

Chief Joseph Speranza
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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 November 7th, 2017 at 7:30pm by Chief Joseph Speranza.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Joseph Speranza, *Borough Fire Chief*
John Carlo, *CO 1 Lieutenant*
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: Christopher DiBella, CO. 1 Assistant Chief

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; *provided by Christopher Mogen, presented by Amber Hechinger:*

1. AAA Emergency Supply CO. (Fire Hose/10' & 20' Length with Storz Couplings): \$505.00
2. Rescue 5 (Battery replacement for boat) reimbursement: \$82.90
3. Godwin Tools (DIF fuel additive drain tube for Engine 1): \$90.00
4. FF1 Professional Safety Services (Repairs to the SCBA fill station): \$500.00
5. FF1 Professional Safety Services (Emergency repair to Engine 4—Flow line valves & air actuator): \$3,154.00
6. Emergency Equipment Sales (Emergency repair to Engine 3—Detroit Fire Commander): \$5,077.26
7. FF1 Professional Safety Services (Ladder repairs on Tower 2): \$400.00
8. A-Van Electrical Supply, Inc. (Engine 4—Bulb replacements): \$32.04
9. Goosetown Communications Inc. (Radio replacement/ VER-AC061N132-VX): \$296.25
10. Teknikat, Inc. (Fire alarm charger): \$250.00
11. Shortway's Barn (Fire Prevention Education school visits lunch): \$300.00



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FIRE COMPANY REPORTS FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER:

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

- 30 box alarms; 1 still alarm; 0 mutual aids; 1 drill for a total of 32 calls. Engine 1 includes 1 additional training.
- Engine 1 returned from fire safety with the following repairs: mounted thermal image camera; hose reel button; mirror button.
- FF Maladrino and FF Finch remain on medical leave.
- FF1 paperwork has been submitted to the Fire Academy for the following firefighters:
 1. FF Christopher DiBella Jr.
 2. FF Brenden Terrizzi
 3. FF Matthew Gerresten
- Equipment requests: One (1) Ex-Assistant Chief badge; One (1) hat badge

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

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

- 28 box alarms; 3 still alarms; 3 mutual aids; 4 drills for a total of 38 alarms. Tower 2 held 0 additional trainings.
- Received and supplied to Clerk: Letter of Intent to join CO. #2 from Richard Genberg; Change of address notification from FF William Seidel; Gear inspection reports; Driving Course Recertification.
- FF1 completed Air Pack Flow Test resulting in one (1) minor issue: Bad O-Ring on one (1) pack.
- UL completed Aerial Ladder testing on November 7th, 2017. No issues to report.
- Previous request for one (1) gear set for FF Brenden Marsch has been received. (Ref: August 1st, 2017 minutes—Initial request for bunkers and turnout coat submitted.)
- Equipment Request: One (1) set of gear for Ex-Assistant Chief Brian Vanderhook.

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

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

- 31 box alarms; 0 still alarms; 0 mutual aid; 2 drills for a total of 33 alarms. Engine 3 held 1 additional training.
- Received and supplied to Clerk: Doctor-approval for FF James Bakker to return to active duty from medical leave.
- SCBA Flow Testing has been completed.
- R/T Bottle sent to FF1 for hydrostatic testing.
- Engine CO. #3 offers thanks to the Borough Administration and Council for passing Resolution R184-17 contract for the purchase of new apparatus for their Company. Assistant Chief Longo offers additional thanks to CO. #3's Truck Committee for their outstanding research, development and hours of devotion creating the apparatus for the bettering of our Community, Department and Company.

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



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

- 28 box alarms; 5 still alarms; 0 radio calls; 1 drill for a total of 34 calls. 5 mutual aids to Glen Rock have not been included in this total. Engine 4 held 0 additional trainings.
- Repairs done to the front & rear inlets and side manifold have been completed; Engine 4 is at 100% pumping capacity. In addition, regulators sent out for repair have been fixed and returned—Repairs and testing completed by FF1.
- Upon Engine 1's return, Engine 4 needs issues concerning light tower and tripod light to be checked by Fair Lawn DPW.
- CO. #4 offers thanks to CO. #3 for the use of their hose washer and dryer to clean all cross lays while apparatus was out for repair.
- CO. #4 extends congratulations to FF Christopher Mogen for receiving his black shield.

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

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

- 35 box alarms; 0 still alarms; 2 drills for a total of 37 alarms. Rescue 5 held 0 additional trainings.
- Rescue 5 and boat are reported to be in proper working order; a new battery has been installed on boat.
- Reported and submitted to Chief Speranza and Clerk: Capital Budget item requests for 2018 fiscal year; Letter of resignation from Russel Graham; Letter of intent to join Rescue 5 from Brandon Frei.

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

FIRE PREVENTION REPORT; reported by Fire Chief Joseph Speranza

- Progressing on Central Avenue property. Chief Speranza recommends the Companies talk a walk around the property in order to get a layout in the event of an issue. The reported issue of a man who fell from the roof of a 34ft building is held as an example.
- Thanks are extended to all those who attended the water tender operations drill ran by the county. High praise by the county on the turn out, set up, and experience.
- Chiefs have been in receipt of the optional bail-out program request for training. A master list will be provided. We do not have a lot of funding available, so we will be looking first at members who have met pre-requisites that are being put into place:
 1. All OSHA physical compliance and clearance.
 2. Must be either Class A or B Firefighter, qualified for interior activity.
 3. SCBA Fit Test must be compliant.
 4. Must have fire percentage of 33 1/3.
 5. Drill training activity percentage must be 33 1/3.

Company Chief and Board of Fire Commissioners will vote the final determination on the member being provided the bail-out kit once all these pre-requisites have been met. The objective is to supply every member with a bail-out kit, though the process will be slower until generalized funding is available.

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



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- Chief Speranza extends a thank you to all members who attended the Memorial Service on November 4th, 2017. He notes that attendance remains stagnant at around 59 members in comparison to the past several years. Next year's date and venue of the event will be decided upon by the Board of Fire Commissioners as soon as possible.
- On behalf of the Department, Chief Speranza also extends a thank you to the Mayor and Council for moving forward on Engine 3. We expect to continue forward with the replacement process of the Department's front-line equipment within the next few years. In conjunction with the Council and the Administration, Tower 2 should be looked at next year with a replacement the following year, shortly followed by Engine 4.
- After meeting and reviewing the Departments' needs with Administrator Maurer, we have entered into the process of providing fire software for the Departments' tablets. Research to answer the question of which software will generate the best opportunity for the Department is still taking place. Currently, a program that will be providing hydrant locations, water pressure from the hydrants, fire prevention information, building information, and any other generalized information that can be added for the general public to look at is being searched for. The data will not be secure as it would be readily available via tablets. Having a program up and running before Spring 2018 is the goal.
- Apparatus' are still being cycled in and out of repairs. Engine 1 has returned from being repaired with remaining units being scheduled shortly, hopefully ending the cycle.
- **In regards to election season at the Company levels**, Chief Speranza reminds our members that in no way should any member feel intimidated or be treated harshly by another member(s) for wishing to vote a certain way. If anyone is experiencing this within our Companies, he urges them to come forward. Any member found using intimidation tactics or hostile treatment in regards to the Election will, with support from the Administration, be dealt with accordingly as it is being considered a serious offense. Chief Speranza implores that our members have respect for one another and continue to hold themselves as responsible leaders in the community.
- Dates to remember:
 1. November 9th, 2017: Meeting with Boys and Girl Scout Explorer Program at 4:00pm to review and gather additional resources. In addition, there will be training for members of the management team who wish to receive it.
 2. November 21st, 2017: Chiefs and Captains meeting will be held at 7:30pm to review new Officer Guidelines and potential Bi-Laws that will fall under the Ordinance, requiring Officers to participate in certain things at an added percentage level determined by the Board and the Borough Administration.
 3. December 2nd, 2017: Santa Parade at 10:00AM with the line up at 9:30 (unless otherwise instructed) Note: We will not be hosting a Santa Toy Drive this year or a collection at Shortway's. The band is unable to participate this year and Ex-President of Ladies Auxiliary determined the lack of toys and variety of names to choose would cause more issues. A Santa Run in conjunction with the Ladies Auxiliary is to be determined at a later date.
- Chief Speranza wishes our members and families a safe and Happy Thanksgiving. He implores everyone stay safe with note to the high call volume this year.



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COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- **Training Center; by Assistant Chief Joseph Longo:**
 1. Third floor bail-out has been completed, photographed, documented, inspected and approved.
 2. Research on the crash-pads ensues, with pads costing an estimate of \$5,000-\$10,000 respectively.
 3. AC Longo offers a thank you to Ex-Assistant Chief John Attori who sanctioned the cleaning of the Training Center and the laying of the floor by the inmates.
 4. A container is requested once more for construction debris, if possible. Chief Speranza notes an email was received from the Borough stating they would not be supplying a container. As a solution, Robert Foley has offered his services to help with the bucket loader, which would require volunteers assisting in loading it. AC Longo requests that those who would like to help speak to Mr. Foley while he is there.
 5. In conjunction with Assistant Chief Anthony DiVincent, the roof operations project is in development with regards to the intended budget. Once progress is made on said development, AC Longo and AC DiVincent intend to present their information.
 6. Generator has been pulled from 57 with respect to safety issues needing to be addressed and/or modified. One more light needs to be installed so usage at night is possible. As it stands, the light system can be run off of an apparatus.
 7. Assistant Chief Longo request any donations of corrugated steel and twenty (20) 2x8x10's by anyone willing and offers thanks to all who have assisted thus far.
- Ladies Auxiliary President Ellen offers apologies for the lack of Auxiliary representation at the November 4th, 2017 Memorial. She believed that it began at 6:00pm and was not corrected by her members at the Auxiliary meeting on Thursday, October 26th, 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: No new business to report.
- II. Tower Company 2: No new business to report.
- III. Engine Company 3: No new business to report.
- IV. Engine Company 4: No new business to report.
- V. Rescue Company 5: No new business to report.

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.

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

- I. Ladies Auxiliary President Ellen refers to her mention from the previous Fire Board (Ref: October 17th, 2017 minutes) of concerns regarding the outside of Rescue Headquarters. Her concern is of the fact that the vans and cars being kept in the parking lot are an eyesore in the town and remain being so. Chief Speranza mentions that capital budgeting has been requested in order to put up a fence for visual reasons (Ref: October 17, 2017 minutes) and Assistant Chief Brian Warner comments of the fence also being needed for security purposes. Chief Speranza requests patience in solving this issue.

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

Amber Hechinger
Fire Department Clerk

Date