

TOWN OF LA POINTE
RESOLUTION NO. 2025-1209
A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A “MADELINE ISLAND CHILDCARE TASK FORCE”

WHEREAS, the Town of La Pointe’s 2024 Comprehensive Plan Amendment (the “Comprehensive Plan”) identifies as a critical priority “removing barriers to family success: affordable housing, food access, child care, health care”; and

WHEREAS, the Comprehensive Plan’s Vision states that “the Town supports sustainable year-round living through access to essential services, a resilient economy, and a healthy community”; and

WHEREAS, Madeline Island is currently experiencing a notable increase in births and young families, representing a significant demographic shift for a small year-round population; and

WHEREAS, there is presently no licensed childcare provider on Madeline Island, and families rely entirely on informal childcare arrangements, creating barriers to year-round residency, workforce participation, and economic stability; and

WHEREAS, local employers, including the Town, the Madeline Island Ferry Line, and Island businesses, face ongoing staffing challenges directly affected by the availability of childcare; and

WHEREAS, the Comprehensive Plan encourages the Town to “explore creative and collaborative approaches to service provision where traditional market mechanisms are insufficient”; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board wishes to evaluate options for facilitating reliable childcare services on Madeline Island in a manner that is fiscally responsible, aligned with the Comprehensive Plan, and informed by community input;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Board of the Town of La Pointe, Ashland County, Wisconsin, that:

1. Creation of Task Force.

There is hereby created an advisory body to the Town Board known as the “Madeline Island Childcare Task Force” (“Task Force”).

2. Purpose and Charge.

The Task Force shall study and make recommendations to the Town Board regarding childcare needs, potential childcare models, facility and site options, available funding sources, and a phased implementation strategy consistent with the Comprehensive Plan.

3. Membership.

The Task Force shall consist of five members appointed by the Town Chair and confirmed by the Town Board.

4. Meetings and Process.

The Task Force shall comply with the Wisconsin Open Meetings Law. Town staff may provide reasonable administrative support. The Task Force is encouraged to hold at least one public listening session or survey.

5. Deliverables and Timeline.

The Task Force shall provide an initial update within 90 days of its first meeting and a written report with findings and recommendations within 120–180 days, or as directed by the Town Board.

6. Advisory Nature.

The Task Force is advisory only and has no authority to bind the Town, expend funds, or enter into contracts.

7. Duration.

Unless extended by Town Board action, the Task Force shall sunset one year from the date of this Resolution or upon acceptance of its final report, whichever occurs later.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town Board recognizes the establishment of the Madeline Island Childcare Task Force as a direct implementation of the priorities identified in the Comprehensive Plan and an important step toward supporting families, workforce stability, and sustainable year-round living on Madeline Island.

Adopted this 9th day of December, 2025, by the Town Board of the Town of La Pointe, Ashland County, Wisconsin.

<u>Charles Carter</u>	Town Chair
<u>Susan Brennan</u>	Supervisor
<u>Timothy</u>	Supervisor
<u>Michael Gordon</u>	Supervisor
<u>Samantha Dobson</u>	Supervisor

Attest: Ally Furt Town Clerk