

Subject: Discharge of Firearms
Date of First Reading: February 16, 2026
Date of Second Reading: March 2, 2026
Date of Adoption: March 2, 2026
Effective Date: March 3, 2026

ORDINANCE NO. 01-2026

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CIVIL EMERGENCIES ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF DAWSONVILLE, GEORGIA, TO PROVIDE FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

WHEREAS, pursuant to Article IX, Section II, Paragraph II of the Constitution of the State of Georgia and Chapter 35 of Title 36 of the Official Code of Georgia, the City Council of Dawsonville is empowered to adopt reasonable ordinances for local government upon matters not governed by general law and which are not inconsistent with the Constitution of the State of Georgia or the Charter of the City of Dawsonville;

WHEREAS, the City of Dawsonville previously enacted a process outlined in Section 9-1 through which certain emergency powers are placed in the hands of the chief executive of the City of Dawsonville; and

WHEREAS, the City of Dawsonville desires to allow for the duration in which the chief executive of the City of Dawsonville is able to exercise emergency powers to be lengthened after the proclamation of an emergency; and

WHEREAS, the City of Dawsonville desires to limit the time in which emergency powers can be exercised following a regular, special, or called meeting of the city council,

NOW THEREFORE, the governing body of the City of Dawsonville, Georgia, does hereby amend its Civil Emergencies Ordinance as follows:

SECTION I: Duration of Emergency Powers.

Chapter 9 Offenses, Section 9-1, subpart (c) of the Dawsonville Code of Ordinances is hereby amended by striking Section 9-1(c) in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new Section 9-1(c), as follows:

§ Sec. 9-1. – Civil Emergencies.

- (c) *Duration of emergency powers.* No emergency power as set forth herein shall be effective for more than 72 hours following the declaration of any emergency by the mayor unless another duration is specified in the declaration itself. In no event shall an emergency power as set forth herein remain effective for more than 30 days. However, upon declaration of a second or further emergency, the emergency powers as set forth herein may be exercised during such further

emergency period or periods, but never for more than 30 days in one declared emergency period.

SECTION II: Duration to Only Extend Beyond Council Meeting in Limited Circumstances.

Chapter 9 Offenses, Section 9-1, subpart (d) of the Dawsonville Code of Ordinances is hereby amended by striking Section 9-1(d) in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new Section 9-1(d), as follows:

§ Sec. 9-1. – Civil Emergencies.

- (d) *Duration to only extend beyond council meeting in limited circumstances.* No emergency period shall extend beyond the next regular, special, or called meeting of the city council unless the meeting is less than 72 hours from the declaration of any emergency. In this event, the duration of the emergency power or powers shall be effective for the term as stated in the declaration. The foregoing notwithstanding, the Council may, at any meeting, by affirmative vote of the Council end the emergency period, even if that meeting is less than 72 hours from the declaration of the emergency.

SECTION III: Incorporation and Repealer

Except as modified herein, the remainder of the Civil Emergencies Ordinance of the City of Dawsonville is affirmed and incorporated herein. All laws and parts of law in conflict with this enactment are hereby repealed.

SECTION IV: Ordinance Validity

If any section, provision or clause of any part of this ordinance shall be declared invalid or unconstitutional, or if the provisions of any part of this ordinance as applied to any particular situation or set of circumstances shall be declared invalid or unconstitutional, such invalidity shall not be construed to affect the portions of this ordinance not so held to be invalid, or the application of this ordinance to other circumstances not so held to be invalid. It is hereby declared as the intent that this ordinance would have been adopted had such invalid portion not been included herein.

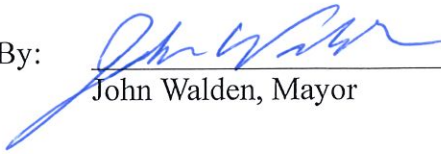
SECTION V: Effective Date

This ordinance shall be effective the day following its passage by the City Council of Dawsonville.

SO ADOPTED AND ORDAINED by the City Council of Dawsonville, Georgia, this 2 day of March, 2026.

(signatures on following page)

**MAYOR AND DAWSONVILLE CITY
COUNCIL**

By: 
John Walden, Mayor


Caleb Phillips, Council Member Post 1


William Illg, Council Member Post 2


Sandy Sawyer, Council Member Post 3


Mark French, Council Member Post 4

ATTESTED TO BY:


Beverly Banister, City Clerk

