



**Called Council Meeting**  
**January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2017 8:30 am**

1. Call to Order by Mayor Jan Moore
2. Consideration of a Motion to adopt an **Ordinance 2017-05**: An Ordinance amending Statesboro Code of Ordinances Chapter 78 "Traffic and Vehicles" to include Municipal Law regarding funeral processions
3. Consideration of a Motion to Adjourn

# CITY OF STATESBORO

## COUNCIL

Phillip A. Boyum  
Sam Lee Jones  
Jeff B. Yawn  
John C. Riggs  
Travis L. Chance



Jan J. Moore, Mayor  
Randy Wetmore, City Manager  
Robert Cheshire, Deputy City Manager  
Sue Starling, City Clerk  
I. Cain Smith, City Attorney

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**To:** Randy Wetmore, City Manager and Sue Starling, City Clerk

**From:** Cain Smith, City Attorney

**Date:** January 18, 2017

**RE:** January 19, 2017 City Council Agenda Item

**Policy Issue:** *Provision of police escort and regulation of Funeral Processions*

**Recommendation:** N/A

**Background:** Public Hearing and First Reading

**Budget Impact:** None

**Council Person and District:** N/A

**Attachments:** Ordinance

Ordinance No 2017-05

ORDINANCE AMENDING STATESBORO CODE OF ORDINANCES CHAPTER 78  
“TRAFFIC AND VEHICLES” TO INCLUDE MUNICIPAL LAW REGARDING  
FUNERAL PROCESSIONS

WHEREAS, Section 4-1(a) grants the Council authority to enact ordinances it deems necessary;

WHEREAS, OCGA §40-6-76(c) allows local governments to provide for funeral escort services by ordinance;

WHEREAS, The City of Statesboro desires to provide police escorts for funeral processions within the city limits;

WHEREAS, The City of Statesboro desires to authorize private entities to also provide escort services for funeral processions;

WHEREAS, the City desires to adopt and enact Section 78-11 to provide for and govern such funeral escort services;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Statesboro as follows:

**Sec 78-11-** Funeral procession means any motor vehicle procession organized by a funeral service provider under and subject to OCGA § 40-6-76.

**Sec. 78-11-1** - Request for Statesboro Police Department funeral escort

(a) A funeral service provider may request a Statesboro Police Department escort for a funeral procession within the city limits of Statesboro by submitting an escort request form to the Statesboro Police Department chief of police or his/her designee in compliance with the requirements set forth in Sec 78-11-3

(b) Provision of police escorts for a funeral procession shall be at the sole discretion of the police chief or his/her designee based on factors affecting the Statesboro Police Department's ability to adequately provide public safety services to the city.

(c) Police escorts may be canceled at any time by the police chief, his/her designee, or the shift officer based on current call volume, staffing, or other operational factors.

(d) The number of police officers either on or off duty, the number of police vehicles, the route taken, and the use of police department staff and equipment for funeral processions shall be at the sole discretion of the police chief or his/her designee.

(e) Funeral service provider may request to obtain additional off-duty Statesboro Police Department officers and vehicles at expense in compliance with current Statesboro Police Department policy and procedure regarding such provision and subject to officer and vehicle availability.

(f) Funeral service providers shall ensure that all procession drivers in police escorted processions are provided with notice of route directions and traffic procedures pertaining to OCGA §40-6-76 and other provisions of Title 40, particularly as to procedure at traffic control devices.

**Sec. 78-11-2 – Private funeral escort service.**

(a) An authorized private funeral escort service may be used to facilitate a funeral escort for a funeral service provider within the City of Statesboro

(b) A private funeral escort service shall provide the following to the Statesboro Police Department chief or his/her designee in order to apply to receive authorization to escort funeral processions in the City of Statesboro:

(1) A State of Georgia Business license;

(2) Liability insurance for the private escort service with a minimum of one million dollars (\$1,000,000.00) in coverage per occurrence;

(3) Evidence, proof or documentation that:

a. Service personnel engaged in traffic direction are properly trained and equipped;

b. Service vehicles are properly marked and driven by properly trained personnel; and

c. Drivers in procession are to be provided with notice of route directions and traffic procedures pertaining to OCGA §40-6-76 and other provisions of Title 40, particularly as to procedure at traffic control devices.

(c) Authorized private funeral escort services shall obey all traffic laws, and the procession shall be allowed to proceed under OCGA § 40-6-76.

**Sec. 78-11-3. - Application for Statesboro Police Department funeral escort.**

A funeral service provider seeking issuance of a Statesboro Police Department police escort for a funeral in accordance with OCGA §40-6-76 shall file an escort request form with the chief of police or his/her designee.

(1) Filing period. An escort request form must be filed with the chief of police or his/her designee at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to the time the procession is to begin for services Tuesday thru Saturday. For services on Sundays or Monday the permit must be received by 1:00 p.m. on the Friday preceding the requested escort date.

(2) Application contents. The application for an escort request form shall set forth the following information:

- a. The name, address, and telephone number of the person seeking the escort;
- b. Contact person/responsible party;
- c. The date and time when the escort will be needed;
- d. The requested route to be traveled with the starting point and ending point;
- e. Approximate number of vehicles anticipated in the procession; and

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Jan J. Moore, Mayor

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Sue Starling, City Clerk