

**Public Safety Committee (DOC/Garner)**  
**Regular Meeting – September 6, 2022 at 5:00 pm**  
**Newtown Municipal Center, Council Chamber**

**Members Present:** First Selectman Dan Rosenthal, Warden Craig Washington, Chief Kullgren, Capt. Bishop, Bruce Clark, Joy Previdi, Matthew Mihalcik, Jennifer Chaudhary, David Applegate and Mary Sally

**Absent:** Patrick Reilly and Bob Gerbert

**Also Present:** one member of the public

First Selectman Rosenthal called the meeting to order at 5:00p.m.

**Public Participation:** none.

**Minutes:** Bruce Clark moved to accept the minutes of June 6, 2022. Joy Previdi seconded. All in favor.

**Appointment:** First Selectman Rosenthal introduced David Applegate, Chief State's Attorney from the Danbury Office and Mary Sally, Executive Director of Nunnawauk Meadows, as the newest members of the Public Safety Committee.

**Warden's Report:**

The current inmate population at the Garner Correctional Facility is 492 which includes 261 sentenced and 231 un-sentenced. There are two general population units, the rest are mental health. There are 15 Level 5 inmates (in administrative segregation), 305 Level 4 inmates, 128 Level 3 inmates, 39 Level 2 inmates and 5 Level 1 inmates, who are eligible and approved for half way house or work programs. Of the mental health population 26 are Level 5 (severe), 37 are Level 4, 28 are Level 3, 47 are Level 2 and 20 are Level 1.

Incidents are averaging about 88 per month. Staffing is at 84%. Posts were added, additional staffing for additional posts. The staff is newer, 70 new officers were added in the spring. The new officers are spread throughout three shifts with senior staff.

Inmates will have 4.5 hours of out of cell time effective Oct. 1<sup>st</sup>, an increase of a half hour since Oct. 2021. On April 1, 2023 out of time cell will increase to 5 hours.

A joint drill was conducted with Garner, Newtown PD, Newtown Ambulance and Hook & Ladder Fire Department. More training is planned. Chief Kullgren complemented Warden Washington on the training and looks forward to working together on future training. The drone unit will be used in the next training.

In the last three months 24 staff members and 20 inmates tested positive for Covid. The facility continues to be cleaned and sanitized. In person visitation remains suspended.

Approximately 1-3 inmates are transferred daily for court. David Applegate said that the emphasis is on not having in person court; video is cost effective and works for everybody.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** none.

**Next Meeting Date:** The next meeting will be held on December 6, 2022 in the Council Chamber, Newtown Municipal Center at 5:00pm.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Having no further business the meeting ended at 5:15p.m.

*Susan Marcinek, clerk*

