

**TOWNSHIP OF VERNON**

**ORDINANCE #26-01**

**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 Vernon in the County of Sussex 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 \$318,882.66 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 Vernon, in the County of Sussex, 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 Vernon shall, in accordance with this ordinance and N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14, be increased by 3.5%, amounting to \$744,059.54, and that the CY 2026 municipal budget for the Township of Vernon 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,

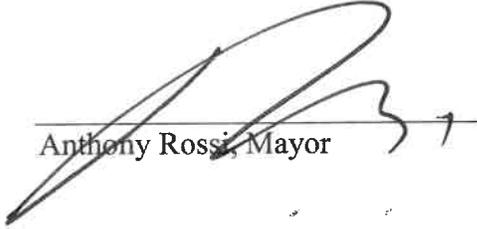
**BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED**, that a certified copy of this ordinance upon adoption, with the recorded vote included thereon, be filed with said Director within 5 days after such adoption.

**CERTIFICATION**

This is to certify that the above Ordinance was introduced and passed on first reading at the Meeting of the Township Council held on January 15, 2026, and the same came up for final passage and was adopted at the Meeting of the Township Council held on February 9, 2026 at which time all persons interested were given an opportunity to be heard. The above ordinance will be in full force and effect in the Township of Vernon according to law.

  
Marcy Gianattasio, Clerk

Township of Vernon

  
Anthony Rossi, Mayor

**Township of Vernon**

**INTRODUCED: January 15, 2026**

NAME	M	S	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Contino C.			X			
Ooms S.		X	X			
Rizzuto R.			X			
Sparta, B.	X		X			
Higgins W.			X			

**ADOPTED: February 9, 2026**

NAME	M	S	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Contino C.		X	X			
Ooms S.	X		X			
Rizzuto P.			X			
Sparta, B.			X			
Higgins W.			X			