

## ORDINANCE NO. 2026-002

Town of Plum Lake, Vilas County, Wisconsin

### JUVENILE CURFEW ORDINANCE

**WHEREAS**, Village Powers allow the Town of Plum Lake to regulate for the health, safety, welfare, and convenience of the public.

**WHEREAS**, The board of supervisors of the Town of Plum Lake has been granted village powers by the town electors.

**WHEREAS**, The Board of Supervisors of the Town of Plum Lake prioritizes and seeks to promote the health, safety and welfare of all residents and visitors to the town

**WHEREAS**, The Board of Supervisors of the Town of Plum Lake finds it necessary to provide protection to minors and to reduce situations in which minors may be involved in unlawful activity

**NOW, THEREFORE**, the Board of Supervisors of the Town of Plum Lake, Vilas County, Wisconsin, does hereby ordain as follows:

**Section 1. PURPOSE :** The purpose of this Ordinance is to promote the health, safety, welfare, and good order of the Town of Plum Lake; to provide for the protection of minors; and to reduce circumstances in which minors may become involved in or become victims of unlawful activity during late-night and early-morning hours

#### **Section 2. DEFINITIONS**

1. **"Minor"** means any person under eighteen (18) years of age.
2. **"Parent or Guardian"** means a parent, legal guardian, or other adult person having lawful care, custody, or control of a minor.
3. **"Public Place"** means any street, highway, road, alley, sidewalk, park, playground, beach, cemetery, public building, public parking area, recreational area, or other place generally accessible to the public within the Town of Plum Lake.
4. **"Establishment"** means any privately owned place of business, entertainment, amusement, or other premises to which the public is invited.
5. **"Curfew Hours"** means the period between 11:00 p.m. and 5:00 a.m. the following morning.

A parent or guardian shall not be in violation merely because a minor violates the curfew without the parent's or guardian's knowledge or contrary to the parent's or guardian's reasonable instructions.

## **SECTION 6. BUSINESS RESPONSIBILITY**

No owner, operator, or employee of an establishment shall knowingly permit a minor to remain upon the premises during curfew hours in violation of this Ordinance.

It shall be a defense to a violation of this section if the owner, operator, or employee promptly requested that the minor leave or notified law enforcement of the minor's presence and refusal to leave.

## **SECTION 7. LAW ENFORCEMENT PROCEDURE**

Before taking enforcement action, a law enforcement officer shall make reasonable inquiry concerning:

1. The apparent age of the individual;
2. The individual's reason for being present during curfew hours; and
3. Whether any exception contained in this Ordinance applies.

No citation shall be issued unless the officer reasonably believes, based upon the circumstances and information available to the officer, that a violation of this Ordinance has occurred and that no applicable exception exists.

Nothing in this Ordinance shall prohibit a law enforcement officer from taking reasonable action necessary to protect the health or safety of a minor.

## **SECTION 8. ENFORCEMENT AND PENALTIES**

Violations of this Ordinance shall be enforced by citation or other procedure authorized by Wisconsin law.

Any forfeiture or disposition involving a juvenile shall be imposed in accordance with applicable Wisconsin law, including Chapter 938 of the Wisconsin Statutes.

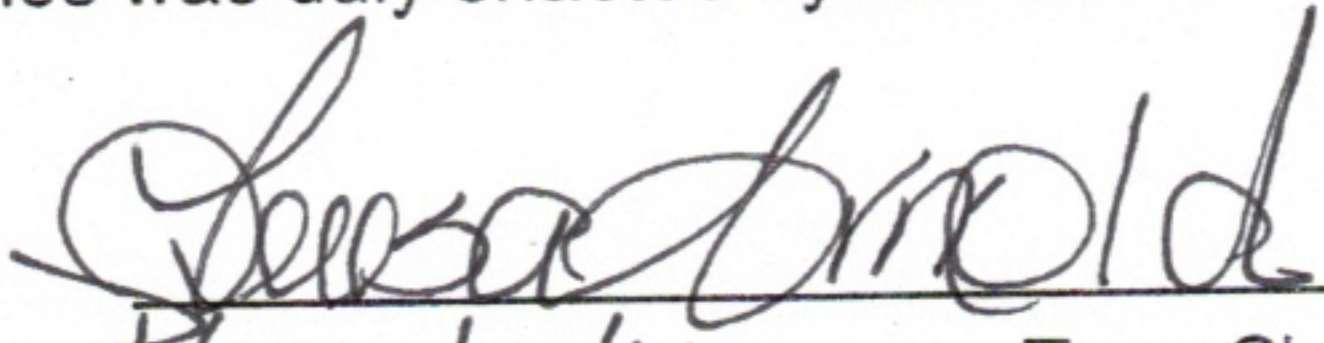
The Town Board may establish applicable forfeitures through the Town's bond or forfeiture schedule.

The Town encourages warning, parental or guardian notification, and voluntary compliance for an initial violation when circumstances permit. Nothing herein prevents appropriate enforcement when circumstances warrant.

### CLERK'S CERTIFICATE OF ENACTMENT

I hereby certify that the foregoing Ordinance was duly enacted by the Town of Plum Lake Board of Supervisors on the date indicated above.

Dated: 10/13/26, 2025

  
Plum Lake, Town Clerk

Published/Posted on 10/13/26, 2025