

TOWNSHIP OF LOWER, COUNTY OF CAPE MAY, STATE OF NEW JERSEY

ORDINANCE #2026-05

AN ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO
ESTABLISH A CAP BANK (N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-15.14)

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 2.5% 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 Township Council of the Township of Lower in the County of Cape May 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 Township of Lower hereby determines that a 2.0% increase in the budget for said year, amounting to \$554,480.78 in excess of the increase in final appropriations otherwise permitted by the Local Government Cape Law is advisable and necessary; and,

WHEREAS, the Township Council 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 Township Council of the Township of Lower, in the County of Cape May, a majority of the full authorized membership of this governing body affirmatively concurring, that in the CY 2026 budget year, the final appropriation of the Township of Lower shall, in accordance with this ordinance and N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-15.14, be increased by 3.5 % amounting to \$970,341.37 and the CY 2026 municipal budget for the Township of Lower be approved and adopted in accordance with this ordinance.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that any amount authorized hereinafter 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.

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.

Introduced: March 2, 2026

Adopted: April 6, 2026

Attest: Julie A Picard
Julie A Picard, Township Clerk

Thomas Conrad
Thomas Conrad, Councilmember

ABSENT
Joseph Wareham, Councilmember

Roland Roy
Roland Roy, Councilmember

Kevin A Coombs
Kevin Coombs, Deputy Mayor

Frank Sippel
Frank Sippel, Mayor