

Secord Township Meeting Minutes
May 20, 2026
Meeting Called to Order @ 10:00 am

www.secordtwp.com

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

- Supervisor Joel Vernier (supervisor@secordtwp.com) **PRESENT**
- Treasurer Christine Grace (treasurer@secordtwp.com) **PRESENT**
- Clerk Kristine Panetta (clerk@secordtwp.com) **PRESENT**
- Trustee Maria Alward (mlalward@gmail.com) **PRESENT**
- Trustee Kathy Seagraves (deputysupervisor@secordtwp.com) **PRESENT**
- Residents: 10 in attendance

Motion by Joel Vernier & Maria Alward to approve meeting minutes of April 21, 2026. All Ayes. Approved

Consent Agenda/Changes to Agenda

Motion by Christine Grace & Kristine Panetta to add the following items and accept changes to agenda: All Ayes. Approved

- Transfer funds between accounts and close ARPA account at Members First Credit Union
- Approve Special Board Meeting minutes from May 11, 2026

Motion by Kristine Panetta & Christine Grace to approve meeting minutes of May 11, 2026. All Ayes. Approved

Public Comment:

Pete Doyle suggested that Board approve fertilizing septic field and mulching around building. Supplies would be estimated cost of \$260 & \$0 labor.

Guests:

- Bryan Wall, CPA, Weinlander Fitzhugh: Audit Report Fiscal Year 2024/2025
 - Reviewed PDF report (attachment)

Treasurer's Report: as of 05/14/2026:

General Fund Checking Balance	\$618,488.12	
CD #S54 (Maturity Date 06/23/26)	\$58,939.71	
CD #S51 (Maturity Date 06/18/26)	\$58,685.46	
MFCU Checking Balance	\$10,136.46	
Winter Uncollected Tax Revenue		\$6,320.53
General Fund Total:	\$746,249.75	
Fire Fund Checking Balance	\$125,239.45	
CD #S52 (Maturity Date 06/18/26)	\$50,299.89	
Winter Uncollected Tax Revenue		\$13,227.36
Fire Fund Total:	\$175,539.34	
Garbage Fund Balance	\$213,947.66	
Winter Uncollected Tax Revenue		\$33,939.05
Garbage Fund Total:	\$213,947.66	
Lake Weed Fund Balance	\$429,224.10	
CD Matured 12/25/25	\$266,575.36	

Winter Uncollected Tax Revenue		\$13,160.16
Lake Weed Fund Total:	\$695,799.46	
Mosquito Fund Balance	\$68,627.07	
Winter Uncollected Tax Revenue		\$4,760.29
Mosquito Fund Total:	\$68,627.07	
Road Fund Balance	\$482,486.24	
Winter Uncollected Tax Revenue		\$10,774.01
Road Fund Total:	\$482,486.24	
Total of All Funds:	\$2,382,649.52	
Total of Uncollected Tax Revenue:		\$82,181.40

Discussion regarding Treasurer's Report

- Accounts over \$250,000 are not insured, therefore Huntington Bank will sweep additional funds to other banks so that all funds are insured and will also earn higher interest. The Treasurer and Huntington Bank will be in control of movement between accounts except for the General Account, which will be an auto-sweep
- Once CDs mature at Members First Credit Union, will be transferred to Huntington Bank sweep accounts
- ARPA account will be closed at Members First Credit Union and funds transferred into General Fund at Huntington Bank
- \$250,000 from Weed Fund currently at Members First Credit Union will be transferred to Mercantile Bank for public money market investment

Motion by Christine Grace & Maria Alward to close ARPA account and transfer funds to General Fund. All Ayes. Approved

Motion by Christine Grace & Maria Alward to take \$250,000 out of Weed Fund at Members First Credit Union and transfer to Mercantile Bank to open a public fund money market account. All Ayes. Approved signers: Christine Grace, Kristine Panetta, Joel Vernier

Motion by Joel Vernier & Kris Panetta to receive and file Treasurer's report. All Ayes. Approved

Clerk's Bills Paid:

General Fund Bills: \$ 44,720.02

General Payroll: \$11,483.97

Fire Bills: \$4,908.05

Fire Payroll: \$2,475.00

Motion by Kristine Panetta & Christine Grace to pay the bills as presented. All Ayes. Approved

Clerks Correspondence Received:

Constable reported that all actions taken by the Eagles Club are completed.

Department Reports:

Planning & Zoning: John Kuksa

- Camping ordinances were reviewed at the last meeting; current ordinances being followed at this time
- Permit at Eagle's Club was approved for ramp and patio upgrade
- Permit for Mariana's roof over picnic area was approved

Fire Board Report: Pete Doyle

- Budget has been reviewed by Fire Board
- Two fire runs, 3 medical runs, 2 successful drone uses to locate missing persons this past month
- Seeking Alternate Board member to serve on Fire Board

Fire Chief Report: Fred Shaver

- **Special Assessment for Fire Department**
 - Will hold 2 public hearings this summer to discuss need to add paid position to Fire Department; will be posted once dates determined
 - Discussion about role of new fire fighter: includes being immediately available to respond to calls vs possible delay due to volunteer's availability & proximity to event; maintenance of equipment; extensive paperwork & maintaining files
 - Volunteer fire department volunteers are supportive of new position being added
 - Had 16 calls this month and 35 since January 1; increased from previous years.

Motion to post 2 hearings together on same notice. All Ayes. Approved

Roll Call Vote to move forward with Fire Assessment public hearings:

- Supervisor Joel Vernier (supervisor@secordtwp.com) **Yes**
- Treasurer Christine Grace (treasurer@secordtwp.com) **Yes**
- Clerk Kristine Panetta (clerk@secordtwp.com) **Yes**
- Trustee Maria Alward (mlalward@gmail.com) **Yes**
- Trustee Kathy Seagraves (deputysupervisor@secordtwp.com) **Yes**

Constable Report: Maxine Larson

- Marina has decided to not apply for liquor license until after the lake has returned.

Road Committee Report: Ken Douglas:

- New maps for the county have been completed
- 2026 Road Plan is ahead of schedule
- County will begin moving roadsides twice yearly
- Way Master has fined 130 vehicles
- Repairs are being made to collapsed culverts due to rain/floods
- Paving Three Rivers Rd, Cedar Lake, and Lundy to N. Pinecrest- East Saginaw Paving won bid and was less than expected

Zoning Administrator Report: Cherie Mascarello – absent**Ordinance Enforcement Officer Report: Tim Seagraves**

- Will follow current ordinance on trailers/campers
- Have been 4 complaints all being addressed

Well and Septic: Maria Alward

- There were 4 reports
- Two well & septic approved

OTHER BUSINESS:

- Fees charged to residents for returned Non-Sufficient Funds (NSF) tax payments collected
 - Township is currently not charging NSF fees issued by the bank to residents with NSF tax payments

Motion by Christine Grace & Kristine Panetta to collect all fees incurred from bank from residents who have NSF for tax payments.
All Ayes. Approved

Supervisor Comments:

- Upcoming seminars available to public:
 - June 11, 2006 6pm- Blair Tweddle, DNR - Forestry clearing project
 - June 22, 2026 6pm-9pm – Council of Local Government
 - July 30, 2026 5pm-9 pm – Stabilization of Shorelines

Public Comments:

John Kuksa asked about May 11 mosquito spraying that did not happen; Due to weather temperature, spraying would not be effective. Spraying is scheduled every Thursday.

Announcements:

- Republic will change “Yard Waste Pick Up” from Tuesdays to Thursdays beginning June 2026 - Revised pick-up schedule/calendars are available on information table in the Township Hall
 - Discussion about residents calling Republic for missed pick-ups: since Secord Township pays for all waste pickup under one Secord Township Account, Republic does not have individual resident’s information for each property. This has led to some confusion and misinformation provided by Republic to residents. Kristine Panetta is working with Republic to resolve this issue.
- Welcome our new Deputy Clerk, Jackie

Motion carried to Adjourn Kristine Panetta & Maria Alward @ 11:33 am

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