

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
CITY OF SHELL LAKE
August 11, 2025

Mayor Rowie Hansberger called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Council members present were Stephen Smith, Mike Andrews, Steve Byrd, Terry Severson, Dan Harrington, Ken Schultz, Rob Anderson and Tom Rasmussen. Andy Eiche, Mitch Brown, Mike Jaszczak, Reagan Kohler, Dakota Robinson, Emma Adkison, Bryan Rydberg, Dan Rayman, Patrick Brantney, Dawn Schrankel, Ken Schrankel, Jocelyn Ford, George Cusick, Gene Harrington, Randy Olson, Jerome Fox, Dan Diekmann, Kent Wabrowetz, Jim Lindberg, Beth Lindberg, John Knight, Dave Wilson, Tom Dahlstrom and Bob Hapy were also present.

Anderson moved, seconded by Severson, to approve the council minutes from July 14, 2025. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment: George Cusick spoke the importance of symbols (i.e. the U.S. flag, the POW flag and poppies). He went on to give some history of Post 225 and Memorial Park (i.e. the shelter that was built in 1924, the granite monument which was placed in 1929 and the fountain that was placed in 1929). He asked if the statue does anything to memorialize the park, and asked the council to please return the subject of the statue back to the Plan Commission for reconsideration.

Gene Harrington noted his letter to the council and explained how the park should consider additions that are historical to Shell Lake or Veteran related. He noted that the location should be west of the shared use path, and asked that the city council not dishonor the Veterans Memorial. Harrington went on to add the council read the history of Shell Lake before changing things, and this decision is insulting members of the community.

Dawn Schrankel noted her personal military service, and how she felt the sculpture was offensive, noting it was completely unrelated to the Veteran Park.

Kent Wabrowetz requested the topic be referred back to the Plan Commission for reconsideration.

Emma Atkison asked the council to remember the importance of the Shell Lake Arts Center and the Park to the community, and noted how this is an excellent opportunity for the council to support their community.

Dan Rayman informed the council of the recent success the Shell Lake Lions had with the triathlon. He extended thanks to the city council, Mayor Hansberger, Andy Eiche, Mitch Brown and Mike Jaszczak for all the work and support they provided. He also noted how their banner for the event didn't only mention the Lion's, but also showed the support from the Shell Lake Chamber of Commerce and the City of Shell Lake. Rayman stated, "Without the city and the chamber, this event wouldn't happen." On another note, Rayman faced the audience and asked if their comments would imply that the triathlon is disrespecting vets, as it is not veteran related and takes place in the park. In his opinion, the park is a multi-use area that should be enjoyed by everyone.

Brown presented the Public Works Director report. Hansberger asked about results of the recent storm. Brown said things went well. He went on to mention how David McNulty and his two sons cleared a large tree from Burgs Park Drive that morning, which he felt was very kind of them to do. Hansberger echoed the statement made earlier by Dan Rayman, and thanked Public Works for all of their assistance with the triathlon. Harrington asked if the city was still managing geese and gulls at the airport. Eiche responded in the affirmative that the city gets an annual depredation permit from the Department of U.S Fish and Wildlife for that activity.

Mike Jaszczak noted that he did not have his report prepared for the meeting, but they did take approximately 50 to 60 calls in the month of July. Jaszczak noted on-going difficulties with the handling of mental health issues in the county. Smith asked if the issue was a county problem. Jaszczak said yes.

Hansberger presented the Zoning Administrator report.

Hansberger presented the minutes from the Zoning Board of Appeals.

Hansberger presented the minutes from the Plan Commission meeting. Smith moved, seconded by Andrews, to send the recommendation to accept the donated sculpture and suggested location back to the Plan Commission for reconsideration. Severson noted he would want the Plan Commission to answer both acceptance of the sculpture and suggested location in their recommendation. Rasmussen stated, "I appreciate the audiences need to be better educated, and would support the topic be referred back to the Plan Commission. The motion carried unanimously.

Hansberger presented the Library Board minutes.

Mayor's Report: Mayor Hansberger was happy to announce the success of the 2nd Annual Great Shell Lake Get Together, with over 460 people attending. The mayor also noted the success of the triathlon, with 154 registered participants. The mayor thanked Dan Rayman for the "Uber" number of hours he put into making the triathlon such a great success.

Executive/HR Committee: No meeting.

General Administration: No meeting.

Public Works Administration: Schultz presented the minutes. Schultz updated the council on the library windows, noting the replacements have begun and will continue tomorrow.

Parks and Recreation: Severson presented the minutes. Rasmussen asked for Mitch Brown's opinion on the boat launch. Brown noted it is best designed for "all-around" boats and mentioned how they continually maintain the launch.

Financial Administration: Smith presented the minutes. Smith moved, seconded by Schultz, to approve vouchers 822-983. Motion carried unanimously.

Smith presented the budget status report.

New Business

Eiche presented his update on the TID#3 consideration. He noted the information provided by MSA Engineering, noting the TID would not cash flow and thus should not be considered at this time.

Eiche presented the request by the Shell Lake Arts Center for reduction/forgiveness regarding the Land Use Permit they will be attaining from the city which is projected to be \$3,076.00. Discussion ensued regarding the fee, plumbing and city cost for permitting. Schultz noted the importance of the Arts Center to the community, and voiced support. Smith moved, seconded by Anderson, to provide the Shell Lake Arts Center with a reduction of the Land Use permit fee to \$1,538.00. Smith noted he is a donor to the Arts Center, but felt there was no conflict in voting on the matter. Roll call vote was taken; Severson – Yes, Smith – Yes, Andrews – Yes, Byrd – Yes, Schultz – Yes, Harrington – Yes, Rasmussen – No, Anderson – Yes. The motion carried.

Eiche introduced the Amendment to Municipal Materials Management Agreement presented by Republic Services. Anderson moved, seconded by Rasmussen, to approve the amendment as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Hansberger announced the Washburn County Housing Study presentation being held on August 18th, and encouraged everyone to attend.

Schultz moved, seconded by Andrews, to adjourn at 8:12 p.m.

Meeting adjourned.

Andrew Eiche, City Administrator/Clerk/Treasurer