

Public Safety Committee (DOC/Garner)
Regular Meeting – September 5, 2023, at 5:00 pm
Newtown Municipal Center, Council Chamber

Members Present: First Selectman Dan Rosenthal, Deputy Warden Craig Washington, Chief David Kullgren, Deputy Chief Bryan Bishop, Joy Previdi, Matthew Mihalcik, Bruce Clark and Jennifer Chaudhary

Absent: Mary Salley, States Attorney David Applegate and Pat Reilly

Also Present:

First Selectman Rosenthal called the meeting to order at 5:08p.m.

Public Participation: none.

Minutes: Matthew Mihalcik moved to accept the minutes of June 6, 2023. Bruce Clark seconded. All in favor.

Warden's Report:

Warden Washington reported two correctional officers were stabbed the morning of August 22. One was stabbed in the neck, the other was stabbed in the chest, only through the shirt, not the skin. The weapon was a sharpened toothbrush. The inmate, one of the most dangerous inmates in CT, was immediately transported to Walker and will never return to Garner. The officers were treated and released. The facility went into lockdown for one week. The first few days were used to decompress, followed by a three day shake down. The incident has generated conversations, as there have been increases on assaults on staff across the state recently. As of April 1st the state mandates that inmates have more out of cell time, general population gets 5 hours, restricted inmates get 4 hours and administrative segregation gets 2 hours. There is no out of cell time during a lock down.

The current inmate population at the Garner Correctional Facility is 518 which includes 275 sentenced and 243 un-sentenced. The inmate breakdown is as follows:

Level 5 (in administrative segregation) 8

Level 4 - 325

Level 3 - 124

Level 2 - 56

Level 1 - 5

Mental Health Breakdown:

Level 5 (severe) 21

Level 4 - 413

Level 3 - 22

Level 2 - 45

Level 1 - 17

Incidents are averaging about 98 per month. Staffing is at 90%

Five staff members are out with Covid; no inmates.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: none.

Next Meeting Date: The next meeting will be held on December 5, 2023 in the Council Chamber, Newtown Municipal Center at 5:00pm.

ADJOURNMENT: Having no further business the meeting ended at 5:18p.m.

Susan Marcinek, clerk

