

ORDINANCE NO. 07-26

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 3 OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF STATESVILLE

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WHEREAS, The Statesville Police Department is requesting amendments to the text of the Code of the City of Statesville, addressing Chapter 3 Animals; and

WHEREAS, the City of Statesville and the Statesville Police Department recognize a reduction in deer population is important as it relates to public safety, specifically motor vehicle accidents and property damage,

WHEREAS, the City of Statesville and the Statesville Police Department contend that an extended archery season would provide hunters an extra opportunity to help manage deer populations in urban settings,

WHEREAS, the City of Statesville and the Statesville Police Department acknowledges the benefits of participating in the North Carolina Urban Archery Deer Hunting Program and requests a section be added to ensure program participants are subject to regulations and safety protocols,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Statesville that the Code of the City of Statesville be amended as follows:

Add Section 3-6. - Urban Archery Deer Hunting. as follows:

The purpose of this section is to reduce urban deer populations through voluntary participation in the North Carolina Urban Archery Deer Hunting Program, which is regulated by the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission. For the purposes of this section, deer hunting related to this program is permitted within the city limits of the City of Statesville only in accordance with the following provisions:

- (a) For the purposes of this article, hunting is defined as, "all operations during, immediately preparatory, and immediately subsequent to an attempt, whether successful or not, to kill, pursue, or otherwise reduce to possession any deer."
- (b) Hunters shall follow all state and local laws, rules, and ordinances when hunting deer within the city limits.
- (c) Hunting with firearms is strictly prohibited. Only archery equipment, as defined by the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission, is permitted.
- (d) Hunting dates and times for the Urban Archery Deer Hunting Program, which are established annually by the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission, shall apply for the purposes of this article.
- (e) Hunters must have in their possession a valid North Carolina Hunting License showing completion of a hunting safety course.
- (f) Hunting is allowed only on private property. Hunters must have in their possession written permission from property owner(s), dated within one year, to hunt on specific private property; or the hunter(s) must be the property owner(s).
- (g) No hunting is allowed on publicly owned property.
- (h) No hunting is allowed on private property within 500 feet of the property line of a school, daycare center, playground, park, or other location where children are likely to be located.
- (i) No hunting is allowed on, from, or across the right-of-way of any public street or highway.
- (j) Hunting is allowed only on a tract or parcel of land which is at least three (3) or more acres. Adjacent tracts or parcels of land may be combined or pooled to meet this requirement, with written permission from each landowner.

(k) No archery equipment may be discharged unless the hunter/shooter is located at least 100 feet within the allowed property line. This 100-foot buffer within each property line is an area in which no hunting may occur.

(l) A violation of this ordinance is a misdemeanor under G.S. 14-4.

This ordinance was introduced for first reading by Council member Allison, seconded by Council member Robertson, and unanimously carried on the 2nd day of March, 2026.

AYES: Pearson, Allison, Pressly, Pfeufer, Nicholson, Lawton, Robertson, Jones

NAYS:

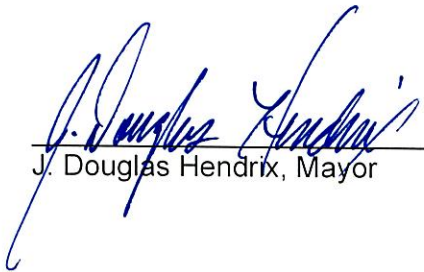
The second and final reading of this ordinance was heard on the 16th day of March, 2026, and upon motion of Council member Allison, seconded by Council member Lawton, and unanimously carried, was adopted.

AYES: Pearson, Allison, Pressly, Pfeufer, Nicholson, Lawton, Robertson, Jones

NAYS:

This ordinance is to be in full force and effect from and after the 16th day of March, 2026.

CITY OF STATESVILLE



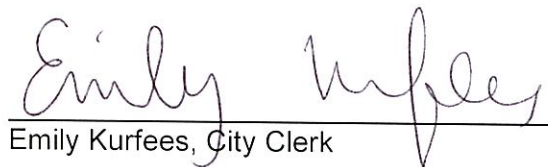
J. Douglas Hendrix, Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM



Leah Gaines-Messick, City Attorney

ATTEST:



Emily Kurfees, City Clerk

