The July 23, 1951 meeting of the Town Council of Arden was held in the Field Hall, Arden, Delaware, with nineteen ward members present.

The minutes of the July 2, 1951 minutes read and approved.

The Treasurer presented a report for period from June 25 to July 22 read and approved.

Civic Committee: The survey is going to be finished and part of the Memorial Arch will be installed. A leak has developed in one of the walls near the dam at the swimming pool. It will be necessary to dig the section rebuilt. The engineers from the State Highway and Mr. White met to discuss the condition of the town and the possibilities of the Treasurer's position.

A tax increase will have to be voted on. The fire tower leading to the Journey Land property will have to be built along with fire hose, but this will have to be put on the budget for next year. The report was accepted.

Assessor: The board of assessors had one dissenting vote agree to raise the base factor from $2.50 per 1000 square feet on the 100-foot lot for year 1952-1953. All other factors are to remain the same. The total increase will be about 15¢ per $1000 for 1952-1953.

Donald Stephens said although he felt the assessors were making an effort to determine the full rental value of the land, they should call in real estate appraisers to assist them. He made a motion to have the Assessors report land as the lot until next meeting and asked that the Assessors get some one of real authority like the Manufactures Apps to appraise the value of the land.
Mr. Stephen cited the fact that Undertown land is assessed at $3.50 per 1000 feet and the assessor does not use the usual accepted summary method of valuation of 2% of the selling price but use an apportionment of 4%.

Mr. Henson discussed the motion. Mr. Frank stated that although assessment of land should not be based on a budget necessitates, it is necessary to consider the budget in the assessment process. Mr. Henson stated that he had studied the system of assessment used in the area and those which are based on actual property and assessed land is assessed at the rate would be as high as 1/3 and 1/4 of the value. The motion was defeated.

Mr. Morley made an appeal to reconsider the base rate to $3.15 per thousand. The appeal was defeated, and a motion to accept the assessors' report was adopted.

Budget Committee and Registration Committee report.

Community Planning Committee: Mr. Angly asked the residents of the town to provide suggestions to the committee. The report was accepted.

Advisory Committee: Mr. Morley reported that Mr. Philip Cook of Undertown had been asked to coordinate all Civilian Defense in the area. The plans are not complete for organizing at this time but there is need for everyone to cooperate with Mr. Cook. Report adopted.
Safety Committee: The speeding and parking conditions seem to be improving. Rep. Frank D. reported on new streetlights installed in various areas. The committee also discussed the need for better signage to alert drivers to school zones.

New business: Rep. John W. reported on the progress of the new playground being built in the district. All agreed that it would be a great addition to the community.

The Registration Committee conducted the election and the Community Planning Committee reported on the progress of the downtown revitalization project. The committee discussed the need for more green spaces in the area and agreed on a plan to create a community garden in the vacant lot next to the community center.

The meeting was adjourned. Respectfully submitted,

[Signature]