The regular meeting of the Town Assembly was held on January 27, 1975 in the Gild Hall with Chairman, William Press presiding.

The minutes of the September meeting were distributed and on motion received.

A note was received from Philip Cohen thanking the village for sending him flowers and cards when he was ill.

Barbara Fenske sent a letter resigning from the Civic Committee.

The Trustees had prepared a financial report comparing the budget for the full year with the actual expenditures for the first 3/4 of the year. The comparison shows that the county and school taxes due October 1, 1974 were underestimated in the budget. The Trustees cash position should be sufficient to pay bills for the final quarter. Ten leaseholders are late in paying land rent for current fiscal year and they owe a total of $2,556.23. The Trustees thanked Barbara Fenske for circulating their report to all the residents. The report of the Trustees was accepted.

The Civic Committee report was presented by Warren Hoffman.

The committee had three meeting since September including an open meeting. The road work was completed, road signs are being replaced and the commons maintained. The plans for the road work will start soon.

Snow removal has been contracted for the winter season. We pay a retainer of $400. Hourly plowing and sanding fees are applied to this figure. To minimize costs, less sand will be applied than in the past. Sand barrels have been placed at several bad intersections.

The committee requests that any questions about the work being done be directed to the Chairman or a member of the committee or to Mary Morley, who will contact the responsible committee member. Please do not interfere with workmen. They have been instructed to refer all questions to the Civic Committee.

The report on motion was accepted.

There was no report from Assessors, Auditing Committee or Budget Committee.

The Registration Committee report by Katherine Ringer reported that all items of the Budget passed at the November referendum. The following were elected as Assessors: Carl Von Dreele, Shaul Gladstone, Harold Monfort, Jane Aughey, Aaron Hamburger, Cheryl Jones and Bernard Brachman.

The Community Planning Committee report was given by Frank Akutowicz.

1. Arden Book sales are progressing.
2. They are having a tree planting day on March 15 on the Sherwood Green. All residents of all ages are invited to participate. They hope to plant a number of trees, including some Arden Holly.
3. This is a good time of year to pick up littering on the road in front of your leaseholds.
4. The Memorial Garden Fund is growing satisfactorily.

5. They have learned of a new Federal Grant program that Arden might be eligible for. It comes from the Department of Housing and Urban Development and concerns such themes as historic preservation, recreation, conservation. Mr. Michael Thompson from the State Planning office in Dover is available to come to Arden on February 10 to explain the program. Under new business, a motion will be made to hold a special town meeting on that date. The Committees report on motion accepted.

Buzz Ware Village Center report by William Morley: Activities continue most evenings at the center. Penny Colgan has been arranging many special events. David Adkins is keeping the records and Beatrice Jaffe taking care of scheduling. The meeting room on the stage area is progressing. The floor has been refinished and the area painted. Some new furniture has been installed. The long range major maintenance fund has reached approximately $4000. There has been vandalism to windows and lights. The report on motion accepted.

Advisory Committee will present the list of nominees for the standing committees and town officers under new business. The committee discussed ways of making it easier to participate in committees by suggesting an open meeting of most of the committees before each Town Assembly. A motion will be presented under new business. Our balloting practice of marking all incumbents with an asterisk was discussed at length and a motion will be introduced under new business. Report on motion accepted.

Hugh Roberts attended the recent meeting of the Delaware League of Local Governments in Dover to determine whether we should continue to pay our dues and attend. He felt that it is valuable if someone attends regularly and follows the actions suggested. His recommendation that we retain our membership at the cost of $120. per year was accepted.

No report on Arden Archives.

Old business: The Community Planning Committee recommends that we pay $10.00 institutional membership fee yearly to the Delaware Historical Society. The recommendation was adopted.

Mrs. Liberman reported to the Town Assembly about a meeting held with Mr. Edward Biegel, Postmaster of the Wilmington Post Office, Mrs. Joan Colgan and Mr. Frank Aukutowicz where they discussed the possibility of a postal sub-station for Arden. Mrs. Richard Sutton was interested in providing the space and operating the sub-station. We could purchase stamps, mail packages, etc.

The following motion was made and passed unanimously:

"That the Town Assembly requests that the Secretary write a letter to Mr. Edward Biegel, Postmaster, stating that the Town Assembly is interested in pursing the establishment of a post office sub-station in Arden."

The Safety Committee report was presented by Thomas Colgan.
1. The committee has had two meetings since the last Town Assembly. The meeting on January 14 was an open one.
2. To date 17 tickets have been issued and 14 tickets honored. $59 has been collected in fines.
3. Overnight parking in front of the village center will not be permitted.
The committee conducted a patrol of the community during Halloween week with help of volunteers.

The committee appreciates residents who report infractions of the safety code to committee members. They have taken action when they have permission to use witnesses' names when necessary to resolve the cases.

The committee is proposing the adoption of an Arden ordinance governing the firing of guns or other explosive devices in the village. An incident of a non-resident shooting a gun in the Arden woods points out the importance of such an ordinance. Suggestions were made that we post the woods against shooting and hunting. It has been reported that Green Lane is being used as a parking area.

The report of the Safety Committee was approved.

Under new business the Advisory Committee nominated the following for the vacancy on the Civic Committee: Gary Jones and Elizabeth Wood. Kathleen Worth and Frank Herzog were nominated from the floor.

While the Registration Committee was counting the ballots our new state representative Gwen Smith was introduced. She said that she wanted to help the village in any way possible and asked that she be contacted. She was asked about the salary raise pledged to the teachers, but she said that the information had not been voted out of committee. She was working to have the bill brought for action, but was not sure she would be successful. She also said that she would follow the Municipal Street Aid bill and let us know what was happening.

The Registration Committee reported that Elizabeth Wood was elected to serve on the Civic Committee completing Barbara Penske's unexpired term.

The Advisory Committee presented the nominees for the standing committees. Nominations were also made from the floor.


Community Planning Committee: Frank Akutowicz, Marianne Cinaglia, Barbara Penske who declined, Irene Heymann, Cy Liberman, Ethel Monfort. Nominated from the floor Mary Burslem and Edith Ware.

Registration Committee: Deborah Colgan, Sarah Hamburger, George Macklem, Virginia Shaw, Marjorie van Gulick, Kathleen Worth. Nominated from the floor: Helen Von Dreele.

Safety Committee: Thomas Colgan, Shaul Gladstone, Cheryl Jones, Marcia Jones, Harold Monfort, Joseph Naff.

Buzz Ware Village Center Committee: David Atkins, Penny Colgan who declined, Alton Dahl, Beatrice Jaffe, Irene O'Connor, Marjorie van Gulick. Nominated from the floor: Andrew Burslem.

Chairman of Town Assembly: Harold Monfort and William Press who declined. Nominated from the floor: Thomas Colgan, Michael Curtis, Cy Liberman, Temma Tanzer who was not present and would have to be asked.

Advisory Committee Chairman: Aaron Hamburger and Carolyn Liberman.
The Advisory Committee presented the following motion:

Resolved that the Civic, Community Planning, Safety and Buzz Ware Village Center committees conduct a meeting preceding each regular Town Assembly. The meetings must be publicized and be held on different evenings in a public place. The motion carried.

The following motion was made "That the asterisk that designates the incumbents on nomination and election ballots be eliminated."

During the discussion some felt that the marking of those on the committees can influence the voting and make it difficult for new nominees to be elected. Others said people wanted to know who had been active on the committees.

An amendment to the motion was made and seconded that the list of nominees be included on the March Town Assembly meeting notices and that the incumbents be designated by an asterisk. The amendment carried by a vote of 27 ayes to 24 nays.

A vote was then held on the original motion and it was carried by a vote of 35 to 18 nays.

A motion was made by the Community Planning committee that an adjourned meeting of the January 27 Town Assembly be held on Tuesday, February 11, 1975 for the purpose of discussing and formulating a plan for applying for a grant under the Federal Housing and Community Development Act with the state Planning Office. The motion was carried.

A motion that the Town Assembly authorize the expenditure out of administrative expense up to forty dollars for the expenses of the block receptions held by the Registration Committee. Motion carried.

The Safety Committee proposed the following ordinance:

Arden Ordinance-7

Title: Discharging rifle, etc. or other explosives.

1. No person shall fire or discharge within or into the Village of Arden any rifle, gun, pistol, revolver or other appliance, whether projecting or exploding, or any explosive substance. The provisions of this ordinance shall not apply to Peace Officers in the regular discharge of their duties.

2. Violators shall be fined a minimum of $25.00 and a maximum of $100.00.

The first reading was accepted with the following amendment:

3. Copies of this ordinance shall be posted in public places within the village.

The meeting on motion adjourned to meet on February 11, 1975.

Mary Morley
Secretary