

**BOROUGH OF WOOD-RIDGE
NOTICE OF INTRODUCTION
ORDINANCE 2026-5**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the following Ordinance was introduced and passed on first reading at the regular meeting of the Mayor and Council on the 18th day of February, 2026, and that said Ordinance will be taken up for further consideration and final passage at the regular meeting of the Mayor and Council to be held on the 18th day of March, 2026 at 7:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as said matter can be reached, at which time and place all persons who may be interested therein will be given an opportunity to be heard concerning same. A copy of this ordinance has been posted on the bulletin board upon which notices are customarily posted in the municipal building of the Borough and a copy is available at no cost up to and including the time of such meeting to the members of the general public of the Borough who shall request such copies at the office of the Clerk in said municipal building in Wood-Ridge, New Jersey.

Gina Affuso, Borough Clerk
Borough of Wood-Ridge

ORDINANCE NO. 2026-5

AN 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 Borough Council of the Borough of Wood-Ridge in the County of Bergen 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 Borough Council hereby determines that a 1.5% increase in the budget of said year, amounting to \$287,182 in excess of the increase in final appropriations otherwise permitted by the Local Government Cap Law, is advisable and necessary; and,

WHEREAS, the Borough 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 Borough Council of the Borough of Wood-Ridge, in the County of Bergen, 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 Wood-Ridge shall, in accordance with this ordinance and N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14, be increased by 3.5%, amounting to \$670,092, and that the CY 2026 municipal budget for the Borough of Wood-Ridge 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:

I, GINA AFFUSO, Wood-Ridge Borough Clerk, who being duly sworn, certify the above notice and annexed hereto is a true copy and has been posted on the Borough website at <https://www.njwoodridge.org/> on February 19, 2026.