

**CITY OF GUSTAVUS, ALASKA
RESOLUTION CY19-10**

A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING AN ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO ADDRESS THE LONG-TERM SUSTAINABILITY OF THE GUSTAVUS PRESCHOOL AND CHILD CARE PROGRAMS FOR GUSTAVUS

WHEREAS, research regarding the societal benefits of early childhood education is well established and demonstrates that children who participate in high-quality early education programs have better overall literacy, better decision-making and social skills, require fewer remedial or special education services, and have a higher likelihood of economic productivity and social stability in adulthood; and

WHEREAS, a quality preschool and child care facility enable parents to seek and retain employment by providing quality, professional, safe, and reliable care, which can support self-sustainability, aids our businesses and the local economy in general, and can be an attractive element to potential new residents and businesses; and

WHEREAS, without viable preschool and child care services, working parents in Gustavus could have to choose between putting their children at risk in substandard or unreliable child care or foregoing employment altogether; and

WHEREAS, many citizens of Gustavus recognize the availability of preschool and child care services as a vital and necessary component of the quality of life and social well-being of the community; and

WHEREAS, the City of Gustavus has the opportunity to assume a unique role in providing foundational support in meeting the need for these services.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that: The City authorizes the formation of a Preschool and Child Care Committee (PAC) to recommend actions to the City Council which may contribute to long-term sustainability for the delivery of preschool and child care services in Gustavus. The committee shall advise the Council on the following:

- a) Forecasted operational plan(s) with costs
- b) Capital Improvement plan with associated costs
- c) Long term (5 and 10 year) funding strategies to support operational and capital improvement costs
- d) Proposed ordinance/code revisions
- e) Means of outreach to gauge public support of funding strategies
- f) Alternative business models for the preschool and child care program

In addition, the committee should recommend to the Council the best means to query and record public opinion (beyond attendance at a meeting) on the level of City Government financial support for child care and preschool services that Gustavus citizens would choose. This could be accomplished through a survey, a ballot measure, a referendum, or some other mechanism.

The PAC may consist of one City Council member, 4 members of the general public, and the Gustavus City Administrator. **PASSED** and **APPROVED** by the Gustavus City Council Gustavus City Council this 10th day of June 2019, and effective upon adoption.



Calvin Casipit, Mayor



Attest: Karen Platt