CITY OF CAPE MAY, COUNTY OF CAPE MAY, STATE OF NEW JERSEY

ORDINANCE NO. 585-2026

ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK (N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14) - CALENDAR YEAR 2026

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 City Council of the City of Cape May 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 City Council hereby determines that a 1.5% increase in the budget for said year, amounting to $265,725.62 in excess of the increase in final appropriations otherwise permitted by the Local Government Cap Law, is advisable and necessary; and,

WHEREAS the City 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 City Council of the City of Cape May, 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 appropriations of the City of Cape May shall, in accordance with this ordinance and N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14, be increased by 1.5%, amounting to $620,026.44, and that the CY 2026 municipal budget for the City of Cape May 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:

Erin C. Burke, City Clerk

CITY OF CAPE MAY, a municipal corporation of the State of New Jersey

BY: _____
Zachary M. Mullock, Mayor

NOTICE

Ordinance 585-2026 was introduced at a Regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Cape May, held on January 6, 2026 and was further considered for final passage during a Regular meeting of the City Council, held at the Cape May City Hall Auditorium, 643 Washington Street, Cape May, New Jersey, on February 3, 2026 at 5:00 P.M. at which time a Public Hearing was held.

Erin C. Burke, City Clerk

Roll Call	Ayes	Nays	Absent	Abstain	Motion	Second
Meier			X			
McDade	X					
Bodnar	X				X	
Baldwin	X					X
Mullock	X					

Introduced: January 6, 2026
1st Publication: January 14, 2026
2nd Reading & Adoption: February 3, 2026
Final Publication: February 11, 2026
Effective Date: March 3, 2026