

Chief Joseph Speranza
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Clerk Christopher Mogan
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Borough of Hawthorne Board of Fire Commissioners

445 Lafayette Avenue, Hawthorne, NJ 07506
www.hawthornefire.org

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting called to Order on December 5th, 2017 at 7:30pm by Chief Joseph Speranza.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Joseph Speranza, *Borough Fire Chief*
Christopher DiBella, *CO. 1 Assistant Chief*
Anthony DiVincent, *CO. 2 Assistant Chief*
Joseph Longo, *CO. 3 Assistant Chief*
Peter VanDerrVelde, *CO. 4 Assistant Chief*
Brian Warner, *CO. 5 Assistant Chief*
Amber Hechinger, *Fire Dept. Clerk*
Christopher Mogen, *Fire Dept. Clerk*

MEMBERS ABSENT: All members present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA: *led by Chief Speranza*

MINUTES: Previous month's minutes have been dispersed. No present who are opposed.

DEPARTMENT BILL LIST OF EXPENSES FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER; *provided by Christopher Mogen, presented by Amber Hechinger:*

• AAA Emergency Supply Co (Training package w/ bailout system):	\$5,522.00
• AAA Emergency Supply Co (Hydrant gate valves-Engine 1):	\$1,224.00
• WL Construction Supply (Rescue tools-diamond blade):	\$1,209.97
• State Line Safety & Fire (Rescue 5-Hurst took preventative annual maintenance):	\$420.00
• Bill Foxx (Hat pins-6):	\$600.00
• AAA Emergency Supply Co (Tower 2-streamlight replacement/rechargeable battery):	\$228.47
• Hawthorne Auto Lab (Unit 6-1 fire prevention/battery):	\$204.65
• Downes (Training Center repairs):	\$2,400.00
• Goosetown Communications Inc. (Radio batteries) Blanket PO:	\$500.00
• Ridgewood Press (Installation Books):	\$565.00
• Engraving Award Gifts (Awards 10yr, 15yr, 20yr, 25yr):	\$1,322.50
• Bill Foxx (Awards 45yr):	\$360.00
• FireAwards.com (Awards 30yr, 40yr, 65yr):	\$1,344.90

Total Expenses: \$15,901.49

FIRE COMPANY REPORTS FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER:

Engine CO. #1; by Assistant Chief Christopher DiBella:

- 22 box alarms; 1 still alarm; 0 mutual aids; 1 drill for a total of 24 alarms. Engine 1 held 1 additional trainings.
- Equipment Request: 1 black helmet
- FF Malandrino remains out on medical leave.



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- FF Finch has returned to active duty from medial leave effective December 1st, 2017—Medical release form submitted to Clerk Amber Hechinger.
- On behalf of the members and officers of Company 1, Assistant Chief DiBella congratulates and welcomes new member Anthony Mazzacca to their Company.

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

Tower CO. #2; by Assistant Chief Anthony DiVincent:

- 22 box alarms; 2 still alarms; 6 mutual aids; 1 drill for a total of 31 alarms. Tower 2 held 0 additional trainings.
- Final paperwork was submitted to Clerk Amber Hechinger for new member Richard Genberg.

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

Engine CO. #3; by Assistant Chief Joseph Longo:

- 22 box alarms; 0 still alarms; 0 mutual aids; 0 drills for a total of 22 alarms. Engine 3 held 1 additional training.
- FF Brice Walder has been red-flagged from his OSHA Physical. A letter was sent to Chief Speranza as notification that FF Walder did not respond back to NASAU Diagnostics in a timely manner and now has been placed under a Class C Category Firefighter. This classification will stand until he addresses reported concerns with his private doctor and can be placed back under a Class A Firefighter upon medical approval. FF Walder has been notified of this new classification and is not actively participating in fire-matic duties.
- AC Longo reminds the Board of the 50/50 that Company 3 is holding. Interested parties are to inquire with Captain DeGroot.

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

Engine CO. #4; by Assistant Chief Peter VanDerrVelde:

- 22 box alarms; 12 still alarms; 0 radio calls; 0 drills for a total of 35 alarms. Not included in this total are 11 mutual calls to Glen Rock and 1 mutual aid call to Fair Lawn. Engine 4 held 0 additional trainings.
- Two (2) member were measured for new gear.
- Engine 4 will be going to Fair Lawn this Thursday, December 7th, to check a surging issue with its lights as well as the light tower.
- AC VanDerrVelde notes that FF1 needs to be contacted due to the fact that the process in which the apparatus switches from road to pump, back to road is not engaging/disengaging smoothly. As per request of Chief Speranza, AC VanDerrVelde will be scheduling the repair and notifying the Board as to when the apparatus will be out of service.
- Company 4 received a mifi box from Glen Rock Fire Dept. for their tablet, which is now functioning and is operational with their active 911 system. It is paid for from the Borough of Glen Rock for the monthly service.

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



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Rescue CO. #5; by Assistant Chief Brian Warner:

- 22 box alarms; 0 still alarms; 0 mutual aid; 1 drill for a total of 23 alarms.
- The officers display screen is not functioning and is in need of maintenance. As per request of Chief Speranza, AC Warner will be scheduling a repair and notifying the Board if the apparatus will be out of service.
- The boat is in proper working order.
- On behalf of Company 5, AC Brian Warner congratulates and welcomes new member Brandon Frei.

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

FIRE PREVENTION REPORT; reported by Fire Chief Joseph Speranza

- 55 Westervelde has cleared up the majority of their issues. Their enunciator panel is working properly
- Chief Speranza encourages the Department to take a look at the Central Ave property when they find the time. He intends to schedule a date and time for when members can do so, if not on their own. It is a fairly large building, constructed with particle board and black pipe.

CHIEF'S REPORT AND CURRENT EVENTS SUMMARY; by Fire Chief Joseph Speranza

- Chief Speranza thanks all Companies for taking time out of their busy holiday schedules to participate in the Santa Parade.
- Reminder to Company Officers: If/When a unit is placed out of service or not responding to an incident, Chief Speranza must be informed. It allows him time to provide proper notice to the Mayor, our Officers, outside agencies and/or the County Coordinator. When a general alarm is activated all Companies should respond accordingly until confirmation of the incident's needs is determined.
- Chief Speranza was thrilled to observe several young members in action at a recent incident. This group operated in a dumpster fire and upon extinguishment, the members took great consideration to replace all the items that were removed. It was a messy and difficult task but was completed with great care, displaying an excellent example of compassion and concern for our residents and their businesses. Chief Speranza extends his thanks to the Officers and members for providing a positive influence in the ways of pride and dedication to the youth in our Department. He asks Chief DiBella to please relay this message to your members, as it was a phenomenal thing to see happen.
- At a recent Fire Officer's Meeting, a discussion was held concerning mandating attendance at certain events. Each year, Chief Speranza will ask each Company to vote on attendance and marching in the Memorial Day Parade and provide a tally. The main questions from the Board seemed to be: Should it be required to attend the Memorial Day Service? Should the Department March in the Annual Memorial Day Parade? He notes that nothing is happening immediately, but this will be something to prepare for in the future.
- Reminder: All final requests for funding must be in to Chief Speranza by Wednesday, December 13th. Please keep in mind that big ticket items may be hard to get approval for.



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- **Dates to Remember:**
 - December 11th: 7:15 at North Haledon Fire Dept. is the last opportunity for 2017 for OSHA-mandated physicals. There will be another held in January in Bloomingdale.
 - December 19th: Possible Officer's Meeting; as-needed. Chief Speranza will keep open communication as to if a meeting is necessary.
- We are in a grant process now for a car fire simulator and a door-pop simulator. The grant profiles \$35,000.
- **Members of the Exempt Association:** If you are a Veteran, you are now eligible to an additional \$3,000 personal tax deduction on your State Income Tax. Chief Speranza will distribute the information to our members.
- On January 27th, there will be an all-you-can-eat Beefsteak and Wingfest in West Paterson for \$50. Copies will be provided to the Assistant Chiefs.
- In order to placate any confusion and/or last minute issues in regards to yearly awards, Chief Speranza has drawn up clear guidelines:
 - Award date will be honored utilizing the mid-year mark for the year (July) of the dinner. Members after the July cut-off will be awarded for their service award the following year. The Board will have the option to present an award to members who would not have been considered eligible in the event of extraordinary circumstances.
- In closing, Chief Speranza wishes a Happy and Safe Holiday to all members and their families.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- **Training Center; by Assistant Chief Joseph Longo:** Bail-out systems has been inspected and improved. Once confirmation on the bail-out kits has been received, AC Longo can order the crash pad mattresses as well as protective tarps for the mattresses. Upon same confirmation, he will also schedule bail-out classes so we can be put on a list. AC Longo extends a thank you to Mr. Robert Foley Sr. for the time and help he has been putting in at the training center. AC Longo and AC DiVincent are still planning on moving forward with the roof operation project as well as a cellar operation project once the bail-out system is completed—AC Long will present this to the Board once preparations are ready to begin.
- **Communications Division:** Responded to 16 alarms, held 4 meetings, and 1 funeral detail for a total of 21 events. The computers and recording equipment in the Radio Room and Fieldcomm are in good working order as of November 30th, 2017.

OLD BUSINESS:

- I. Engine Company 1: No old business to report.
- II. Tower Company 2: No old business to report.
- III. Engine Company 3: No old business to report.
- IV. Engine Company 4: No old business to report.
- V. Rescue Company 5: No old business to report.

NEW BUSINESS:

- I. Engine Company 1: Fire-matic Officers for 2018 will be as follows:
 - Assistant Chief: John Attori
 - Captain: John Trippiccio
 - 1st Lieutenant: John Carlo
 - 2nd Lieutenant: Robert Luscombe

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- II. Tower Company 2: No new business to report.
- III. Engine Company 3: Fire-matic Officers for 2018 will be as follows:
 - Assistant Chief: Joseph Longo
 - Captain: Dominick DeGroot
 - 1st Lieutenant: Michael VanLenten
 - 2nd Lieutenant: Darryl Foca
- IV. Engine Company 4: No new business to report.
- V. Rescue Company 5: Fire-Matic Officers for 2018 will be as follows:
 - Assistant Chief: David Hughes
 - Captain: Joseph Pagnozzi
 - 1st Lieutenant: Kyle Johnson
 - 2nd Lieutenant: Anthony Manzo

GOOD AND WELFARE:

- Engine Company 1: Nothing to report.
- Tower Company 2: Nothing to report.
- Engine Company 3: Nothing to report.
- Engine Company 4: Nothing to report.
- Rescue Company 5: Nothing to report.

MEETING CLOSE TO THE BOARD AND OPENED TO THE FLOOR; *by Chief Joseph Speranza*

- I. Ex-Assistant Chief Vic Tamburro reminds the Board of the Exempt Relief meeting on Thursday, December 14th, 2017 at Company 1 at 7:30pm. An application for Company 1 was returned to Chief Speranza pending a signature from a NJ Licensed doctor instead of a NY Licensed doctor. There is a 180 day time limit in which it can be processed.

SWEARING-IN OF THREE NEW MEMBERS; *by Chief Joseph Speranza*

- New members: Anthony Mazzacca of CO #1, Richard Genberg of CO #2, and Brandon Freir

ADJOURNMENT: *Meeting was closed to the floor and adjourned at 7:55pm by Chief Joseph Speranza.*

Amber Hechinger
Fire Department Clerk

Date