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## Borough of Hawthorne Board of Fire Commissioners

445 Lafayette Avenue, Hawthorne, NJ 07506

[www.hawthornefire.org](http://www.hawthornefire.org)

### **CALL TO ORDER:**

Meeting called to order on May 2, 2023 at 7:30 pm by Chief Speranza

*An update notice was provided to the Borough Clerk on Saturday, April 15, 2023 and published to the Fire Department's website and social channel. The public was provided an email ([FireClerk@Hawthornenj.org](mailto:FireClerk@Hawthornenj.org)) to forward questions to the Board of Fire Commissioners.*

### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Joseph Speranza, *Borough Fire Chief*  
John Carlo *CO. 1 Assistant Chief*  
Travis Lodder, *CO. 2 Assistant Chief*  
Joseph Longo, *CO. 3 Assistant Chief*  
Devin Hughes, *CO. 4 Assistant Chief*  
Anthony Manzo, *CO. 5 Assistant Chief*  
Christopher Mogen, *Fire Dept. Clerk*

### **MEMBERS ABSENT:**

None

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:**

*Led by Chief Speranza*

### **MINUTES:**

*Previous month's minutes have been dispersed.*

**Motion to dispersed the minutes:** Travis Lodder, *CO. 2 Assistant Chief*

**Second:** Devin Hughes, *CO. 4 Assistant Chief*

**Approved:** John Carlo *CO. 1 Assistant Chief*  
Travis Lodder, *CO. 2 Assistant Chief*  
Joseph Longo *CO. 3 Assistant Chief*  
Devin Hughes, *CO. 4 Assistant Chief*  
Anthony Manzo, *CO. 5 Assistant Chief*

#### CORE STATEMENT

Volunteers providing a professional service in  
Fire Protection, Rescue Services and Fire Prevention  
To the citizens of Hawthorne.

## DEPARTMENT BILL LIST OF EXPENSES;

*provided and presented by Clerk Mogen*

<b>Fire Companies.com</b> (Annual Website Hosting & Maintenance)	\$ 816.89
<b>Ridgewood Press</b> (Company 4 - Drill Reports)	\$ 175.10
<b>Fremgen's Power Equipment</b> (Truck 2 - Moto-Mix Case)	\$ 89.00
<b>Witmer Public Safety Group</b> (HFD - Various PPE + Tools)	\$ 2,434.24
<b>Fire Service Safety Testing, Inc.</b> (Annual Fire Department Ground Ladder Testing)	\$ 3,500.00
<b>ESI Equipment Inc.</b> (Service Program - Holmatro Rescue Tools)	\$ 1,215.00
<b>Strategic Safety Dynamics, LLC</b> (PPE - FF. K Park, FF. J Harrison, FF. J Speranza)	\$ 8,893.00
<b>Strategic Safety Dynamics, LLC.</b> (HFD - Company 2,3,4,5 Gear Lockers)	\$ 22,809.60*

\*Pending expense, waiting on a third vendor quote.

**Total: \$ 39,932.83**

**Motion to pay the bills:** Devin Hughes, *CO. 4 Assistant Chief*

**Second:** Anthony Manzo, *CO. 5 Assistant Chief*

**Approved:** John Carlo *CO. 1 Assistant Chief*

Travis Lodder, *CO. 2 Assistant Chief*

Joseph Longo *CO. 3 Assistant Chief*

Devin Hughes, *CO. 4 Assistant Chief*

Anthony Manzo, *CO. 5 Assistant Chief*

## COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD;

*Presented by Clerk Mogen*

- Received a letter of intent from Mr. Andrew Padovani to join Company 4. Approved by the Board of Fire Commissioners. Application will be provided to Assistant Chief Hughes.
- Received a letter from Mayor Michele Dale of West Milford, thanking the Hawthorne Fire Department, particular Engine 1 for mutual assistance for the wildfire.

## FIRE COMPANY REPORTS FOR THE MONTH:

### Engine CO. #1; presented by Assistant Chief John Carlo:

- For the month of April, 2023, Engine 1 responded to; 25 Box Alarms, 3 Still Alarms, 1 Radio Alarms, 0 Special, 4 Drill(s) for a total of 33 alarms.
- Firefighter Andrew Dutzar has passed his FF1 class, waiting for graduation.
- Engine 1 received PO for repairs, which will be scheduled in the near future.
- Met with a prospect firefighter, Chris, he will be moving into town in June. He is a captain with Ridgefield Fire Department.

**With the above mentioned exceptions, all members and equipment are in good working order.**

**Tower CO. #2: presented by Assistant Chief Travis Lodder:**

- For the month of April 2023, Truck 2 responded to; 29 Box Alarms, 0 Chief Call, 2 Still Alarm, 5 Mutual Aid calls including 4 to Glen Rock and 1 to Wyckoff. Held 1 drill and 2 additional training, for a total of 37 alarms.
- Truck is back from annual preventative maintenance. All items from the punch list were also repaired. Fire & Safety was contacted yesterday morning regarding the Auto charge battery monitor failing.
- A copy of the invoice detailing the repair of the 2 switches that failed during aerial testing, has been sent to Aerial Testing Company. We are awaiting to hear back so we can receive our passing certification.
- We thank the Dept. for allowing us to use old Engine 4 while the truck was out.
- All ground ladders, ladder belts, rope, and gemtor harness were inspected and passed.
- After the Hedges walkthrough, Truck 2 drilled on using discharges on the bucket and will need to order two 90 elbows in order to make these work sufficiently.
- Truck 2 is also requesting bar oil for our saws.
- Since the battery was changed and the maintainer installed on Unit 62, it is running without issues.

**With the above mentioned exceptions, all members and equipment are in good working order.**

**Engine CO. #3: presented by Assistant Chief Joseph Longo:**

- For the month of April 2023, Engine 3 responded to 30 Box Alarms, 0 Still Alarm, 1 Mutual Aid, 0 Chief Calls, and held 1 Drills with 0 additional training for a total of 32 alarms.
- Engine 3 has had preventive maintenance service done on the engine this morning. Along with chaise service and pump service.

**With the above mentioned exceptions, all members and equipment are in good working order.**

**Engine CO. #4: presented by Assistant Chief Devin Hughes:**

- For the month of April 2023, Engine 4 responded to; 29 Box Alarms, 4 Still Alarms, 0 Standbys, 0 Radio Alarms, 1 Drill, for a total of 34 Alarms.
- On behalf of myself and the members of Engine 4, we would like to congratulate and welcome Josimar Aguilar being sworn in tonight to the HFD and Engine 4.
- Engine 4 has a new member, Andre Padovani, that has been coming around for the past several weeks. He has written a letter to the Fire Board for his membership application.
- Currently Engine 4 is still waiting on the remainder of the new hose order. Waiting for the 2.5” and 1.75” hoses from that original order. Clerk Mogen has emailed vendor this past weekend and is still waiting for a response.

**With the above mentioned exceptions, all members and equipment are in good working order.**

**Rescue CO. #5: presented by Assistant Chief Anthony Manzo:**

- For the month of April 2023, Rescue 5 responded to; 28 Box Alarms, 7 Still Alarms, 0 Mutual Aid, 0 Stand-by, 2 Training /Drills, 0 Special Detail for a total of 37 Alarms.
- Vehicles and Equipment;

- Rescue
  - Good working order.
  - Preventative Maintenance completed.
  - FLIR thermal imager is out for repairs.
- Unit 58
  - Good working order.
- Unit 57/Communications
  - Good working order
- Boat
  - Good working order
- Personal
  - FF. M. Bracket past FF1

**With the above mentioned exceptions, all members and equipment are in good working order.**

## **FIRE PREVENTION REPORT;**

*reported by Fire Chief Joseph Speranza*

- Refer to the Chief's report.
- The Hedges facility has provided updated lockbox keys.

## **CHIEF'S REPORT AND CURRENT EVENTS SUMMARY;**

*by Fire Chief Joseph Speranza*

Thank you to all those who provided a fitting and honorable service for James Bakker, Engine 3. Jim will be deeply missed and will be remembered as an exemplary member of our department.

This evening a proposal ordinance was explained to the Borough's Ordinance Committee. Our presentation was concerning the Lithium battery and eBike Ordinance that the department provided. Further details will follow asap.

Thanks to each of you assisting last night with a layout plan at 204 Wag. Our officers will be finalizing an operational plan for the facility.

Gov. Murphy is presenting a grant for firefighters PPE which we will be reviewing and applying for as soon as available. The grant value is estimated to be 10 million statewide.

### **UPDATES**

**Wednesday, June 7th at 7:00 pm** - The department will be participating in a helicopter landing and training. The location will be the Hawthorne Gospel Church on Rt. 208.

**Saturday, June 10th** - The department will be providing fireworks safety and crowd protection for the fireworks display that evening. An incident action plan (IAP) has been provided to each company chief for the event. Units should plan to arrive by 6:30 pm.

**Thursday, June 15th at 4:00 pm** - Meeting with mayor and administrator, need two attendees.

**Tuesday, June 20th** - Officers round table (the Hedges), training on apparatus placement, alarm structure.

Respectfully,  
Chief J. Speranza

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

### **Communications Division:**

- *George Zagatta (Radio Room)*
  - No written report submitted

### **Cadets:**

- *Captain Brian Patmos*
  - No written report submitted

### **Ladies Auxiliary:**

- *President Joni Huston*
  - Huge Thank you for all those that participated and ordered dinners from the Annual Fish & Chip Dinner Fundraiser. We served 313 dinners - NEW RECORD
  - No written report submitted

### **Citizen Fire:**

- *Assistant Chief Lodder*
  - No written report submitted

### **Task Force:**

- *Assistant Chief Manzo*
  - No written report submitted

### **Training Center:**

- *Assistant Chief Longo*
  - Car simulator - Final review before the simulator can be transported to the Training Center
  - Clean up is pending, additional information will follow
  - Thank you for those company's using the facility, documenting and keeping it clean.
  - Tree has damaged sections of the fence and lighting - Pending
  - Electrical vendor will be contacted about the repairs - Pending
  - Still need the fence fixed - Pending

### **Exempt/Relief:**

- *Ex-Borough Chief Victor Tamburro*
  - No written report submitted

### **Passaic County Sheriff's Department:**

- *Ex-Assistant Chief John Arturi - OEM*
  - No written report submitted

### **Radio Communications**

- *Ex-Assistant Chief Mike Nelson*
  - No written report submitted

## **CODES**

- *Assistant Chief John Carlo*
  - No written report submitted

## **Awards Committee**

- *Chief Joseph Speranza*
  - No written report submitted

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

- Engine Company 1:
  - No old business to report.
- Tower Company 2:
  - This morning should have been a still alarm. Will dispatch be notified of the error?  
*Chief: There is still an ongoing learning curve with new dispatchers. If any officer doesn't hear me on the radio make the alarm correction, please respond on your radio to the dispatcher and make the proper correction.*
  - FF. J Crawford has asked if the FD is interstand in providing our Honor Guard for an upcoming Red Bulls game.  
*Chief: The FD will double check, but at this time we will be declining the offer.*
- Engine Company 3:
  - No old business to report.
- Engine Company 4:
  - No old business to report.
- Rescue Company 5:
  - No old business to report.
- Chief:
  - No old business to report.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

- Engine Company 1:
  - No new business to report.
- Tower Company 2:
  - No new business to report.
- Engine Company 3:
  - No new business to report.
- Engine Company 4:
  - The town has dumped stones at the boat ramp.  
*Chief: I would like to recognize the following for their hard work in organizing and forwarding the letter to the state, Assistant Chief Longo, Assistant Chief Manzo and FF. Kenerson.*
- Rescue Company 5:
  - No new business to report.
- Chief:
  - SOG for operational building - Center Court
  - Josh Cellars Wine Program that supported local firefighters and departments has donated \$200.00
  - NFIRS Documentation - CODES
  - Hose Testing is pending
  - Old Engine 4 - OOS due to engine issues.

## **GOOD AND WELFARE:**

- Engine Company 1:
  - No good and welfare to report.
- Tower Company 2:
  - No good and welfare to report.
- Engine Company 3:
  - No good and welfare to report.
- Engine Company 4:
  - We would like to congratulate and welcome Josimar Aguilar being sworn in tonight to the HFD and Engine 4.
- Rescue Company 5:
  - No good and welfare to report.
- Chief:
  - Working with the Police Department about the tones
  - Up-tick with motor vehicle issues. Recently vehicles are traveling too close to our Fire Apparatuses. Please be aware and report offenders.

## **MEETING CLOSED TO THE BOARD AND OPENED TO THE FLOOR;**

*by Chief Speranza*

- Victor Tamburro (Ex-Borough Chief - Company 2) - *On June 11th, Rev. Msgr. Raymond Kupke will be celebrating his 50th Anniversary. Since St. Anthony Church has been a strong supporter of the HFD, I'm asking that the department consider providing a gift to show our gratitude?*
  - *Chief: Great news, yes, definitely we'll bring that recommendation back to our committee.*

## **MEETING CLOSED TO THE FLOOR AND OPENED TO THE BOARD;**

*by Chief Speranza*

## **ADJOURNMENT:**

**Motion to close the meeting:** Travis Lodder, *CO. 2 Assistant Chief*

**Second:** Devin Hughes, *CO. 4 Assistant Chief*

**Approved:** John Carlo *CO. 1 Assistant Chief*

Travis Lodder, *CO. 2 Assistant Chief*

Joseph Longo *CO. 3 Assistant Chief*

Devin Hughes, *CO. 4 Assistant Chief*

Anthony Manzo, *CO. 5 Assistant Chief*

*Meeting was adjourned at 8:20 pm by Chief Speranza.*

Christopher Mogen  
*Fire Department Clerk*

## **CORE STATEMENT**

Volunteers providing a professional service in  
Fire Protection, Rescue Services and Fire Prevention  
to the citizens of Hawthorne.