

1st Reading

Legal Publication

Notice is hereby given that the following ordinance(s) were introduced at the regular council meeting of Stockton Borough held on April 20, 2026. A public hearing for adoption will be held on May 18, 2026 at 7:00 P.M. via: ZOOM Meeting, whereas Zoom information is posted to the boroughs website at: <http://www.stocktonboronj.us/>

**Borough of Stockton
Ordinance No. 2026-09
CALENDAR YEAR 2026 ORDINANCE TO EXCEED MUNICIPAL BUDGET
APPROPRIATION
LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.4)**

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 Stockton in the County of Hunterdon 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 3.5% increase in the budget for said year, amounting to \$8,604.14 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 Stockton, in the County of Hunterdon, 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 Stockton shall, in accordance with this ordinance and N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14, be increased by 3.5%, amounting to \$20,076.33, and that the CY 2026 municipal budget for the Borough of Stockton 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.

The Governing Body of the Borough of Stockton does hereby approve the following as first reading of Ordinance 2026-09 with the following recorded vote:

RECORDED ROLL CALL VOTE: Brown: _____ Gilinger: _____ Brender: _____ Mann: _____

Melzer: _____ Fisher: _____

A hearing on the said Ordinance will be held via zoom on May 18, 2026 at 7:00 pm at which time and place for public hearing to said Ordinance may be presented by taxpayers or other interested persons.

Introduced: April 20, 2026

Public Hearing/Adoption: May 18, 2026