The July 28, 1941 meeting of the Town Assembly of Arden, Delaware

The meeting was held at the Gild Hall, Arden, Delaware and was presided over by Trustee Ware.

After the Chairman had declared a quorum to be present the minutes of the April 22, 1941 meeting were read and approved.

The secretary read a financial report from the Trustee of Arden for the period from June 24 to July 28. The report, a copy of which is attached was accepted.

William McClure reported for the Civic Committee. He read the balance of money yet to be expended from the budget and also reported on the swimming pool. To date $516 has been collected and $507.60 expended. The pool will cost approximately $130 more to operate this summer. Mr McClure also presented the road signs made by Robert Johson which the Civic Committee proposed to erect in Arden at an approximate cost of $5 a piece. Mary Mably reported that she had written to several sign manufacturers but the cost of the signs was too great. Mrs. Ware said that the type of sign proposed did not fit into the community. The Civic Committee report was noted and accepted.

Russell Peterson reported the majority report of the Board of Assessors as follows: The tax rate of Arden sent to be increased to $2.02½ per thousand square feet and that all relative percentages be increased by adding 10% points to the present relative

percentage factor. A copy of the report is attached. Mr Frank Harrison and Mr William Frank did not vote on the assessment. Mr Peterson pointed out that this increase is approximately a 10% increase over last years rental.

Mr William Frank presented a minority report giving his reasons for not voting on the assessment. He claimed that the Board of Assessors did not arrive at the full rental value of the land by the correct medium provided in the Deed of Trust and that they used the budgetary method of arriving at the land rent which is contrary to Single Tax idea and contrary to their oath.

Henry Angley asked Mr Frank to explain his methods of finding true rental value.

Mr H. J. Pressman stated that there is no formula established for find full rental value but that they believe that they had arrived at the proper rental value.

Mr Russell Peterson stated that although he respected Mr Frank's opinion he felt they had arrived at the full rental value of the land.

Mr. Ware warned that the assessing of Arden lands is a most important function, but must find full rental value according to method provided in deed of Trust.

Mr. Peterson stated that the Assessors had used the following factors in arriving at the land rent 1- Cost of adjoining land, 2- what the residents of Arden think of the community 3- What their property is worth on the open market 4- Whether we have a program for improvement and maintenance thus making the

budget a part of funding full rental value.
Mr Victor Lance said he agreed 100% with opinion of Mr. Russell Peterson.
Meyer Pressman moved that the assessors report be adopted.
Mr Frank again stated that he did not agree with them which is making all lots 100% lots as the topography of land makes some less desirable than others. Mrs Liberman asked if the assessors had reexamined relative value. It was pointed out that any leaseholder may appeal his rent with the Board of Assessors.
Dr J K Jaffee moved that we move the previous motion by accept. This was passed.
A show of hands on voting on the report of the Board of assessors resulted in it being accepted by a vote of 34 to 26.
Budget Committee no report.
Mr Robert Petry reported that the Community Planning Committee in line with the majority requests on ballot sent out with referendum are making a problem of providing more fire hydrants.
Registration Committee no report.
Special committee:
School trustee - no report.
Sewage - no report, but Mr. McClure reported that the Civic Committee had met with a representative of the Board of Health and that the Board of Health was going to take action against any offenders.
Swimming pool - No report.
Committee to meet with trustee - progress

There being no unfinished business new business was present. A Registration Committee of three members and an auditing committee of three members had to be elected.

The following people were proposed for the Registration Committee:

Meyer Pressman, George Hall, Henry Aughey, Virginia Williams, Cy Liberman.

The following people were proposed for the Auditing Committee:

H J Pressman, Henry Aughey, Harold Lesher, John Page and John Moss.

While the Registration Committee were counting the ballots a motion was made by Wm McClure that a Safety committee be appointed with Mr Geo. Hall acting as chairman said committee to be responsible for enforcing safety provisions in the community. This motion was accepted and McClure appointed the following people to serve with Mr. Hall. Mr Fred Bundrock and Mr. Ponte.

The Registration Committee reported the results of the balloting as follows:

Registration Committee to consist of the following people: Meyer Pressman, Virginia Williams and Henry Aughey.

Auditing Committee to consist of following people: H J Pressman, Harold Lesher and John Page.

Mr Russell Peterson presented the following motion:

"I move that a committee to be known as the Town Assembly Advisory.

Committee be formed consisting of the Chairmen of the following Committees: Civic, Board of Assessors, Budget, Community Planning, Registration and the Senior Trustee, Town Secretary and a chairman to be elected at the July meeting of the Town Assembly for a term of one year and that it shall be the function of this committee to coordinate the activities of the various standing and specific committees of the Town Assembly and to see that these committees perform their respective duties and that for the first year commencing July 28, 1947. Mr. Victor E Lance be chairman. This motion was accepted.

Under Good & Welfare Mr McClure asked for approval of the proposed road sign. They were accepted.

Thomas Colgan reported that the recreation program is functioning very satisfactorily.

It was moved seconded and approved the meeting adjourn.

Signed:
Mary Morley