

**REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
CITY OF SHELL LAKE
September 14, 2026**

Mayor Rowie Hansberger called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Council members present were Terry Severson, Stephen Smith, Mike Andrews, Steve Byrd, Rob Anderson, Dan Harrington and Tom Rasmussen. Ken Schultz was absent. Andy Eiche, Mitch Brown, Reagan Kohler, Ken Schrankel, Jeremy Beacroft, Courtney Klassa, Kathy Linville, Mike Ring, Bill Smith, Warren Tuttle, Heather Haustein, Dave Zueg, Deb Nebel, Chuck Levine, Lori Boigenzahn, Jim Boigenzahn, Peggy McMann, Ralieg Erickson, Mike Van Gilder, Bob Nelson, Sheila Nelson, Steve Root, Jeri Bitney, Brandon Wilger and Adam Wabrowetz were also present.

The mayor called for a moment of silence in honor of Brian Carlson.

Severson moved, seconded by Smith, to approve the council minutes from August 10, 2026 and August 26, 2026. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment: Courtney Klassa introduced herself and her client Jeremy Beacroft. She explained the desire to amend the ordinance to accommodate a greater number of guests more in line with the number of bedrooms in her client's home. Klassa went on to explain how the ordinance affects her client's ability to attract a percentage of potential guests from even being allowed to view her client's rental. She also noted how her client understands the rules and equally would not like to see the house rented to someone that would destroy the house.

Bob Nelson, 308 Donovan Cove Road, spoke on how an increase in the number of allowable guests could potentially affect the value of his home if he were to consider selling. "Every night a renter is there is like every night is a Saturday night. I think maximum of 10 is a good number. Renters won't show the same respect level as an owner." He went on to state how increasing the number would be like dropping a hotel in a residential neighborhood.

Mike Ring expressed his support to the decision to hire Warren Tuttle as the new Chief of Police. He also voiced opposition to the request regarding short-term rentals.

Jim Boigenzahn voiced opposition to the short-term rental request, stating 10 people is more like a single-family dwelling than 18 is.

Chuck Levine voiced concern regarding the short-term rental request as he felt the increased traffic would result in safety concerns.

Bill Smith asked, "How far could this go? Building it as big as you want is not conducive to a residential neighborhood. When you get owners that aren't familiar with the neighborhood, you increase the potential of future problems." Bill Smith voiced concern about curb and gutter considerations for the upcoming Donovan Cove Road project.

Jeri Bitney pointed out that Jeremy Beacroft decided to build his home after the ordinance was already in place.

Dave Zueg and Deb Nebel both voiced support for the selection of Warren Tuttle as Shell Lakes new Chief. Nebel went on to voice opposition to amending the short-term rental ordinance.

Adam Wabrowetz voiced support of amendment to the short-term rental request.

Brown presented the Public Works Director report. Smith voiced concern over guardrail damage at the tractor pull event. Brown explained Town & Country Days would be responsible for repairs.

Hansberger presented the Zoning Administrator report.

Hansberger presented the Plan Commission minutes.

Hansberger presented the library minutes.

Brandon Wilger, Two Rivers Accounting presented the financial statements for 2025. He noted the city received the highest rating afforded to a municipality. Byrd asked if it is better to have a higher unassigned balance. Wilger responded yes.

Mayor's Report: Hansberger noted how all the numbers were up for a very successful Town & Country days, with the Lion's Fish Fry showing record numbers, the pancake breakfast served 667 people and the book sale sold \$665 worth of books. Thank you to the Town & Country Days committee for all their hard work.

The mayor read a statement she had written in response to the short-term rental request noting the following points:

- We should be careful about changing this ordinance.
- We had attorney guidance through this ordinance creation making sure it was fair and proper.
- We have had no complaints, which means it is working.
- What precedence could we be setting if we approve this?
- Our responsibility is to all residents of Shell Lake.
- We should maintain the current ordinance.

Executive/HR Committee: Rowie Hansberger presented the minutes. Smith moved, seconded by Andrews, to offer the full-time Chief of Police position to Warren Tuttle, contingent upon successful background check, drug test, physical examination and psychiatric examination, with a 12-month probationary period. The motion carried unanimously. Hansberger and Smith both voiced their satisfaction with the decision.

General Administration: Andrews presented the General Administration minutes. Andrews noted he would like the short-term rental topic referred back to the General Administration committee for further discussion. Harrington asked why? Andrews felt he was rushed in last week's meeting due to a meeting that followed. Rob Anderson felt there had been sufficient discussion on the request. Smith agreed, stating, "I think we could talk about this until the cows come home. I believe we can act tonight." Anderson moved, seconded by Severson, to keep the ordinance as is. Roll call vote was taken; Anderson – Yes, Rasmussen – Yes, Harrington – Yes, Byrd – Yes, Andrews – Yes, Smith – Yes, Severson – Yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Works: Hansberger presented the Public Works committee minutes. Smith moved, seconded by Andrews, to approve the agreement with SEH for the 4th Avenue project. Roll call vote was taken; Severson – Yes, Smith – Yes, Andrews – Yes, Byrd – Yes, Harrington – Yes, Rasmussen – Yes, Anderson – Yes. The motion carried unanimously.

Smith moved, seconded by Severson, to approve the three SEH agreements for the Donovan Cove Road project. Roll call vote was taken; Anderson – Yes, Rasmussen – Yes, Harrington – Yes, Byrd – Yes, Andrews – Yes, Smith – Yes, Severson – Yes. Upon unanimous vote, the motion carried.

Parks & Rec. Committee: Severson presented the minutes.

Financial Administration: Smith presented the minutes. Smith moved, seconded by Rasmussen, to approve vouchers 937-1156. Motion carried unanimously.

Smith presented the budget status report.

New Business:

- Kathy Linville introduced herself as the area manager for Republic Services. Linville explained the operations of Republic Services, and invited the governing body to a future tour of the facility.
- Andrews moved, seconded by Anderson, to approve the resolution to adopt the Clean Boats, Clean Waters Project Funding Request and Agreement. Roll call vote was taken; Anderson – Yes, Rasmussen – Yes, Harrington – Yes, Byrd – Yes, Andrews – Yes, Smith – Yes, Severson – Yes. The motion carried unanimously.
- The mayor announced the appointment of Holly Swan to the Shell Lake Housing Authority Board of Director's.

Anderson moved, seconded by Rasmussen, to adjourn at 8:43 p.m.

Meeting adjourned.

Andrew Eiche, City Administrator/Clerk/Treasurer