CITY OF HACKENSACK
ORDINANCE NO. 26-2020

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 5 OF THE CODE OF
THE CITY OF HACKENSACK, “CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER,”
TO PERMANENTLY ESTABLISH LIMITATIONS ON THE
AMOUNT OF CASH TO BE ACCEPTED BY THE CITY FOR
TAXES, FEES AND ALL OTHER MONIES OWED TO THE CITY

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40:48-2, the governing body of a municipality may make, amend, repeal, and enforce such other ordinances, regulations, rules and by-laws not contrary to the laws of this state or of the United States, as it may deem necessary and proper for the good of government, order and protection of person and property, and for the preservation of the public health, safety and welfare of the municipality and its inhabitants, and as may be necessary to carry into effect the powers and duties conferred and imposed by this subtitle, or by any law; and,

WHEREAS, presently under Chapter 5 of the Code of the City of Hackensack (“City Code”), taxes, fees and all other monies owed to the City may be paid in the form of cash, check and/or money order (with cash consisting of no more than $10 in coin); and,

WHEREAS, following the State of Emergency declared by the Governor as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, and reports from medical authorities that Coronavirus may be present on currency, the City temporarily instituted a “no-cash” policy for health and safety reasons; and;

WHEREAS, it appears that the “no-cash” policy has not presented a substantial burden on residents; and,

WHEREAS, the City Council recognizes that by making this “no-cash” policy permanent, in addition to resolving the health concerns referenced above, it will also alleviate the burden on the City and its employees given the obvious safety and security concerns inherent in regularly handling large sums of currency; and,

WHEREAS, the City Council is aware that several other municipalities in Bergen County have similarly moved to a “no-cash” policy and believes that similarly doing so would be in the best interest of the City of Hackensack.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
HACKENSACK, as follows:

Section 1:
Chapter 5, Section 6 of the Code of the City of Hackensack is hereby amended as follows [additions by underline, deletions by strikethrough]:

§5-6 Methods of payment of amounts due to City.

A. Except as set forth herein, All all monies due to the City of Hackensack must be paid to it in the form of cash, check and/or money order, with the cash consisting of no more than $10 in coin. Cash shall be accepted in an amount not to exceed twenty-five dollars ($25.00), with no more than ten dollars ($10.00) accepted in coin.
B. This section shall apply to taxes, fees and all other monies owed to the City, except for the payment of bail or other matters in the Municipal Court where there is a legal requirement or directive from the Administrative Office of the Courts that cash must be accepted by the City, and for tickets purchased at the box office of the Hackensack Performing Arts Center.

Section 2:
All other provisions of Chapter 5 of the City Code shall remain unchanged.

Section 3:
Repeal of Inconsistent Provisions. All ordinances or parts thereof in conflict or inconsistent with this Ordinance are hereby repealed, but only however, to the extent of such conflict or inconsistency, it being the legislative intent that all ordinances or part of ordinances now existing or in effect unless the same being conflict or inconsistent with any provision of this Ordinance shall remain in effect.

Section 4:
Severability. The provisions of this Ordinance are declared to be severable and if any section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase thereof for any reason is held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining sections, subsections, sentences, clauses and phrases of this Ordinance, but shall remain in effect; it being the legislative intent this Ordinance shall stand notwithstanding the invalidity of any part.

Section 5:
Codification. This Ordinance shall be a part of the Code of the City of Hackensack as though codified and fully set forth therein. The City Clerk shall have this ordinance codified and incorporated in the official copies of the Code. The City Clerk and the City Attorney are authorized and directed to change any Chapter, Article and/or Section number of the Code of the City of Hackensack in the event that the codification of this Ordinance reveals that there is a conflict between the numbers and the existing Code, and in order to avoid confusion and possible accidental repeaters of existing provisions not intended to be repealed.

Section 6:
This Ordinance shall take effect upon passage, adoption, and publication in the manner prescribed by law.

Introduced:  July 20, 2020
Adopted:    August 18, 2020

ATTEST:
By: Deborah Karlson, City Clerk

CITY OF HACKENSACK
By: John P. Labrosse, Jr. Mayor