The regular meeting of the Town Assembly was held on September 23, 1957 with Trustee Ware presiding.

After a quorum was declared present the minutes of the June meeting and the reconvened meeting of July 15 were read and approved.

A letter from Mr. Freeman was read stating that he could not be a nominee for the Board of Assessors this year.

The financial report of the Trustees was read and approved. A copy is on file.

Civic Committee report. Although the complete report on the swimming pool is not ready yet at the present time the deficit is over $1000. The deficit is greater this year because of extensive work done to the pool, need of hiring an extra guard, repairing a leaking wall, need for new equipment and making an addition to the parking lot. The committee has requested that Ardentown help defray this deficit. We have spent a considerable sum removing trees ~~around~~ around the town. Several elms have developed Dutch elm disease and had to be removed and burned immediately. Regular maintenance of the town has been carried out.

Mrs Holden stated the Committee deserves the commendation of the meeting for work well done. The report of the committee was accepted.

Board of Assessors no report.

Budget Committee - report by Carl Van Oreele. The committee estimated an income of 16800 and taxes and administrative expenses of $7100 with a amount of

$9,720 to be budgeted.
Edna Page made a motion that was seconded that the proposed budget of $450 for secretary salary be raised to $600. After some discussion concerning the merit of the increase the motion was carried.
The contribution to OCRA of $200 was questioned as to whether it was properly community. Donald Stephens requested that the Trustees get a lawyer's opinion on this.
The Budget Committee eliminated the expense of $200 for rubbish collection because it did not serve many residents.
A motion was made and passed to allocate $200 for rubbish collection in the proposed budget.
The budget as amended was approved for referendum to be conducted by the Registration Committee.
Community Planning Committee is working on the project of control of Dutch elm disease and the replacement of trees with the Civic Committee.
The Registration Committee checked all qualified voters for the September meeting and found 391 residents qualified to vote.
No report Advisory Committee.
By-Laws Committee reported that in the June meeting a motion was made to change the method of electing the Assessors. The proposed amendment reads as follows:
Amend Article IV Section 3a paragraph 1 to read:
The board of Assessors shall be elected by popular vote. The seven nominees receiving

the highest totals shall be declared elected, and shall hold office for a period of a year or until their successors are elected and qualified.

There was considerable discussion concerning this proposed amendment. Edna Page explained the working of the Hare System of proportional representation. She felt it truly represented a democratic form of election to permit the minority group to elect at least one member.

Mr Harmon felt that the Registration Committee could manipulate the outcome of the voting by method of selecting votes counted.

Mr Ray Lipsteen felt that the majority should control election of Assessors.

Mr Yates and Mr Gladstone spoke on democracy being an expression of the will of the majority and the minority.

A motion was made and passed by a vote of 34 ayes and 23 nays that we retain the Hare system of proportional representation in electing the members of the Board of Assessors.

Mr Seligman pointed out that we had not directly voted upon the report of the By Laws Committee. He therefore made a motion that the By Laws Committee report to amend the method of selection of Board of Assessors be accepted as presented for referendum vote. The motion was defeated by 24 ayes and 31 nays

Water + Sewage Committee reported the petition for a sewage system was being

circulated in the town.
Safety Committee reported that signs that have been ~~[illegible]~~ torn down are being replaced. That hedges obstructing vision at corners are being checked and cut down.

A motion was made and seconded that an appeal to assessment of Arden land by the Assessors to assess the land at $3.85 per 1000 sq feet be presented along with the Assessors' assessment for decision by referendum vote.

The motion was defeated by 14 ayes and 34 nays. The following were nominated to serve on the Board of Assessors to be elected by referendum vote: William Press, Marti Holden, Murray Lapey, Henry Aughey, Bates McClean, Michael Jaffe, Carl Von Drule, Frank Harrison, Morris Rosin, Kurt Seligman, Francis Furman, Lloyd Estes, Olav Vik.

Marti Holden felt that inasmuch as she was a nominee for Assessor she should withdraw as Chairman of the Registration Committee.

A motion was made a passed not to accept Mrs Holden's resignation from the Registration Committee.

Safety Committee is requested to check into the shooting in the Arden forests and to find some way if possible to prevent it.

The meeting on motion adjourned.

Respectfully submitted
Mary Morley Secretary.