The regular meeting of the Town Assembly of the Village of Arden was held on June 26, 1978 with Chairman, Thomas E. Colgan presiding.

As required by Senate Bill No. 256 the following is the list of the attenders at this meeting:

Mary Morley	C.W. Von Dreele	Mary E. Bradford
Beatrice Jaffe	Thomas E. Colgan	Reese David
E. Shaw	Pat Renzetti	Arlene Davis
Barbara Fenske	Kathleen W. Worth	Frank Heymann
Irene Heymann	W. E.Davis	B.A. Passanante
H. R. Monfort	Ethel Monfort	Donald E. Plorde
Lee Starr	Michael K. Curtis	Charles Turner(n. V.)
Bertha W. Brooks	Alton Dahl	Hadassah Roberts
Houston Roberts	Aaron Hamburger	Molca Budin
John D. Hewlett	Isabel Varley(Guest)	Beverly A. Barnett
Carolyn Liberman	John Grimaldi	Arlene Bindloss
Cy Liberman	Mary Kumme	Penny Payne
Bill Morley	Sarah Hamburger	Joad Kazan
Ruth Estes	F. Herzog	Paul Thompson
Joan W. Colgan	Mary Jane Jackson	Marianne Cinaglia
Elizabeth Varley	Thomas Stapleford	Dora Johnson
Richard Lebeis(guest)	Andy Lebeis (guest)	Marjorie Laskey
Ruth Panella	Sam Pannella	Rae Gerstine

The minutes of the March 27 meeting were approved as circulated.

A letter was read from Edith Brooks acknowleging the Town Assembly's tribute to Earl Brooks.

A letter was received from Frank Heymann concerning a proposed polcy for the playgrounds. It will be considered under new business.

A motion was made and passed unanimously to suspend the order of business to allow the Registration Committee to conduct the election of one member of the Budget Committee.

Nominees were William Bailey, Gary Jones and Donald E. Plorde. The Registration Committee reported that Donald Plorde had been elected.

Trustees report by Cy Liberman. The Finacial report was circulated and a copy is on file. Mr. Liberman reported that the County and School taxes will be about$19,000. more than the amount budgeted because the County Tax is now .675 and School tax is $1.97 plus .0537 for vocational schools and crossing guards totalling 2.0237 per $100 valuation. We will not have to pay the $15,000. sewer fee; therefore, it can be spent for Town trash collection as approved in the budget. The report on motion received.

Assesors report was circulated and questions on it answered by Carl Von Dreele, Chairman. The Board of Assessors decided to continues the current rate for the year beginning March 25, 1979. The rates are as follows: First 6,500 square feet $36.90 per 1,000 sq. Ft.
Above 6,500 square feet $22.60 per 1000 sq. ft.

These base rental rates were computed from a return rate of 6% on land values estimated to be $4,000 for 6,500 square feet and $18,000 for one acres.

The base rental rates are modified under the "domicile rule" as follows: "The base rent for any lot which, for the purpose of producing income, contains more than one domicile in the form of separate dwellings or apartments, shall be equal to the rent at the '6,500 sq. ft.' rate times the number of such domiciles, or the rent at the '6,500 sq.ft.' rate for the entire lot, whichever is the lesser. All land in excess of the '6,500 sq.ft.' rate times the number of domiciles shall be subject to the the 'above 6,500 sq.ft. rate'."

Factors to be added to the base rent are as follows:

1. For lots adjacent to the Arden Forest or Sherwood Forest	10%
2. For lots fronting on the Arden Forestor Sherwood Forest (i.e., across an intervening road)	5%
3. For lots adjacent to or fronting on any of the Greens (Village, Sherwood, Meadow, or Communal)	5%
4. For lots being used commercially, either under commercial zoning or as a non-conforming use in a residential area	75%

The factors for any lot which has one side partially adjacent to or fronting on a forest or green shall be adjusted by the ratio of the fronting or adjacent footage to the total footage of that side of the lot.

This rate structure is expected to produce approximately $111 M in rental income.

There were questions as to whether the Assessors really assesed the full rental value and whether $4,000 for 6,500 square feet and $18,000 for one acre is present market value of land.

It was questioned whether the assessment will raise enough money for town expenses, but the Assessors pointed out there is enough money in surplus to cover all budgeted expenses.

A motion was made andpassed unanimously to receive the report of the Board of Assessors.

The report of the Auditing Committee stated that they had received the audit of C. W. Van Dreele, C.P.A. of the fiscal records of both the Trustees of Arden and the Village of Arden, Inc. and after examination of the recipts, land rentals, bills, bank records and other documents have concluded that statements summerized in the reports circulated are accurate. All items for the 1977-78 year were kept within approved budget.

The surplus at year end was $79,785.10. This represents a net income of $30,883.42 because of increase in surplus as follows:

Safety Committee	$1,350.
Trash collection	13,600
Additional Interest	2,500.
Lower taxes	6,000
Lower Administrative expense	1,000
Budgeted Net Income	4,600.

The 75th Anniversary Committee has closed its books after having repaid the loan from the general fund. Additional revenues from sale of memorabilia will credited directly to the general fund.

On motion the report of the AuditingCommittee was accepted unanimously.

Budget Committee report by Paul Thompson. Now that the Legislature passed that all sewer districts are merge into one county district, Arden will not have to pay the sewer assessment; therefore, the Civic Committee can arrange for a town collection of trash. The excess taxes will have to be taken from the surplus, because taxes must be paid. The Budget Committee will prepare the 1979-1980 budget for action at the September meeting.

The report on motion was accepted unanimously.

Civic Committee report presented by Reese Davis;

The committee has had held two open meetings and conducted two tours of roads and woods since March meeting.

The annual trash collection was successfully conducted in May and thanks are in order to Joan Colgan for overseeing the work.

Two quotations were received and the contract awarded to the low bidder, George Kershaw,for road rebuilding as follows:
1. Woodland Lane from Inn Lane to Green Lane, 2 Patches on Orleans Road near Millers, 3Pond Road near Meadow Lane including installation of an underroad drain, 4, Rebuilding 2 catch basins.

Inn Lane between Cherry and Woodland is scheduled for rebuilding unless this meeting is in favor of abandoning this stretch. Unless the Civic Committee is instructed to the contrary, they will proceed with the planned rebuilding.

The Civic Committee has become increasingly alarmed by the large number of excavations made in our streets. Ordinance 6 provided the legal means on controlling this problem, however, the committee was not able to police the work. Therefore, the Committee recently appointed Woodrow Vandever to perform the services of Road Inspector at a fee of $50.00 per month. His duties will be as follows:
1. Strict enforcement of the provisions of Arden Ordinance #6
2. Any necessary follow-up to insure compliance with Ordinance #6. Civic Committee members will be involved should it become necessary to prosecute in Magistrate's court.
3. Maintain a map of Arden marked with the location and responsible party for all excavations.
4. Maintain a continuing list of all road problems that should be brought to the attention of the Civic Committee
5. Submit periodic status report to the Civic Committee
6. Observe the quality of road repair work being performed by town contractors.

The Civic Committee under new business will propose and amendment to Ordinance #6 increasing the fee for a Road Excavation Permit from $5 to $10.

The Civic Committee will undertake the necessary actions including competitive bidding and negatiations to establish a Town-wide Trash Collection. It is doubtful that the service could be started before September 1.

Under new business the Committee will propose appointment of a special committee to oversee, inspect and maintain all playground equipment.

The Federal E.D.A."Drainage and Street Improvement" project is finally moving after many delays and inconveniences, however, it will not be completed by June 27. There are some funds remaining in the Grant and we are negotiating for the rebuilding of the Walnut Lane roadbed.

The report on motion was approved unanimously.

The Community Planning report was presented by Cy Liberman.

The committee met with Norman Wilder, Director of Delaware Nature Education Center, and went through our forests with him. He said that our woods are a rare phenomena as they are virtually the same type of forests found here by the earliest settlers. They are mostly beech and oak trees and we should preserve them. He recommended that all the low brush and undergrowth plus the rotting wood be left as is, because they have their uses in providing habitat for wildlife and preserving the forests. He did not see any objection to removing dead trees for firewood, however.

The Committee cleaned out the Soldiers Memorial on April 1 and a group of volunteersand members of the committee cleaned up the Arden and Sherwood forests. Many bags of litter were collected on April 22.

Anyone interested in a gravesite in the Memorial Garden should get in touch with the committee.

It was suggested that more trash barrels be placed around the greens.

The report on motion was approved unanimously.

The Registration Committee reported 413 voters.

Safety Committee report by Thomas Stapleford.

Committee has held three meeting. A summer caution news letter to be distributed. In spite of directional signs, people are still going in wrong direction on Lower Lane. Cars are being parked too near intersections and the committee will check into this.

The State Highway Department are beginning to work on intersection of Harvey Road and Hillside near Starrs.

The report on motion accepted unanimously.

Buzz Ware Village Center Committee report by Marjorie van Gulick presented by Aaron Hamburger.

They are having two free concerts in the Center on July 16-Judy Kay and Friends in a Jazz Concert and July 30-Maggie Teel in a Chamber Concert.

ACRA has purchased a kiln which will be installed in the boiler room of BWVC. The Committee hopes that others will use it during the year.

Vandalism to the playground is of concern to the Committee as well as to the Safety and Civic Committees. Residents are urged to keep a watchful eye on the area and report anything that seems out of line.

Wilmington Montessori Association is considering building an outside storage area behind the teacher's restroom. This was approved at the January 24, 1977 Town Assembly. Acting in accordance with this motion,

the Committee is working with the Montessori Asso. on the plan and will supervise the construction details. The work will be financed by the Wilmington Montessori Association..

The Spring Three Ardens Lawn Sale coordinated by Andrew Foote was successful.

Plans are being made for the Christmas Bazaar. Report was accepted.

The Ardens are no longer being represented by a school trustee, but it is hoped that the residents will continue the active participation in school matter.

The Arden Art Acquisition Committee, Chairperson, George Kazan read the letter that is to be circulated in the three Ardens concerning their plans to try to acquire on original work by Charles Vinson as a first step in the establishment of a permanent collection of works by Arden artists. They outlined the difficulties they will face, but urge that residents contribute generously to this effort. This effort was undertaken at the request of the Town Assembly as a tribute to Charles Vinson and to other artist who have enriched the life of all in Arden.

The first reading of a proposed amendment to Ordinance #6-Excavations in Village Roads was presented by Reese Davis.

Section 2. Road Excavation Permit now reads" All excavations in Village roads, regardless of the nature, require prior issuance of a Road Excavation Permit, obtainable from the Village Treasurer with payment of $.00 fee.

This will be changed to read:

Section 2. Road Excavation Permit. All excavations in Village roads, regardless of the nature, require the prior issuance of a Road Excavation Permit, obtainable from the Village Treasurer with payment of a fee to be determined by the Civic Committee with the consent of the Town Assembly.

A motion presented by Reese Davis and seconded reads:

"1. This Town Assembly establish a special "Playground Oversight Committee:

2. Committee shall consist of 3 members appointed on an interim basis by the Town Assembly Chairman to serve until the March 1979 Town Assembly at which time regular elections would be held.

3. Primary functions of this committee are inspection, maintenance and general oversight of town playgounds and playground equipment.

4. A separate item on the Budget should be earmarked for the use of this committee.

This motion was carried unanimously.

Frank Heymann was appointed Chairman of the committee and others will be appointed later.

A resolution was presented to the Town Assembly by Frank Heymann as follows:

" In view of the vital importance of maintaining the safety of playground equipment installed for the use of Arden's children, the Town Assembly of Arden adopts the following policies:

1. All playground equipment shall be inspected at least monthly from May through September and at least bi-monthly from October through April.

2. Defects noted in these inspections or otherwise reported shall be corrected as soon as possible. If any immediately hazardous conditions is found, the equipment shall be barred from use until repaired

3. Appropriate schedules shall be etablished for routine maintenance including lubrication, scraping, painting, etc.

4. Dated records shall be kept of inspections, defects, corrective actions and maintenance.

5. The responsiblity for implementing these policies shall be delegated to the Playgound Oversight Committee, which at its discretion may assign the specific tasks to qualified members or other agents reporting to the committee.

On motion this resolution was passed unanimously.

A resolution was made and passed to express to the families of Charles Vinson, Mildred Gavas and Edwin Woolery the sympathy of the Town Assembly at their passings.

The meeting on motion adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Morley

Mary Morley, Secretary