The regular meeting of the Town Assembly was held on June 24, 1968 with Chairman; William Press presiding

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

The financial report of the Trustees was read and a copy is on file. On motion the report was accepted

The Board of Assessors reported the following assessment of Arden land

Rate of $17 per thousand sq. feet for first 10000 square feet plus 13.5 per thousand square feet for the remainder of the lot size.

The special factors were reviewed. The Assessors concluded that only the forests and commons are of sufficient special importance to warrant special consideration. It was decided to apply a percentage to the base rental of lots adjoining the forests or commons. The term adjoining refers to those lots which have any side fronting on the Arden ~~forest~~ forests or on any of the several commons, including cases where there are intervening streets. The following percentages were adopted:

Arden Forest - 8%
Sherwood Forest - 8%
Village Green 5%
Sherwood Green 4%
Meadow Green - include cemetery - 3%
Command Green - between Sweeps
Lower Lane 3%

The surcharge for any lot which has only one side fronting on forest or green but not

completely on that side is to be adjusted by the ratio of the fronting footage to total footage of that side of the lot.

It was pointed out that only one person came to the open meetings of Board of assessors and if there is any question about land assessment protest can be given there.

On motion the Report of the Board of Assessors was accepted.

Budget Committee no report

Civic Committee report given by Chairman Albee Williams.

The town clean up of rubbish netted 22 loads and took several days and more money that expected.

General maintenance of roads, common on forest has been carried out. Gene Shaw will remove several dead trees in the Arden Forest. Work is being done to repair Neodan Lane bridge - It is hoped to build an attractive stone guard rail and the road bed will be widened. Work will be done on the Frank Stephens Memorial Theatre.

Barbara Kerr called the Civic Committees attention to code on air pollution and burning debris in the woods; on motion the report was accepted.

Community Planning Committee report submitted in writing by Frank Akutowicz for the Committee

Cherry trees on green need replacement.

Committee opposes parking on the greens in any area.

Committee request that residents trim back growths obstructing the corners

Arden School - use of the building may be a problem when the school is consolidated

with the Mount Pleasant district.

Following information was obtained on June 25 from Mr. Charles Guernsey New Castle County Dept. of Licenses and Development.

There is no law requiring owners of existing houses to connect to a public sewer. But if a violation exist such as overflowing septic tank then the police power of NCC Plumbing Code can be used to enforce a correction. To conform to Plumbing Code the owner must either connect to public sewer or construct an approved disposal field. If within 200 feet of sewer then it is required to connect. Mr. Charles Guernsey will come personally to explain details if necessary.

Noamans Creek "Correction" contract was made with Mr Willard Munnes, NCC Drainage Engineer.

Plans are being made tentatively to make changes in Noamans creek to help control flooding. Project has to be approved by Federal Soil Conservation Service but they have not studied the project yet. Committee report on motion accepted.

A motion was made and passed to ask Frank Abatowicz to request that Mr. Willard Munnes, NCC Drainage Engineer, come or send a representative to the September Town assembly to explain details of NCC Capital Improvement program for Noamans Creek at Marsh Road.

The report of the Community Planning Committee was accepted with thanks.

The Registration Committee that Carol Liberman had been informed as Trustee of Arden by referendum

There were 303 ballots cast representing 80% of the 375 eligible voters - 258 ayes, 44 nays and one invalid ballot.

Copies of the act to incorporate the Village of Arden & copy of Study Committee report delivered to every householder. As of June 1 there are 374 eligible voters.

The Auditing Committee circulated its report of the Auditing Treasurer's books. The report as circulated was accepted.

Advisory Committee reported that they had requested that the Trustees form a volunteer committee to determine a means of compiling and preserving the historical records of Arden and make plans to have a history of Arden prepared.

A motion was made and passed to instruct the Budget Committee to include up to $100 in the Budget to pay for the expenses of the compilation of the historical records of Arden.

Mr Frank Herzog suggested that Dr Richard Williams of the Hagley Foundation could be of help in giving suggestions on how to proceed with the project. The Trustees are to be asked to contact Dr Richard Williams.

Safety Committee report - a letter was sent to the residents outlining the problem of vandalism and public nuisance raised at the March Town Assembly. Parents were urged to provide necessary control of their children. Copies of the letter were given to Academy for distribution.

Acting on recommendation of the Trustees Mr Glen Streeney was paid $75 for vacation time not taken while he was an Arden policeman.

The Safety Committee recommends the purchase of a two-way radio which would permit Officer Anderson to connect with State or County Police. The total cost would be $505.00. Needed street signs will be ordered when money is available from Municipal Street and Fund in August.

The report of the Safety Committee was accepted.

Brandywine Council of Civic Association report submitted in writing by Frank Akutowicz. A new procedure has been devised by the Council for discussing highway plans with the State Highway Department before public hearings are held. The main purpose is mechanism for ~~ex~~ constructive exchange of views concerning propose road changes.

Each Civic Association is allowed two representatives (called Directors) who are also expected to attend quarterly meetings of the Council. A vacancy exists for second representative of the Village of Arden.

The report of the representative to the BCCA was on motion accepted.

A motion was made and passed that the Chairman of the Town Assembly appoint a representative to the Brandywine Council of Civic Association.

School Trustees were asked what use could be made of school building when schools consolidated. The building belongs to the State School Board and as of July 1, 1969 control of building changes to the Mt Pleasant district. There is some possibility that the building will be used as a kindergarten.

Arden Neighbors was discussed and Leon Tonge made a motion that the assets of the committee be turned over to the Merry-go-Rounders and that the functions of the Arden Neighbors Committee be merged with the Merry-Go Rounders.

There was some discussion that the Merry-Go Rounders - a private group may not be willing to take on the work of the Arden Neighbors - a Town Assembly Committee.

Pat Liberman felt that the remaining members of the committee should be consulted to find out if the duties of the committee might be enlarged to act as a welcoming committee to newcomers in the community.

The motion was tabled.

The final reading of Ordinance #2 - an ordinance to amend the Arden Safety Code to comply with the act to incorporate Arden was on motion accepted.

The second reading of Ordinance 3 - an ordinance providing for the transfer of responsibility for certain local services functions (as such term is defined in Title 9 Delaware Code Section 1102) from the Village of Arden to New Castle County) was read and the second reading on motion was approved.

Under Youth Welfare Mr Lew Tanzer presented a written report concerning what he felt was an undesirable trend in the Arden. He outlined
1. loss of fine citizens through death or emigration
2. Loss of many girls in Arden Club
3. Robin Hood theater is closed
4. Summer residents do not come down anymore
5. Many other losses also.

He wondered if we should not have a legislative committee to inform community on pending legislation in Dover or in the County - possibly also Federal. Duty might also be to draw up bills that would help the Arden. Committee should be aware of existing services that Arden could use.

Study use of Arden school; Consider trend to overcrowding of lots; encourage sewer systems in Ardentown and Ardencroft;

The following motion was made and passed

"A committee be formed ultimately consisting of the following members:

Five members at large from each of the three Ardens
All Trustees of the three Ardens
Three members from the Arden Club
One member from the School Board.

"This Committee shall be requested to present to the Arden Communities after a period of study a series of recommendations on how to attract people of substance (not necessarily money) who will intend to make their roots in our community and serve it well. Furthermore, this committee shall issue the first of its reports no later than January 1969.

The mechanics of carrying out the motion is as follows.

Chairman of the Town Assembly appoint five members at-large from Arden. They along with Arden Trustees will invite members from Ardentown Ardencroft Arden Club and Arden School Board to select ~~to~~ their delegates for the committee.

The meeting on motion adjourned.

Respectfully submitted

Mary Mosley
Secretary