

**AN ORDINANCE REPEALING CHAPTER 2, SECTION 68 OF THE REVISED GENERAL
ORDINANCES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WEST ORANGE
(DISCLOSURE OF POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS BY CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS OR BUSINESS
ENTITIES DOING BUSINESS WITH THE TOWNSHIP)**

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WEST ORANGE, NEW JERSEY that Chapter 2 of the Revised General Ordinances of the Township of West Orange be and are hereby amended as follows:

I. PURPOSE

On April 3, 2023, Governing Phil Murphy signed into law the New Jersey Elections Transparency Law which overhauled the State of New Jersey campaign finance law. As part of the Election Transparency Law, the State repealed the portion of the existing campaign finance law which authorized municipalities and local governments to adopt their own local campaign finance or “pay to play” laws that could be more stringent than the state’s campaign finance law. As a result, any local ordinances that govern campaign finance or require disclosure under local “pay to play” law are preempted by the state statute. The purpose of this ordinance is to repeal the provisions of the Township of West Orange Municipal Code requiring disclosures of campaign contributions for contractors who enter into agreements with the Township. These contractors are still required to provide such disclosures under state law, but the Township’s provisions under the Municipal Code are now preempted by state law.

II. CHAPTER 2, SECTION 68 SHALL BE AND HEREBY IS REPEALED AND DELETED IN ITS ENTIRETY:

III. REPEAL OF CONFLICTING ORDINANCES

Any Ordinances of the Township which are in conflict with this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.

IV. SEVERABILITY

If any part of this Ordinance shall be deemed invalid, such parts shall be severed and the invalidity thereof shall not affect the remaining parts of this Ordinance.

V. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Ordinance shall take effect upon final passage and publication in accordance with the law.

Tammy Williams
Council President

Karen J. Carnevale, R.M.C.
Municipal Clerk

Susan McCartney
Mayor

Introduced: August 22, 2023

Adopted: September 5, 2023

Legislative History

On April 3, 2023, Governing Phil Murphy signed into law the New Jersey Elections Transparency Law which overhauled the State of New Jersey campaign finance law. As part of the Election Transparency Law, the State repealed the portion of the existing campaign finance law which authorized municipalities and local governments to adopt their own local campaign finance or “pay to play” laws that could be more stringent than the state’s campaign finance law. As a result, any local ordinances that govern campaign finance or require disclosure under local “pay to play” law are preempted by the state statute. The purpose of this ordinance is to repeal the provisions of the Township of West Orange Municipal Code requiring disclosures of campaign contributions for contractors who enter into agreements with the Township. These contractors are still required to provide such disclosures under state law, but the Township’s provisions under the Municipal Code are now preempted by state law.