The regular meeting of the Town Assembly was held on July 27, 1953 at the Gild Hall with Trustee Wave presiding.

After a quorum was declared present the minutes of the March meeting were read and approved.

The unfinished business of the May meeting that could not be completed because of lack of a quorum was the first order of business.

The Registration committee conducted the balloting for the Registration Committee and declared the following people elected: Virginia Williams, Edna Page and Robert Allen.

The following people were nominated to serve on the Auditing Committee:

Carl Van Drele, Lawrence Lipstein, Samuel Freeman. The secretary was instructed to cast a balloting electing them.

The following people were nominated to serve on the Community Planning Committee: David Bloom, Morris Rosin, James Robertson.

After the business of the May meeting had been completed the minutes of a special meeting held on July 6, 1953 were read and approved.

The secretary read a letter from Gilbert Worrell resigning from the Civic Committee.

Mr. Gerstine made a motion that we accept Gilbert Worrell's resignation with great sorrow and that we give him a standing vote of thanks for his devoted service to the community. This motion was voted down.

A motion was made and passed that a committee composed of Morris Rosin, Ralph Ponte, and John Walker meet with Mr. Worrell immediately

and to try and persuade him to reconsider his decision to resign.

The financial report of the Trustees from May 25 to July 25, 1953 was read and approved. The report is on file. Mr. Ware reported that although lots had been surveyed in the Sherwood Forest off Meadowlane, none of these lots have been opened for rental.

The Civic Committee report given by Mr. Albee Williams, chairman stated that the committee had made a general survey of the general appearance of the town and had outlined work to be done. The question of sale of food at the Swimming Pool has been considered. The Civic Committee has decided that sale of food should be banned at the pool, but the Jack + Jill ice cream truck has been parking on the Ardentown side of the pool outside of the No Trespassing sign and selling food. The committee felt that it should have a directive from the Town Assembly as to whether the sale of food should be permitted. The swimming pool is in good condition and the sale of badges has been excellent this year. Roy Bloomingdale has carried out his duties in an outstanding manner and it was suggested that a letter of appreciation be sent to him.

The following motion was made "Should we have concession type sale of food, soft drinks etc. at the pool. The motion was defeated with 37 nays and 13 ayes.

It was suggested that the Civic Committee consider putting a water fountain at the pool.

A motion was made and passed that the Jack + Jill Company be requested not to sell ice cream at the pool.

A motion to accept the Circ Committee report was passed.

Mr Walker reported that the Committee had met with Mr. Worrell and were unable to persuade him to reconsider his resignation.

A motion was made and passed that a resolution of gratitude be sent to Mr Worrell thanking him for his hard work and effective way he has carried out this job on the Circ Committee.

Mr Donald Stephen suggested that trash barrels be purchased for the green.

The report of the Board of Assessors as to the assessment of Arden land for the year 1954-1955 is as follows: "A motion carried by a vote of 4 to 3 that the present theoretical land value and interest rate and the present base rate of $3.15 be adopted for the year 1954-1955"

Mr. William Frank presented a minority report of the Board of Assessors. He stated that he was the only person who had taken the oath prescribed in the By-Laws. Other members of the Board of Assessors present at the meeting stated that although they were willing to take another oath they had served before and all had taken the oath. Mr. John Page said that he had requested that the secretary of the Board of Assessors get ~~them~~ the prescribed form for them and he would take the oath. This form has never received but Mr. Page publically stated that he had studied the assessment problem and felt that his ~~opinion~~ decision as to the assessment was correct.

The minority report stated that they believe that the sales value of Arden land is unchanged this year, but that interest rates have gone up and the

base rate should be increased to reflect this change. They recommend that the rate be set for 1954-1955 at $3.45 per 1000 sq feet. This would be at an interest rate of about 4½%. They also urge that the voters of Arden carefully consider the future choice of assessors and to review the Arden Community financing system.

Mr Samuel Freeman stated that he had considered all questions of assessment honestly and that he felt the 4½% interest rate was the true valuation.

Mr Donald Stephens made a plea that we accept a larger land rental to meet the increasing value of Arden land.

Mr. Harrison gave an explanation of how the assessors arrive at a valuation of land and he felt we should retain the $3.15 as base rate of Arden land. He does not think the Assessors should accept real estate valuation as base for assessment.

Mr. Freeman stated that one of things that grew out of Arden's early history is the electing of assessors to assess the value of Arden land.

A question was asked whether the Assessors had gotten any outside advice as to the land value. Mr. Bertini stated that he had studied various real estate reports concerning land in this area.

A motion was made that the report of the Board of Assessors be accepted. The report was accepted with a vote of 34 ayes and 26 nays.

There were no reports from the following committees: Budget, Community Planning, Registration, Advisory, Safety, By-Laws, School Trustees.

The Legal Committee consisting of Samuel Freeman, John Walker, Philip Cohen and Harold Leshem, was present by Mr Harold Leshem:
The Committee reported that the Safety Committee has no inherent police powers. It can make a study of traffic conditions, create community awareness of problems and suggest rules and regulations to prevent injury and property damage. It can also publically expose alleged violators of safety regulations, report violators in case of minors to Family Court. Post adequate warnings and notices in various places to focus public attention upon the danger known to exist.

The Trustees do not have inherent police powers. The roads are private in the sense that they are privately maintained, but they are public as far as use is concerned. The State Police are again to be asked to patrol the roads.

The Committee finally points out that each resident has a legal right and duty to bring complaint before a magistrate for disorderly conduct or reckless driving committed in the presence of an Order resident.

The following people were nominated to serve on the Board of Assessors:

John Page, Samuel Freeman, Harold Monfort, Ashworth Burstein, John Ware, Henry Aughey, Cecil Liberman, John Walker, Louis Lipstein, Frank Harrison, Frank Carroll, David Bloom, Oliver Hahn, Morris Rosin, Donald Stephens.

The Secretary was instructed to cast a ballot electing David Bloom, Morris Rosin, James Robertson to the Community Planning Committee for two years.

The following people were nominated to serve on the Safety Committee: Erwin Roberts Jr.

Samuel Freeman, Lloyd Estes, John Berk, Andrew Gallagher. The secretary was instructed to cast a ballot electing them to the Safety Committee.

The following people were nominated to serve out Mr Gilbert Warnells term on the Civic Committee: Carl Van Dale, Leon Tanzer, Edith Ware. The Registration Committee conducted the balloting and reported Leon Tanzer elected to serve on the Civic Committee.

Under Good of Welfare Mrs Charlotte Shedd suggested we call a public meeting inviting all residents served by the Aide Water Co and also request officers of the company to come to the meeting to see if anything can be done about the muddy water and poor service we have had lately. It was suggested that a committee be appointed to organize this meeting.

On motion the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Morley
Town Assembly Clerk.