

Secord Township Open Board Meeting Minutes
September 16, 2026 @ 10:00 am
1507 Secord Dam Rd, Gladwin, MI 48624 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**

Motion by Kris Panetta & second by Kathy Seagraves to approve Board meeting minutes of August 17, 2026. All in favor. **Approved.**

Consent Agenda/Changes to Agenda

Kris Panetta would like to add "Approval of Election Inspectors" under Other Business.
Christine Grace would like to add "Sherlyn Burkhardt" as a Guest.

Motion by Kris Panetta & second by Christine Grace to accept changes to agenda. All in favor. **Approved.**

Public Comment: None

Guests:

Raymond Ziegler requested that the Board remove his Secord property from the Garbage Roll, as he is already paying the garbage assessment through Gladwin Township. He has adjoining properties that cross both townships.
Sherlyn Burkhardt, Assessor, introduced herself to the public.

Secord Township Treasurer's Report : September 15, 2026

(Fund Balances as of 09/15/2026)

General Fund Checking
Balance: \$246,615.40

General Fund ICS : \$572,543.20

General Fund CD# 55 \$59,653.77

General Fund CD# 56 \$59,366.88

General Fund Total:	\$938,179.25
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Fire Fund Checking Balance: \$16,220.57 * (balance does not reflect o/s checks)

Fire Fund ICS: \$98,121.77

Fire Fund Total:	\$114,342.34
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Garbage Fund Balance: \$14,962.96 * (balance does not reflect o/s checks)

Garbage Fund ICS: \$126,006.64

Garbage Fund Total:	\$140,969.60
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Lake Weed Fund Balance: \$14,960.80

Lake Weed Fund ICS: \$426,869.20

Mercantile Bank Weed Fund
Balance: \$252,096.02

Lake Weed Fund Total:	\$693,926.02
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Mosquito Fund Balance:	\$14,960.37
Mosquito Fund ICS:	\$58,818.54

Mosquito Fund Total:	\$73,778.91
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Road Fund Balance:	\$15,086.36
Road Fund ICS:	\$282,692.74

Road Fund Total:	\$297,779.10
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Total of All Funds:	\$2,258,975.22
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Christine Grace reported that a total of \$5,582.16 interest was earned this past month inclusive of all accounts. She also reported that Mercantile Bank is increasing interest rate from 3.71% to 3.75%

Motion by Maria Alward & second by Kris Panetta to receive and file Treasurer’s report. All Ayes. **Approved.**

Clerk’s Bills Paid:
 General Fund Bills: \$255,759.02
 General Payroll: \$14,828.18
 Fire Bills: \$7,029.30
 Fire Payroll: \$3,005.00

Motion by Kris Panetta & Maria Alward to pay the bills as presented. All Ayes. **Approved.**

Clerks Correspondence Received: Inspection Report from Constable, Maxine Larson.

Reports:

Planning & Zoning: John Kuksa and Janet Kuksa attended a seminar by the Michigan Township Association regarding data center, alternative energy and Short-term Rentals. Good information was shared that can be considered when writing Secord ordinances on those topics.

Fire Chief Report: Fred Shaver reported that the Township must now pay for “on-call” and “sick pay.” He will work with Kris on how to capture this in payroll. Fred will be at the Fire Hall Sept 26, 2026 12-4pm for a tour and presentation for anyone who would like to learn more about what they do. Kris asked how many calls Fred has received regarding the proposed millage increase this past month. Fred report 1.

Constable Report: Maxine Larson reported that the inspection at the Eagles was good.

Road Committee Report: Ken Douglas reported that the last roadside mowing and roadwork for the year has been completed with the exception of the road striping on newly paved roads. This will be completed soon. The Board was provided a copy of the 2027 Road Plan (see attached) with a total cost of \$164,324.46 projected which is less than the current year.

Zoning Administrator Report: Cherie Mascarello reported that she has completed 6 permits this past month, has taken 15-20 calls, and already has 25 calls in September and is scheduling site visits.

Ordinance Enforcement Officer Report: Tim Seagraves reported that there are several issues that property owners are in the process of resolving.

Well and Septic: Maria Alward reported that there were 4 reports, 1 new, 2 wells approved, 2 septic systems including one that needs adjustment.

Other Business:

- The following Resolutions were presented and roll-call vote taken for each.
 - Street Light Assessment 2026-9-16-01 to increase assessment from \$25 to 27.50 in the special assessment areas to be levied December 2026. All ayes. **Approved.**
 - Road Resolution 2026-9-16-02 to remain at 1 mil to be levied December 2026. All Ayes. **Approved.**
 - Raymond Ziegler Garbage Assessment 2026-9-16-03 to remove Secord property parcel # 130-021-300-001-20 at 2064 N M30, Gladwin, MI, 48624 from the Secord Township garbage roll. All Ayes. **Approved.**
- Broken Wing Support Group Wednesday September 30, 5p-7p held at Township Hall will include a spaghetti dinner. This is open to the public.
- November election inspectors including:
 - Ward Comer
 - Patty Comer
 - Donna Gronau
 - Ann Lambert
 - Maddie Taube
 - Becky Day
 - Maxine Larson
 - Diane Barajas
 - Kyle Proctor
 - Jacqueline Beck
 - Amber Beck

Motion by Kris Panetta & Maria Alward to approve Election Inspectors presented. All Ayes. **Approved.**

Supervisor Comments: There will be a presentation about Board Ethics by Joel Vernier on September 28 at 6:30 pm at the Lodge on Pratt Lake Rd. during the Council of Government meeting. Open to the public.

Reminder that the Mid-Michigan Community Action has a weatherization program for residents (income-based).

Public Comments/Announcements

- Carl Zink asked what “ICS fund” means. Christine Grace explained that is acronym for Insured (FDIC) Cash Sweep. Carl also asked if the County would first create an ordinance about Data Centers that the Townships would then use to create Township ordinances?
- Ken Douglas requested that the Board approve the 2027 Road Plan at the next meeting. Joel Vernier replied that it would be added to the October agenda.
- Cherie Mascarello reported that there have been a few Short-Term Rental applications and that there is proposed legislation to declare these as businesses (subject to tax and regulation).
- Fred Shaver suggested that the website could be revised/reorganized to make it easier to find documents. Joel Vernier replied that he will talk to Tom Stiehl about that.

Motion to Adjourn Christine Grace and second by Maria Alward. All ayes. Meeting adjourned @11:27 am.