

Public Safety Committee (DOC/Garner) Minutes
Regular Meeting – March 7, 2017 at 5:00 pm
Newtown Municipal Center (Meeting Room #1)
3 Primrose Street, Newtown, CT

Members Present: First Selectman E. Patricia Llodra, Warden Henry Falcone, Garner Correctional Facility, Neil Chaudhary, Legislative Council representative, Kevin Cragin, Board of Fire Commissioners, Bruce Clark, Stephen Sedensky

ABSENT: Chief James Viadero, Jay Mattegat, Gino Faiella, Joy Previdi

First Selectman Llodra called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.

Public Participation: none.

Minutes: Warden Falcone moved to accept the minutes of December 6, 2016. Mr. Cragin seconded. All were in favor.

Warden's Report: The current population at the Garner Correctional Facility is 550, which includes 421 sentenced and 129 un-sentenced. The count is maintained at 550, the highest it will go is 600.

The governor wants to cut \$24,000,000 from the Department of Corrections for the 2017-2018 budget.

Staffing is at 90.5%/91%. There have been 3-4 retirements and two supervisors looking to retire. Those positions will be filled.

The theater arts program will have a show a few days in April. The Library is not open. First Selectman Llodra noted a resident volunteer is concerned the library is being dismantled. Warden Falcone said they are not mandated, by law, to have a library. Warden Falcone has been asking for a librarian, understanding the budget constraints but also knowing the positive benefits of the library, theater arts & culinary programs. Every unit has a rolling book cart that are rotated each month. Warden Falcone said a resident contacted him with an interest to teach art at Garner. He would be willing to talk to the resident who contacted the First Selectman about the library relative to volunteering her time.

The Commissioner is working on an initiative to allow inmates to have access to tablets with no outside internet. Families of the inmates would rent the tablet so the inmate can order CD's or books. They could also message the Warden and the medical department.

Incident reports are down since 2016. There were 100 incidents in January 2016 and only 55 in January 2017.

NEW BUSINESS: none.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: none.

ADJOURNMENT: Having no further business the committee voted unanimously to adjourn their regular meeting at 5:23 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Marcinek, clerk

