

LOCAL SALES TAX OPTION HF3873 SF3935

Warren Child Care Center

WARREN

Your New Hometown

- ◆ Propose a .5% sales tax to build a new 10,000 square foot facility to be licensed for 110 children ages birth to 5 years old
- ◆ Tax proposed to raise \$80,000 annually; city will bond for \$1.6M
- ◆ Sales tax revenues would be for debt service on the building not operation of the child care center
- ◆ Building owned by the City of Warren and leased by Little Sprouts Learning Center (a not for profit)
- ◆ Currently, 50% of the families at Little Sprouts work 30 miles from Warren
- ◆ 33% of the families at Little Sprouts commute to Warren for work at a distance greater than 20 miles
- ◆ DigiKey in Thief River Falls (30 miles from Warren) is expanding workforce by 1,000 people in the next 10 years
- ◆ MN DEED supports the need for 1,000 workers in next 10 years in the Northwest region
- ◆ There is a work force shortage in all job sectors in the area
- ◆ Doubling the size of the child care center would be of great regional significance

- ◆ 784 people employed in Warren; 66% travel to work in the city
- ◆ 464 residents commute out of the city to their jobs which are at least 30 miles from Warren
- ◆ 187 needed slots for child care within a 20 mile radius of Warren (according to First Children’s Finance)
- ◆ Little Sprouts Learning Center currently is providing care to 47 children
- ◆ There are three home daycares in Warren; one is phasing out for retirement. They fill 29 slots
- ◆ Warren is participating in First Children’s Finance “Rural Child Care Innovation Program”. Ten Core Team members are volunteering to find solutions
- ◆ A Town Hall was held to gather input for a strategic plan on child care in Warren. With 80 people in attendance, one of the goals created is to build a new child care center by 2021
- ◆ Not increasing child care availability in Warren would be catastrophic

