

**CALENDAR YEAR 2026**  
**MODEL 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 Township of Washington in the County of Morris 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 \$225,573.14 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 Township of Washington, in the County of Morris, 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 Township of Washington shall, in accordance with this ordinance and N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14, be increased by 3.5%, amounting to \$526,337.32, and that the CY 2026 municipal budget for the Township of Washington 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.

ATTEST:

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE  
TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON

\_\_\_\_\_  
Township Official

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

**NOTICE**

NOTICE is hereby given that the foregoing Ordinance was introduced to pass on first reading at a regular meeting of the Township Committee of Washington Township held on January 3, 2026 and ordered published in accordance with the law. Said Ordinance will be considered for final reading and adoption at a regular meeting of the Washington Township Committee to be held on February 17, 2026 at 7:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as the Township Committee may hear this Ordinance at the Washington Township Municipal Building, 43 Schooley's Mountain Road, Long Valley, NJ 07853, at which time all persons interested may appear for or against the passage of said Ordinance. Public notice information can be viewed at [www.wtmorris.net](http://www.wtmorris.net) and on the website of the Secretary of State. By Order of the Township Committee of the Township of Washington.

**CERTIFICATION**

*I, Denean Probasco, Township Clerk of the Township of Washington, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true copy of an Ordinance introduced by the Township Committee at a meeting held on January 3, 2026.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Denean Probasco, Township Clerk*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Date*