

The regular meeting of the Town Assembly of the Village of Arden was held on Monday, September 27, 1971 with Chairman, William Press presiding.

After a quorum was declared present, the minutes of the June, 1971 meeting were read. The financing for 50 % of the Tot lot was by state grant and not by federal grant as recorded. After correction was made the minutes of the June meeting were approved.

A letter from Fred W. Vetter, Secretary of Department of Public Safety was read in which he stated that specialized police services will continue as long as the need exists and other higher priority needs do not require reallocation of this resource.

A letter from the Division of Highways stated that a study is being made of the need for a traffic light at Orleans and Harvey Road.

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

The Auditing Committee circulated copies of its report and after it was studied, the report of the committee was accepted.

Mr. Reese Davis, Chairman of the Civic Committee, presented a graphic display of the needed work on roads in 1972 to 1974 and outlined the work that is being done this year. The roads are in poor shape because of lack of proper drainage, installation of sewers destroyed the road beds. Acting on behalf of the Trustees, the Civic Committee has arranged for the posting of signs in the Arden forests prohibiting gunning and fires except with permission of the Trustees or Civic Committee at designated places. The spring trash collection exhausted the budget; therefore, there will be no collection this fall. The Civic Committee was asked to study the feasibility of blocking Sherwood Road to eliminate the unsafe conditions caused by violations of the one way street. The committee recommends that it not be blocked because it would eliminate an important access road. The suggestion was made that the Safety Committee arrange to have the existing traffic regulation enforced. The report of the Civic Committee on motion was accepted.

Registration Committee reported 405 voters.

No report from the Board of Assessors.

The Budget Committee circulated copies of its proposed budget for 1972-1973. Estimated income was \$72,816 and taxes and administrative expenses totalled \$54,963. Funds available for budgeting were \$17,853. The amount budgeted was \$21,810. The Deficit of \$3,957. will be drawn from reserve if necessary. The report of the Budget Committee was accepted by the Town Assembly and it will be sent to referendum for acceptance or rejection by the majority of the residents.

Safety Committee report by Richard Lynch, Chairman. The check with the police indicates that there is a great deal of activity by the police in controlling traffic violations and activities on the greens. There is a feeling that there is an improved relationship between the young people and the police. The police do report that residents do not report observed violations promptly enough. The erection of traffic signs has been neglected, but the committee hopes to have them up in the near future. Any change in general policy about safety matters has to come from the Town Assembly.

The Safety Committee has been asked to check what fines have been paid for traffic violations and where Arden's share of the fines are. It was reported that some of the buses operated by DART and buses of the Mt. Pleasant School district exceed the speed limits on the Harvey Road and on the Arden roads. The Safety Committee has been asked to write concerning these violations.

Community Planning Committee report made by Frank Akutowicz. He pointed out that there can not be any outside burning in Delaware; therefore, it will be necessary to compost leaves, etc. Within a year the organic matter will have decayed enough to be used like peat moss. Nitrogen fertilizer will hasten decomposition. The Community Planning Committee is trying to have Arden placed on the National Historic Site Registry. They have not made the study of off-street parking yet. There has been some dredging in Naamans Creek, but there has been a hold up of funds.

Aaron Hamburger reported that almost all of the items had been covered by the committee reports that had been discussed in the Advisory Committee. The new state law concerning the use of voting machines for all elections seems to apply to Arden. Action will be taken under new business on this matter. It is possible that Arden might get a reduction in county taxes if we can prove that the Village of Arden has expended money for parks, roads, etc. since January 1, 1967. A motion was made and passed that the Chairman of the Town Assembly appoint a Tax Relief Committee to present our case to the county before January 1, 1972. The report of the committee was accepted.

Committee on Assistance Programs will check Senate Bill 276 on Scenic Rivers.

The Archives Committee has received very valuable material on the history of Arden donated by the estate of Donald Stephens. This is being organized by the Delaware Historical Society.

Arden Resources Committee reported that most of work has been with the Arden Club and this year the Arden Fair involved more Arden residents including young people than ever. This recruitment program should be used to get our entire community involved in town affairs. We should be considering the possibility of acquiring the Arden school building. Plans are being made to add to the Arden club; so that more activities can be planned. The youth program in the club has been successful.

No report from the Special Harvey Road Committee.

The Council of Civic Organizations of Brandywine Hundred is studying the proposed 44 foot curb to curb located in a 80 foot right of way that the State Highway Department would like to design for Grubb Road between Naamans and Foulk Roads. They are trying to get a clarification of what plans are being made for the road from Foulk to I-95.

Under New Business the following were nominated to serve on the Board of Assessors. Frank Akutowicz, Morris Rosin, Shaul Gladstone, Michael Curtis, Warren Davis, Harold Monfort, Carl Von Dreele, Bernard Brachman, Deborah Colgan, Frank Herzog, Aaron Hamburger, Martin Levy, Warren Hoffman, Henry Aughey, Dora Johnson, June Kleban. The Board of Assessors is elected at November referendum by proportional representation.

Carolyn Liberman reported on the new law requiring the use of voting machines. The law is now part of the Delaware Code (Title XV- Section 5004) and reads: "Voting machines shall be used throughout this state in all primary, general and special elections and in all municipal elections in incorporated cities and towns in this state."

She discussed the matter with Representative Clarice Heckert who was willing to present a petition that Arden be exempt from the law or that she introduce an amendment to the law in January that would exempt us and other communities that qualified.

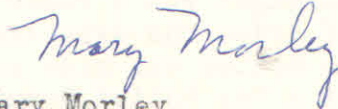
The following motion was passed unanimously: "That the Village of Arden request our State Representative, Mrs. Clarice Heckert, to introduce to the General Assembly an amendment to Title XV, Section 5004 of the Delaware Code, to exempt from the provisions of the section any incorporated towns and/or villages which:

1. Conduct elections by a system of Proportional Representation
2. And/or have fewer than 750 voters.

Cy Liberman stated that he wanted to congratulate the Town Assembly for conducting the town business in such a workable manner.

The meeting on motion adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Mary Morley
Secretary