

# City of Maplewood

## Police Use of Force (UoF) Workgroup Meeting Minutes

Thursday, November 17, 2016

### 1) CALL TO ORDER

The ninth meeting of the Use of Force Workgroup was called to order at 6:37 PM by Chair Neblett.

### 2) ROLL CALL

A quorum of the UoF Workgroup was in attendance at the meeting, including:

- Sylvia Neblett, Chair
- Dave Singleton Vice-Chair
- Rita Janisch
- Mary Schoenborn
- Anne Bryson
- Dave Mathews
- Lenna Scott
- Kathryn Hatlestad
- Sarah Lilja

Staff Present:

- Paul Schnell, Police Chief
- Cassie Fisher, Admin Assistant to the Police Chief/Police Data Analyst

Elected Officials Present:

- Bryan Smith, Councilmember

Community Members Present:

- Bob Zick

Absent:

- Evelyn Combs
- William Josten
- Melissa Sonnek
- Juan Wilson
- Tzianeng Vang

### 3) BUSINESS AGENDA

a. **Approval of November 17, 2016 Agenda.**

- **Addition of League of Women Voters report distribution to the group.**

b. **Approval of November 10, 2016 Meeting Minutes.**

**c. Review and Discussion of Chapter 3, General Operations:**

1. 300.3 – The group recommends that, in section 300.3, “to accomplish...purpose.” be replaced with “to effect compliance for a legitimate law enforcement purpose.”
  - Upon the matter being moved and seconded, it was approved by unanimous decision.
2. 300.3.2 – The group recommends de-escalation and conflict resolution be emphasized in section 300.3.2 (Factors used to determine the reasonableness of force). The essence of the issue is whether an officer’s actions escalate a situation to the use of force in a way that was avoidable.
  - Upon the matter being moved and seconded, it was approved by unanimous decision.
3. 300.3.4 – The group recommends that this policy section be amended to state that carotid control is prohibited, except under circumstances where deadly force is authorized. (Note: other policy provisions would apply.)
  - The matter was approved, however there was 1 nay vote. This member strongly preferred that the technique not be mentioned in policy, in order to reduce the likelihood that it be used.
4. 300.6 – The group recommends adding language that emphasizes the duty to render aid when it is reasonably safe to do so.
  - Upon the matter being moved and seconded, it was approved by unanimous decision.
5. 300.4.b – The group recommends changing “...a verbal warning” to “...verbal warning(s)”
  - Upon the matter being moved and seconded, it was approved by unanimous decision.
6. 300.4.1 – The group recommends there be clearer direction for discouraging shooting at or from a moving vehicle.
  - Upon the matter being moved and seconded, it was approved by unanimous decision.

**d. The group also recommended that the police department issue annual public reports on the use of force that includes subject – officer demographic data.**

**e. The group decided to continue with the new process that was created last week, in the hopes that it will speed up the review of the policies. Members are to study the identified policy sections, and submit their thoughts about questions and comments they have for discussion to Cassie by 0700 Tuesday before the next meeting.**

**f. The following items are on the agenda for review and discussion during the December 1, 2016 meeting:**

- Chapter 3: General Operations – Use of Force (Policies 300-317 (page 86)
- Items recommended that would aid in the review and discussion of Chapter 3:

- 1) ICAT – A Training Guide for Defusing Critical Incidents
- 2) Final Report on The President’s Task Force on 21<sup>st</sup> Century Policing

#### **4) ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- a. The workgroup will next meet Thursday, December 1<sup>st</sup> to continue discussion of the policy manual. Due to scheduling conflicts, the trip to the Gander Mountain Range in Lakeville will take place during the December 8<sup>th</sup> meeting, rather than the December 1<sup>st</sup> meeting as previously mentioned. The group will receive additional education at the simulator/range in Lakeville on some realities of lethal use of force encounters. Members are asked to meet at the Maplewood Police Department NO LATER than 5:15 PM and the group will drive to the range in Lakeville together.
- b. A report from the League of Women Voters (“Roseville Area League of Women Voters 2015-2016 Police Study”), submitted by member Hatlestad and approved by Chair Neblett, was distributed to members.

#### **5) NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the workgroup shall be held on Thursday, December 1, 2016 at 6:30 PM (to 9:00 PM) at the Maplewood Police Department.

#### **6) ADJOURNMENT**

The Use of Force Workgroup meeting adjourned at 9:01 PM.