

**REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
CITY OF SHELL LAKE
May 11, 2026**

Mayor Rowie Hansberger called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Council members present were Mike Andrews, Terry Severson, Steve Byrd, Stephen Smith, Rob Anderson, Ken Schultz and Dan Harrington. Tom Rasmussen was absent. Andy Eiche, Mitch Brown, Mike Jaszczak, Dan Rayman, Nick Dillon, Kaitlin Horsch, Kelsy Schultz, Mike Decker and Reagan Kohler were also present.

Schultz moved, seconded by Andrews, to approve the council minutes from April 13, 2026, and, April 21, 2026. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment: None.

Kaitlin Horsch and Kelsy Schultz from Washburn County Tourism gave their annual presentation on how the Shell Lake room tax was spent in 2025. Mike Decker, on behalf of the Shell Lake Chamber of Commerce, gave an update on the welcome signs to Shell Lake. Nick Dillon asked Tourism if and how they were using monies to increase interest in lodging in Shell Lake. Dillon also asked if Washburn County Tourism would be doing anything to direct traffic into Shell Lake with the Cumberland bridge being out for the summer. Tourism was looking into the matter with the WI DOT. Rob Anderson asked how many members there were in the Chamber. Mike Decker replied there were 20 for-profit companies, 14 non-for-profit, and 12 members at large. Nick Dillon asked if the Shell Lake Chamber could check don how many people are selecting the Shell Lake Lodge logo when they visit the site. Mayor Hansberger noted the importance in letting people know they can still get to Shell Lake with the bridge being out in Cumberland.

Brown presented the Public Works Director report. Hansberger asked if the city crew had started street sweeping. Brown said yes.

Jaszczak presented the Chief of Police Report. Mayor Hansberger presented Mike Jaszczak with a letter of thanks for his service to the City of Shell Lake.

Hansberger presented the Zoning Administrator report.

Hansberger presented the Plan Commission minutes.

Hansberger presented the Lake Protection Advisory Committee minutes. She reminded the council of the upcoming Annual Lake meeting, and stressed the importance that any council member unable to attend, to please notify City Hall as soon as possible. Stephen Smith announced he would not be able to attend.

Patrick Kraetke arrived.

Mayor's Report: Hansberger mentioned the 250th Anniversary Celebration on July 3rd, and let the council know the city intends to serve ice cream at the pavilion from Noon to 3:00 p.m. She also noted the Veterans will be present to hand out flags and pinwheels.

Hansberger presented the Executive/HR committee minutes. Smith moved, seconded by Andrews, to approve the hiring of Patrick Kraetke as the Part-Time Chief of Police for the City of Shell Lake, effective May 12, 2026, with the understanding that Patrick Kraetke would need to pass a background check and would have a 12-month probationary period. Roll call vote was taken; Severson – Yes, Smith – Yes, Andrews – Yes, Byrd – Yes, Schultz – Yes, Harrington – Yes, Anderson – Yes. The motion carried unanimously.

Eiche had Patrick Karaetke perform the oath of office.

Mike Andrews presented the General Administration committee minutes. Andrews moved, seconded by Hansberger, to approve Ordinance #3-2026 – Amendment to Ordinance 5-2-3(b) – Fire Inspection Duties. The motion carried unanimously.

Terry Severson presented the Parks & Rec. committee minutes. Severson moved, seconded by Schultz, to reduce the convenience charge for the ATV campground to \$7.50, and the Lake campground to \$10.00. The motion carried.

Terry Severson moved, seconded by Schultz, to approve keeping the rate of \$45.00 per night at the ATV campground in 2027. The motion carried.

Severson moved, seconded by Andrews, to allow campers to reserve stays beyond two weeks at the ATV campground for sites 2, 3, 4 and 5, with the decision being revisited after the 2027 camping season. The motion carried.

Severson moved, seconded by Byrd, to approve the following rates in 2027 for the Lake campground: Sites 1 thru 12 - \$65.00/night. Sites 13 thru 37 - \$50.00/night. Sites 39 thru 47 - \$40.00/night. Upon unanimous vote, the motion carried.

Severson moved, seconded by Schultz, to approve the quote received from Court Surfaces & Repair, Inc. in the amount of \$2,950.00. The motion carried.

Financial Administration: Smith presented the minutes. Smith moved, seconded by Severson, to approve vouchers 346 thru 437, and, 493. Motion carried unanimously.

Smith presented the budget status report.

New Business

Schultz moved, seconded by Byrd, to approve the Supplemental Letter Agreement with SEH Engineering for the creation of a Tax Incremental District. Roll call vote was taken; Anderson – Yes, Harrington – Yes, Schultz – Yes, Byrd – Yes, Andrews – Yes, Smith – Yes, Severson – Yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Hansberger informed the council of an opportunity to increase the city's Safe Drinking Water Score with the DNR as long as 5 of the governing body are willing to take some online training. Andrews, Smith, Harrington, Hansberger, Byrd and Schultz agreed to take the training.

Eiche presented the decision by Parks & Rec committee to not have lifeguards in the 2026 season due to the lack of required applicants to run a program. Smith moved, seconded by Anderson, to not have lifeguards in 2026, and to remove the lifeguard stand and two rafts from the beach as well. 6 members of the council voted yes, Dan Harrington voted no. The motion carried.

Smith moved, seconded by Andrews, to approve a street use permit for the Shell lake Lions 2026 Triathlon. The motion carried.

Smith moved, seconded by Harrington, to approve a street use permit for the Shell lake Arts Center musical event taking place at the Quam Theatre. The motion carried.

Andrews moved, seconded by Byrd, to adjourn at 8:57 p.m.

Meeting adjourned.

Andrew Eiche, City Administrator/Clerk/Treasurer