturi that the meeting be adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

*John Tripicchio*

John Tripicchio  
Board Secretary