



## 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 February 3, 2026 at 7:32 pm by Chief Joseph Speranza.  
Van Dyk Park Place at 644 Goffle Road in the facility community room.

*Notice was provided to the Borough Clerk 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*  
Peter Van Der Velde, *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 Joseph Speranza*

### **MINUTES:**

*Previous month's minutes have been dispersed.*

**Motion to disperse the minutes:** Anthony Manzo, *CO. 5 Assistant Chief*

**Second:** Peter Van Der Velde, *CO. 4 Assistant Chief*

### **Approved:**

John Carlo, *CO. 1 Assistant Chief*  
Travis Lodder, *CO. 2 Assistant Chief*

Joseph Longo, CO. 3 Assistant Chief  
Peter Van Der Velde, CO. 4 Assistant Chief  
Anthony Manzo, CO. 5 Assistant Chief

## DEPARTMENT BILL LIST OF EXPENSES;

*provided and presented by Clerk Mogen*

<b>Occupational Medical Associates</b> (New Member + Annual Member Physicals)	\$ 925.00
<b>AAA Emergency Supply Co.</b> (Fit Test Calibration - 5yr Warranty)	\$ 2,810.50
<b>Bergen County Public Safety</b> (Fire Instructor Level Two - Capt. DeGroot)	\$ 200.00
<b>HFD Company 4</b> (Technical Rescue Class Reimbursement - Lt. C. Geier, FF. C. Rodriguez)	\$ 185.00
<b>HFD Company 5</b> (Technical Rescue Class Reimbursement - FF. C. Garcia, FF. H. Frei)	\$ 185.00
<b>Passaic County Academy</b> (Hazmat IC (J. Carlo, B. Frei, D. Kallenberg, T. Lodder))	\$ 500.00
<b>John Carlo</b> (Hazardous Materials On Scene Incident Commander-Book Reimbursement)	\$ 80.66
<b>1st Responder Newspaper</b> (Annual Subscription)	\$ 85.00
<b>Passaic County 200 Club</b> (FD 2025 Dues)	\$ 250.00
<b>Passaic County Mutual Aid Assoc.</b> (FD 2025 Dues)	\$ 100.00
<b>Tanis Hardware</b> (Various Supplies throughout the Year)	\$ 300.00
<b>Fire Service Safety Testing Inc.</b> (FD Ground Ladders Tested & Inspected - NFPA)	\$ 1,747.56
<b>Barnwell</b> (Truck 2 - Tire Repair)	\$ 130.00
<b>Goffle Automotive</b> (Unit 50 - Replacement Head Lights)	\$ 77.75
<b>Company 5</b> (Reimbursement (FERN) - Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)	\$ 75.74
<b>Strategic Safety Dynamics LLC.</b> (Engine 4 - (3) Turnout Coats + Pants)	\$ 10,270.80
<b>Company 4</b> (Reimbursement - Printer Replacement / Monitor / HDMI Cable / Logitech MK540 Advanced Wireless)	\$ 382.97

**Total: \$ 17,923.01**

**Motion to pay the bills:** Peter Van Der Velde, 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  
Peter Van Der Velde, CO. 4 Assistant Chief  
Anthony Manzo, CO. 5 Assistant Chief

## COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD;

*Presented by Clerk Mogen*

- Received a letter of resignation from FF. Becca Irvolino of Company 2. The Board of Fire Commissioners wish to thank Becca for his dedicated service to the residents of Hawthorne and wish him all the best.

- Received a letter from FF. Frank Audino of Company 1, requesting a six (6) month medical leave. Approved by Assistant Chief Carlo.

## **FIRE COMPANY REPORTS FOR THE MONTH:**

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

- For the month of January, 2026, Engine 1 responded to;
  - 40 Box Alarms
  - 3 Still Alarms
  - 0 Mutual Aid
  - 0 Radio Alarm
  - 0 Stand By
  - 1 Training/Drills

#### **44 Total Alarms**

- Engine 1 received a medical LOA for 6 months (2-9 to 8-9) for FF. F. Audino letter handed in.
- Engine 1 has 1 regulator out for repair, never received and received 1 pack, placed back in service.
- Engine 1 received 2 pony lengths of 1 - 1 ¼ hose
- Engine 1 handed in receipts for 16 hour stand by
- Engine 1 handed in truck checks and SCBA checks for the month of Jan. 2026.

**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 January, 2026, Truck 2 responded to;
  - 35 Box Alarms
  - 3 Still Alarms
  - 0 Chief Calls
  - 7 Mutual Aid (4 Paterson, 1 Passaic, 1 Glen Rock, 1 Wyckoff)
  - 0 Radio Alarm
  - 5 Stand By
  - 1 Training/Drills

#### **51 Total Alarms**

- Truck 2 received an MSA multi gas meter and new tire chains.
- SCBA/Truck Check sheets for January and Losap for 2025 turned in
- Resignation for FF Irvolino handed in.
- Thank you to those who assisted and attended the wake for Bill Redmon. As usual great job by Vic in organizing it.
- Fire & Safety was in to do some repair work from a short punch list we had. We still are awaiting completion of these and for the PM for months now. Communication with them has been difficult, they

don't seem to respond until you pressure them or threaten them with seeking other vendors. Is there anything we can do?

**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 January, 2026, Engine 3 responded to;
  - 36 Box Alarms
  - 1 Still Alarms
  - 0 Mutual Aid
  - 0 Chief Calls
  - 0 Stand By
  - 1 Training/Drills
  - 0 Additional Trainings

**38 Total Alarms**

- The apparatus stirring column boot has been replaced with a new boot around column due to wearing conditions.
- MDS body repair has looked at apparatus that will do a write up on repairs needed through Campbell.
- Jordi Corrales has handed in his application for HFD, was handed in to the Clerk.
- Thank you to the Road Department for clearing out the snow banks around the Engine room apron, sides and across the street by the Dinner, for us to have a safe and easy access out and in with apparatus.

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

**Engine CO. #4; presented by Assistant Chief Peter Van Der Velde:**

- For the month of January, 2026, Engine 4 responded to;
  - 36 Box Alarms
  - 9 Still Alarms
  - 0 Mutual Aid
  - 0 Radio Alarm
  - 0 Stand By
  - 0 Training
  - 1 Drill

**46 Total Alarms**

- Chief Sulcou called, waiting on him to measure for three sets of gear.
- Turned in receipt for Wifi Chip and monitor for new computer.
- One new member application turned in.

**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 January, 2026, Rescue 5 responded to;
  - 38 Box Alarms
  - 7 Still Alarms
  - 1 Mutual Aid (Glen Rock)
  - 1 Special Event/Stand By
  - 2 Training/Drills

**49 Total Alarms**
- Vehicles and Equipment;
  - Rescue
    - LOSAP has been completed and turned in.
    - Received rigging accessories from 2025 budget request.
    - Prob Firefighters Quispe and Manke completed FF1 at Bergen County.
    - Prob Firefighter H. Frei and Garcia completed rescue tech at Bergen County.
    - Prob Firefighters H. Frei and Garcia are attending FF1 at Passaic County.
    - Prob Firefighter Hoekstra attending rescue tech at Bergen County.
    - Snowblower for Fire HQ had a belt break during the recent snowstorm and is OOS.
    - Air leak located near the we tank underneath the Rescue truck, will schedule with Campbell Supply to assess.
  - Unit 58
    - Good working order
  - Unit 57/Communications
    - LOSAP completed and turned in.
  - Boat
    - Good working order
  - Personal
    - None
  - Taskforce
    - Taskforce drills will be posted on IamResponding.

**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.

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

*Submitted by Fire Chief Joseph Speranza*

**Snow Storm Fern** - My thanks to our members, communications and our fire companies for your assistance through the extended snow standby and I would like to thank Rescue 5 and Engine 4 for their hydrant details.

**Hydrant Details** - The department thanks our council members, mayor, their spouses and family, the Keystone

youth group with John Bertello, Boys and Girls Scouts and anyone we may have missed for braving the cold and digging hydrants.

**Wawa** - A meeting was held with our police department traffic division concerning the incoming Wawa. On behalf of the fire department, we are seeking WiFi / GPS driven intersection traffic light controllers for each apparatus. This product can be developed and enhanced to encumber any traffic light with additional controllers to assist in safe passage of our fire apparatus while responding to incidents.

Additionally, we are seeking signage for departing and arriving fire apparatus including firefighters on the road surface which is similar to what Squad 3 has been requesting.

**Swift Water Grant** - We are beginning to determine availability of the instructors for the Swift Water Awareness in mid-March. This will be followed by Swift Water Operational and then tech level thereafter.

**Physicals** - Physical attendance has been audited and those in non-compliance will be notified shortly to complete or drop to non-fireground members.

**Mayor's Meeting** - Thursday Feb 19th at 4pm, AC Carlo and Lodder.

**Fit Testing Unit** - Unit is expected back mid-month from Ridgewood FD, companies which are incompleted will have about two weeks to complete.

Respectfully,  
Chief J.Speranza

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

### **Communications Division:**

- *Assistant Chief Manzo*
  - No written report submitted.

### **Cadets:**

- *Captain Brandon Frei & Ex Assistant Chief Brian Warner*
  - No written report submitted.

### **Auxiliary:**

- *President Joni Huston*
  - No written report submitted.
  - Fish Fry - April 3

### **Citizen Fire:**

- *Assistant Chief Lodder*
  - No written report submitted.

### **Task Force:**

- *Assistant Chief Manzo*
  - No written report submitted.
  - Taskforce drills will be posted on IamResponding.

### **Training Center:**

- *Assistant Chief Longo*

- No written report submitted.

**Exempt/Relief:**

- *Ex-Borough Chief Victor Tamburro*
  - No written report submitted.
  - Ex-Borough Chief Tamburro will be stopping in at HQ to retrieve 2025 attendance percentages for members.

**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.

**Technology/CODES**

- *Assistant Chief John Carlo & Assistant Chief Lodder*
  - No written report submitted.

**Awards Committee**

- *Chief Joseph Speranza*
  - No written report submitted.

**Department Open House Committee**

- *Chief Joseph Speranza & Assistant Chief Manzo*
  - No written report submitted.

**Honor Guard**

- *Chief Joseph Speranza*
  - No written report submitted.

**Safety Committee**

- *Chief Joseph Speranza*
  - No written report submitted.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- Company 1:
  - Still waiting on the completion of the punch list from the vendor.
    - *Chief: Keep us updated.*
    - *AC Lodder: The vendor needs to be constantly reminded.*
  - When will the Radio frequencies get updated?
    - *Chief: Pending, based on discussions with the Borough.*
  - When will the new Fit Test arrive?
    - *Chief: Arriving in 3 weeks, see my report.*
- Company 2:
  - Require two (2) sets of boots, sizes will be submitted to the clerk.
  - Ongoing issues with the Police Dispatching.
    - *Chief: We'll discuss with the incoming PD Chief about the ongoing issues.*

- Company 3:
  - None
- Company 4:
  - None
- Company 5:
  - None
- Chief:
  - None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- Company 1:
  - I don't understand how LOSAP hasn't increased over the years.
    - *Chief: If you read the ordinance the Borough is covered.*
    - *AC Carlo: I'll do more research on the topic.*
- Company 2:
  - None
- Company 3:
  - None
- Company 4:
  - The snow build up in front of the firehouse was an issue after the recent storm. Turning out of our firehouse was concerning.
    - *Chief: Send me a photo, so we can share it with the Mayor and DPW.*
- Company 5:
  - None
- Chief Speranza:
  - Everyone on the Board is in agreement with the recent paper call proposal, so we can move forward.
    - Approved:**
      - John Carlo, CO. 1 Assistant Chief
      - Travis Lodder, CO. 2 Assistant Chief
      - Joseph Longo, CO. 3 Assistant Chief
      - Peter Van Der Velde, CO. 4 Assistant Chief
      - Anthony Manzo, CO. 5 Assistant Chief

**GOOD AND WELFARE:**

- Company 1:
  - None
- Company 2:
  - Thank you to those that came out for Bill Redmon.
- Company 3:
  - None
- Company 4:
  - None
- Company 5:
  - None
- Chief Speranza:

- None

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

*by Chief Joseph Speranza*

- **Victor Tamburro** (*Ex-Borough Chief - Company 2*) - Statement: Maybe the Fire Department can create a list and plan for snow street issues throughout the Borough for DPW and PD. Quick hits during and shortly after the storm.
  - *Chief: There will be a post storm meeting with OME, myself and Bill will discuss the one side parking and summons. Will also look at a FD member standby stipend for future storms and standbys.*

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

*by Chief Joseph Speranza*

### **ADJOURNMENT:**

**Motion to disperse the minutes:** Anthony Manzo, *CO. 5 Assistant Chief*

**Second:** Travis Lodder, *CO. 2 Assistant Chief*

**Approved:**

John Carlo, *CO. 1 Assistant Chief*

Travis Lodder, *CO. 2 Assistant Chief*

Joseph Longo, *CO. 3 Assistant Chief*

Peter Van Der Velde, *CO. 4 Assistant Chief*

Anthony Manzo, *CO. 5 Assistant Chief*

*Meeting was adjourned at 8:14 pm by Chief Joseph Speranza*