

**BOROUGH OF FREEHOLD
COUNTY OF MONMOUTH
NO. 2026/10**

**ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS
AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK
(N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14)**

WHEREAS, the Local Government Cap Law, N.J.S. 40A: 4-45.1 et seq., provides that in the preparation of its annual budget, a municipality shall limit any increase in said budget up to 2% unless authorized by ordinance to increase it to 3.5% over the previous year's final appropriations, subject to certain exceptions; and,

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.15a provides that a municipality may, when authorized by ordinance, appropriate the difference between the amount of its actual final appropriation and the 3.5% percentage rate as an exception to its final appropriations in either of the next two succeeding years; and,

WHEREAS, the governing body of the Borough of Freehold in the County of Monmouth finds it advisable and necessary to increase its CY 2026 budget by up to 3.5% over the previous year's final appropriations, in the interest of promoting the health, safety and welfare of the citizens; and,

WHEREAS, the governing body hereby determines that a 1.5% increase in the budget for said year, amounting to \$ 231,540.14 in excess of the increase in final appropriations otherwise permitted by the Local Government Cap Law, is advisable and necessary; and,

WHEREAS the governing body hereby determines that any amount authorized hereinabove that is not appropriated as part of the final budget shall be retained as an exception to final appropriation in either of the next two succeeding years.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED, by the governing body of the Borough of Freehold, in the County of Monmouth, a majority of the full authorized membership of this governing body affirmatively concurring, that, in the CY 2026 budget year, the final appropriations of the Borough of Freehold shall, in accordance with this ordinance and N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14, be increased by 3.5%, amounting to \$ 540,260.32, and that the CY 2026 municipal budget for the Borough of Freehold be approved and adopted in accordance with this ordinance; and,

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that any amount authorized hereinabove that is not appropriated as part of the final budget shall be retained as an exception to final appropriation in either of the next two succeeding years; and,

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that a certified copy of this ordinance as introduced be filed with the Director of the Division of Local Government Services within 5 days of introduction; and,

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that a certified copy of this ordinance upon adoption, with the recorded vote included thereon, be filed with said Director within 5 days after such adoption.

Offered By: Jordan

Seconded By: Rogers

Roll Call:

Ayes: DiBenedetto, Friedman, Jordan, Reich, Rogers, Shutzer

Nays: None

Absent: None
Abstain: None

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Ordinance #2026/10 was introduced at a meeting of the Freehold Borough Council in the County of Monmouth, New Jersey, held on April 6, 2026 and passed on first reading and that such Ordinance will be further considered for final passage after public hearing at a meeting of said Mayor and Council to be held at the Municipal Building in said Borough, 30 Mechanic Street, on April 20, 2026 at 6:30 p.m. or at any meeting to which that meeting may be adjourned, at which time all persons who may be interested therein will be given an opportunity to be heard.

Traci L. DiBenedetto, Municipal Clerk