

**REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
CITY OF SHELL LAKE
October 12, 2026**

Mayor Rowie Hansberger called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Council members present were Terry Severson, Stephen Smith, Mike Andrews, Rob Anderson, Ken Schultz and Tom Rasmussen. Steve Byrd and Dan Harrington were absent. Andy Eiche, Mitch Brown, Mike Jasczac, Reagan Kohler, Warren Tuttle, Spencer Johnson, Bob Hapy, Gerry Winch, Dan Rayman, Brynn Johnson, Taylor Johnson, Elise Johnson, Joe Johnson, Adam Wabrowitz, Mary Ann Rigby, and Bruce Hansberger were also present.

Schultz moved, seconded by Rasmussen, to approve the council minutes from September 14, 2026. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Hansberger presented a speech on behalf of her office and the City of Shell Lake welcoming Spencer Johnson and his family.

Dan Harrington arrived at 7:07 p.m.

The Mayor and City Administrator performed the oath of officer with police officer Spencer Johnson. The "Pinning of the Badge" was performed by Brynn Johnson (Spencer's wife). Mike Jasczac gave a brief welcome speech to the public in honor of Spencer Johnson's new role as a full-time police officer for Shell Lake.

Officer Johnson thanked the community, and said he looks forward to serving the community of Shell Lake.

The room took a 5-minute recess to introduce themselves to Spencer Johnson and his family.

Public Comment: Adam Wabrowitz spoke on the recent decision to discontinue the lifeguard program in Shell Lake. His hope is that maybe the city can consider bringing it back in a couple of years.

Gerry Winch spoke on the Airport Management committee minutes, and informed the audience that the Shell Lake Airport Updated ALP has been officially approved after seven plus years of work.

Adam Wabrowitz spoke again, voicing his support to not allow pickleball on the current basketball courts.

Brown presented the Public Works Director report.

Jasczac presented the Police Chief report. He thanked the Police Foundation for the new police department sign. Hansberger thanked Mary Ann Rigby for all of her assistance this evening.

Hansberger presented the Zoning Administrator report.

Hansberger presented the Plan Commission minutes.

Hansberger presented the Library minutes.

Hansberger presented the Lake Protection minutes.

Hansberger presented the Fire Association minutes.

Hansberger presented the Airport Management committee minutes.

Mayor's Report: Hansberger noted the three-year journey in getting the Shell Lake Police Department where it now is today, and said she believes Shell Lake has the best police department in Washburn County. Hansberger announced the city will host an Open House at the Police Station on November 18th from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m., to welcome the new Chief Warren Tuttle and Officer Spencer Johnson.

Executive/HR Committee: Rowie Hansberger presented the minutes.

General Administration: Andrews presented the General Administration minutes.

Public Works: Schultz presented the Public Works committee minutes. Schultz noted that Eiche has informed Public Works of his intent to perform boring samples on the section of S. Lake Drive (between Peeper's Pond and Rolph's Point) with the hope that the results of the boring would allow the city to consider adding this section to the 2027 road projects. Questions came up regarding the potential to consider the first section of Rolph's Point up to the Rolph's Point Spur. Eiche will look into the matter.

Parks & Rec. Committee: Severson presented the minutes. Severson moved, seconded by Schultz, to discontinue the Shell Lake Lifeguard Program. Smith made a statement regarding the consideration to end the lifeguard program, stating, "It is with a heavy heart to say this is the way we want to go. If lifeguards would have shown up for work more than they did, maybe we would avoid this, but they haven't. It gives a false sense of security to the public when we say there will be lifeguards on duty, and then they are not. This is another reflection on society where kids don't want to work." Schultz agreed with Smith, stating, "When I was a kid, it was a highly sought after job. We used to have to clean the park and restrooms as well. Now in the last 5 years, we have not been able to keep a full crew. It is frustrating, but it is a reality we can't ignore." Discussion ensued. Andrews asked the Parks & Rec committee to consider if we will be putting the rafts out next season at a later meeting. Severson agreed. The motion carried unanimously.

Severson presented the request to paint two pickleball courts on the basketball court. Severson moved, seconded by Schultz, to not paint pickleball court lines on the existing basketball court. The motion carried unanimously.

Financial Administration: Smith presented the minutes. Smith moved, seconded by Andrews, to approve vouchers 1097-1248. Motion carried unanimously.

Smith presented the budget status report.

New Business:

- Hansberger announced her appointment of Todd Felhofer to the Shell Lake Library Board.
- Schultz presented a quote for supplies and labor to reside the Community Center and asked the governing body to approve the use of up to \$35,000.00 from unassigned balance to fund the project. Anderson noted the siding was the original siding from 1979 and the siding was in poor shape. Schultz also asked that the Public Works crew be allowed to cut down the two trees up front. Rasmussen informed the council he would be refraining from the decision. Severson moved, seconded by Anderson, to approve the residing of the Community Center as presented, with the use of up to \$35,000.00 from unassigned balance to fund the project. Roll call vote was taken; Severson – Yes, Smith – Yes, Schultz – Yes, Harrington – Yes, Rasmussen abstained, Anderson – Yes. Motion carried 6 to 1.

The council agreed by consensus to have public works remove the two trees in front of the Community Center.

Smith moved, seconded by Schultz, to adjourn at 8:27 p.m.

Meeting adjourned.

Andrew Eiche, City Administrator/Clerk/Treasurer