

Public Safety Committee (DOC/Garner) Minutes
Regular Meeting – December 1, 2015 at 5:00 pm
Newtown Municipal Center (Meeting Room #1)
3 Primrose Street, Newtown, CT

Members Present: First Selectman E. Patricia Llodra, Joy Previdi, Warden Henry Falcone, Garner Correctional Facility, Neil Chaudhary, Legislative Council, Captain Joe Rios, Jay Mattegat

ABSENT: Chief of Police Michael Kehoe, Gino Faiella, Rob Manna,
ALSO PRESENT: Stephen Sedensky and one member of the press.

First Selectman Llodra called the meeting to order at 5:03 pm.

Public Participation: none.

Minutes: Mr. Chaudhary moved the minutes of September 1, 2015. Ms. Previdi seconded. All were in favor.

Warden's Report: The current population at the Garner Correctional Facility is 583 which include 375 mental health inmates and 156 un-sentenced.

The number of inmates has increased because Garner has received overflow inmates, mental health 3, from other prisons. The Commissioner is trying to consolidate without closing facilities. The maximum capacity of Garner is 748 but in the past ten years the population has only gone as high as 620. The maximum any unit can hold is 92 inmates; mental health units are at the minimum of 56.

Culinary Arts will hopefully be back in the facility in April. First Selectman Llodra said there is an increase in interpersonal conflict when inmates do not have programming opportunity such as culinary, theater and use of the gym.

Warden Falcone is looking into a dog program at Garner for level 2 inmates to train the dogs for use with handicap persons. The program works in Enfield, NYI and York.

There were 65 incidents in September, 78 in November.

Warden Falcone hopes to have staffing levels up to 92% by the end of December, which will reduce the amount of overtime.

OLD BUSINESS: none.

NEW BUSINESS: First Selectman Llodra noted the meeting dates for 2016 are March 1, June 7, Sept. 6 and Dec. 6.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: First Selectman Llodra will keep the committee updated with any news regarding the intention to close any facility that would affect Garner numbers. Also, all will be included in an invitation to the next theatrical performance at Garner.

ADJOURNMENT: Having no further business the committee voted unanimously to adjourn their regular meeting at 5:35 pm

Susan Marcinek
Susan Marcinek, Clerk

Rec'd. for Record 12-2-2015
Town Clerk of Newtown 3:30pm
Debbie Aurelia Halstead