

# 2023 – 2024 ARDEN BUDGET Referendum Results

for the expenditure of Town funds for the fiscal year beginning March 25, 2023, and ending March 24, 2024

See accompanying notes to Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Arden Budget Ballot on back of this form.

PROJECTED INCOME			PROJECTED EXPENSES		
	Notes		Non-Discretionary Expenses		Notes
Land Rent	1	\$ 777,000	County Taxes	7	\$ 120,395
Delaware Municipal Street Aid*	2	\$ 18,500	School Taxes	7	\$ 446,619
Interest and Other Income	3	\$ 18,300	Trash Service	8	\$ 69,278
Buzz Ware Village Center	4	\$ 30,900	Trust Administration	9	\$ 28,268
American Rescue Plan Act	5	\$ 219,926	Village Non-Discretionary	10	\$ 60,850
			Buzz Ware Operations	11a	\$ 30,900
			Buzz Ware Renovation Fund	11b	\$ 2,000
			Delaware Municipal Street Aid	12	\$ 18,500
			American Rescue Plan Act	13	\$ 219,926
<b>Total Projected Income</b>		<b>\$ 1,064,626</b>	<b>Total Non-Discretionary Expenses</b>		<b>\$ 996,736</b>
<b>Reserve Funds</b>	6	<b>\$ 180,407</b>	<b>Proposed Discretionary Expenses</b>		<b>\$ 98,100</b>
<b>TOTAL Funds Available</b>		<b>\$ 1,245,033</b>	<b>TOTAL Expenses</b>		<b>\$ 1,094,836</b>

Eligible voters: 359. **181 votes needed to approve an item. 0 items defeated**

**Invalid Budget ballots ..... 4**

**Approve entire budget ..... 189**

**Disapprove entire budget ..... 5**

**Ballots with itemized disapprovals (shown below)..... 34**

	NOTES*		# disapprove / resulting total approval		NOTES*		# disapprove / resulting approval
Advisory Committee	14	\$ 100	2 / 221	Safety Comm: General	23	\$ 3,400	7 / 216
Archives Committee	15	\$ 1,800	7 / 216	Safety: State Roads	24	\$ 1,000	7 / 216
Board of Assessors	16	\$ 100	0 / 223	Buzz Ware Support	25	\$ 5,000	7 / 216
Budget Committee	17	\$ 100	0 / 223	Donations – ACRA	26	\$ 2,000	2 / 221
Civic Committee	18	\$ 58,000	3 / 220	Donations – Arden Page	26	\$ 500	0 / 223
Community Planning Comm	19	\$ 500	0 / 223	Donations – Arden Library	26	\$ 1,200	2 / 221
Forest Committee	20	\$ 8,000	5 / 218	Donations – Fire Co's	26	\$ 1,600	2 / 221
Playground Committee	21	\$ 4,000	15 / 208	Donations – Arden Club	26	\$ 500	4 / 219
Registration Committee	22	\$ 300	0 / 223	Contingencies	27	\$ 10,000	9 / 214

**TOTAL PROPOSED BUDGET EXPENSES: \$ 98,100**

**Policies below are for information only. Policy adoption is addressed at town meetings.**

1. The total approved expenditure limits the fiscal year (FY) expenditure to that amount unless additional funds are approved by referendum. Funds may be shifted between line items with approval of the committees involved and the Town Treasurer.
2. There are funds that are available to the Village and its committees that are outside of the scope of this budget and are governed by policies set up by the Village.
3. Income received by a committee outside of this budget will be earmarked for that committee to spend above the budgeted money approved by referendum. In addition, those monies can be carried over year over year for that committee with approval of the Town Treasurer.

**\*Notes to 2023–2024 ARDEN BUDGET BALLOT • Prepared September 2022**

**INCOME:**

1. **Land Rent** – Based on Assessors' report from June 2022 Town Meeting. Note that Trustees will transfer money to the town to cover Town's budget.
2. **Delaware Municipal Street Aid** – Annual street aid. The State of Delaware is providing funds for the FY 2024.
3. **Interest and other Income** – Income from the following sources:
  - a. Rights-of-way
    - i. Cable – \$8,600
    - ii. Antenna – \$6,500
  - b. Investment income – \$1,500 (No longer includes investment income from the Schroeder estate).
4. **Buzz Ware Village Center (BVWC)** – Estimated income for 2023/2024 based on projected revenues from rentals, programs, grants, and donations.
5. **American Rescue Plan Act** – Funds received from federal grant to jumpstart the economy after Covid19. Subject to legal restrictions.
6. **Reserve** – Combination of Trustees' Prudent Reserve \$136,362 and Town's Prudent Reserve \$14,045 and accrued capital fund of \$30,000. (Excludes \$8,586 expected Trustee difference between expenditures and revenue).

**NON-DISCRETIONARY EXPENSES:**

7. **Property Taxes** –The New Castle County property and school taxes are grossed up to include rebates paid to qualifying leaseholders.
8. **Trash/Recycle Service** – 3-year contract with Trash Tech includes a 3% annual increase.
9. **Trust Administration**
  - a. Audit – \$5,483
  - b. Professional/Legal – \$6,542
  - c. Administrative/Operations – \$13,771
  - d. Office Rent – \$2,472
10. **Village Non-Discretionary Expenses**
  - a. Operation and Legal Fees – \$27,250
  - b. Insurance – \$12,900 (Trust and Village)
  - c. Salaries - \$18,150 (Secretary, Treasurer, and Bookkeeper)
  - d. Payroll taxes – \$2,550
11. **Buzz Ware Village Center**
  - a. **Operations** – Estimated expenses for operating the facility and running programs. This entry includes all utilities, payroll, licenses and fees to operate the building. Entry does not include insurance expenses for operating and maintaining the facilities (note 10).
  - b. **Renovation Fund** from Arden of \$2,000 matches other villages' recent annual contributions.

12. **Delaware Municipal Street Aid (MSA)**– Annual street aid is decided in the actual fiscal year, so this is an estimate. MSA is a pass-through expense and the village will spend only what the state provides.
13. **American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)** – Some expenditures have been approved in the 2022-2023 fiscal year. Additional expenditures will be subject to approval at town meeting in accordance with the guidelines for the ARPA program. Not to exceed remaining balance.

**DISCRETIONARY BUDGET EXPENSES:**

**NOTE:** Committee budgets remain at 2022-2023 levels:

14. **Advisory Committee**
15. **Archives Committee**
16. **Board of Assessors**
17. **Budget Committee**
18. **Civic Committee**
19. **Community Planning Committee**
20. **Forest Committee**
21. **Playground Committee**
22. **Registration Committee**
23. **Safety Committee**
24. **Safety: State Roads** – Signage, upkeep, and speed enforcement on Harvey and Marsh
25. **Buzz Ware Support**  
Village support for BVWC based on prior years' experience in Maintenance & Operations. These funds would only be used in case of budget income shortfall from rentals.
26. **Town Expenses**
  - a. ACRA Donations
  - b. Arden Page Donations
  - c. Arden Library Donation
  - d. Fire Companies Donation
  - e. Arden Club Donation
27. **Contingencies** – This is a pass-through expense, it is not funded using money collected for land rent. Expenses occur only when the contingency fund is not fully funded.

**Election conducted Tues, Nov. 8, 2022**

Arden Registration Committee  
Elizabeth Varley, chief elector