The regular meeting of the Town Assembly of the Village of Arden was held on June 23, 1969 with Chairman William Press presiding.

Letters from Philip Cohen and Mrs Ralph Ponte were read.

The minutes of the March Town Assembly were read and approved.

The financial report of the Trustees was read and approved and a copy is on file. The Trustees have placed about $45000.00 of the balance in the treasury in U.S. Treasury Bill for 90 day investment. Interest will amount to something under $800 and the money will be withdrawn when tax bills become due.

The Trustees have agreed to spend part of the $33,333.33 that we received from the State Treasurer as reimbursement for constructing our own ~~sey~~ sewer system to putting in a line from Gallagher's to the manhole on the Highway. This line will cost about $4000 and will service Gallagher's, Hamburgers and Richard Lynch. All three leaseholders have agreed to go into the system as soon as it is completed. The County Engineer were given an order to proceed with the work.

The Trustees report was accepted.

Mons. Rossi presented the report of the Board of Assessors. The full rental value of Arden land has been set at 17.68 per thousand square feet for that portion of a lot up to 10000 square feet and 14.07 per thousand square feet for that portion in excess of 10000 sq feet. The common and forest factors developed on percentage method have been returned intact. It is estimated that the above full rental value

will generate about 2000 additional income.

The Assessors increased the percentage applied to values of land at about 10000 per acre to 6.45% from 6.2% in recognition of general increase of cost of living but they ignored extreme interest rates resulting from stringent governmental anti-inflationary measures.

In the discussion that followed the Assessors stated that they could not consider budget figures, because assessment was based on land value and ~~interest~~ what returns you could get on the money if it were invested instead of in land. The Assessors felt that the present interest rate of 8% was very inflationary; therefore they used 6.45% as a compromise figure.

On motion the report of the Board of Assessors was received as read with two nay votes.

Budget Committee. No report.

Civic Committee report by Woodrow Vandever.

The State Highway Committee has not corrected drainage condition at Hillside and Harvey.

Utilities asked to get permission to dig up road.

Most of patching has been done by G. Kershaw at cost of 21.77.51. There is still a few areas to be corrected.

Civic Committee wanted to install ditches and resurface Hillside from Harvey to Millers but the bid was 580450 and the money is not available.

Abid to install 2 hatch basins, gutter down

Woodland Lane for 300 feet and 250 feet of pipe into woods near Frank Stephen. Memorial will be done as soon as Street and Fund is available.

There is a lot of dead Trees in Sherwood Forest that must be removed and we had a low bid of $600. for the work which will be done soon.

Overgrown corners will be trimmed back soon.

The Civic Committee received Earl Brooks resignation because he will be away from Arden for one year.

Mr Brooks had been a very active member of the Committee and they were sorry to lose his help. The Committee suggest that Warren Hoffman who received the next highest number of votes at the March election be elected to finish Mr Brooks term. The election will come under New Business.

The report on motion was accepted.

Janet Button reported that a group of boys got together and cleaned up the area of the green around the swings. Although the older children are using the swings in the evening she feels that they should not be denied the use of the area. Mrs Baker advisor to the Teen Sled of the Arden Club said that she would ask the older children not to throw the swing chains over the cross bars to shorten them because it is breaking the chains.

Community Planning Committee is planning to develop a nursery to grow their own cherry trees because no commercial source has been located.

The report on motion was accepted.

The Registrating Committee reported 405 voters as of June 23, 1969.

The Advisory Committee considered the proposed widening of Maple Road at its meeting and a question of position developed. Some thought that any widening should be opposed unless fully consented to by the immediate residents and others felt that opposition should be based upon the limit as established be necessary. It was suggested that the matter be discussed at the Town Assembly.

The State Highway department plans have not progressed to the point that they can call a public hearing. The department has been asked to prepare an alternate plan to reduce the size of the median strip, but the left turn lanes at intersections would make the roads at that point wider than the original plan.

Some thought that our roads are growing in terms of what someone thinks is necessary others felt we should study the best alternative to excessive widening. Another view expressed is that we should oppose the widening of the road altogether.

The Advisory Committee report was on motion accepted.

The Safety Committee in compliance with a request from the Advisory Committee contacted Regional Traffic Division of the State Highway department concerning instituting a study to determine if need of a traffic light at Harvey & Orleans Roads. Mr Pasey has not responded to this request yet.

The committee has requested that the Arden Club give a written list of rules concerning activities around the Old Hall. Officer Anderson has been collecting verbal requests in the past.

Traffic control signs will be purchased as soon as money is available.

The report as motion was accepted.

The Auditing Committee circulated its report. The surplus at the end of the year was $11,883. The committee recommended that the balance in the bank which is payable from March when rent are collected till until taxes are due be invested without regard of principal for this period to produce additional income.

The report as motion was accepted.

School Trustees report by Reese Davis. There is the final report of the Arden school as the Mt. Pleasant School District takes over July 1.

New blackboards and folding walls were installed and paths and basketball court were blacktopped.

Dr. Erhard Hoegger will serve for 5 years on the Mt Pleasant School Board. The Mt Pleasant District has indicated that they will continue the practice of renting the school building at a nominal fee to groups.

The area of Sherwood Green to be under the jurisdiction of the School has not been worked out.

The report as motion was accepted.

The Arden Resource Committee will continue its study of zoning in the Arden. Possibility of changing Arden Club program will be discussed soon. The report was accepted.

No report for Arden Committee

Frank Akutowicz reported that Bernard Kleban and he had attended the May 5 meeting of the Highway Committee of Brandywine Council of Civic Associations. Mr. Berwick of the State Highway Department presented the proposed plans. Mr. Richard Bauer, New Castle County Planning Department suggested some revisions. Mr Akutowicz had prepared of four page report and Mr Kleban had prepared a two page report of this meeting.

Both Mr Kleban and Mr Akutowicz spoke out against the proposed plans because they did not think they were suited to the best interest of Arden and surrounding areas. There was debate as to how Mr Akutowicz should be instructed on this subject on future meetings of the Council.

Further discussion was deferred until new business.

Under New Business a motion was made and passed that the Warren Hoffman be elected to complete Earl Brooks term on the Civic Committee as recommended by the Civic Committee.

Mr Akutowicz reported a meeting of the Scholar Gild of July 1, at which time A. Q. Mowbray would discuss his book "The Road to Ruin" a treatise on highway developement in the United States.

A motion was made and passed that William Press Chairman of the Town assembly be empowered to arrange a meeting

of the residents of the Three Arches, to find out how the Communities feel about the proposed widening of Marsh Road. The question concerns all people living along the road and they should be invited to attend.

Some residents felt that traffic has increased to the point that Marsh + Harvey Roads will have to be improved. We are having the pressures and you cannot stop progress.

Others felt that we should gather detail to show why we do not need a super highway along Marsh Road which is essentially a connecting link through a residential area. The best thing to do is oppose any widening or to tell the planners what kind of a road we want.

A motion was made and passed that Mr. Willis Press designate a committee to collect information concerning the proposed widening of Marsh Road.

A motion was made and passed with two negative votes that "The Town Assembly go on record of being unalterably opposed to any widening of Marsh Road for the following reasons.

1- The Town Assembly expressed a lack of confidence in the 1985 Highway Plan for New Castle County because it does not take into account any improvement in a mass transportation system

2- Plans for future land use in the Arden area do not indicate higher density of

population. The communities are already built up.
3- Speed would be the major advantage of a wider road and the community is not willing to sacrifice the existing building setbacks to attain speed.
4- The Town Assembly feels that the area is already well served by the recently opened 1-95.

This last motion was sent in letter to John Volpe Russell Peterson Charles Ellis, Ernest Davidson Louise Conner, Clarence Heckert Herbert Lesher

On motion a letter of sympathy ~~a~~ passing Arden's sorrow is to be sent to Francis Burch on the death of Edna Burch.

The meeting on motion adjourned.

Respectfully submitted

Mary Morley
Secretary