

ARDEN BUDGET 3-YEAR FINANCIAL FORECAST 2027-2030

NOTES		2025-2026	2026-2027	2027-2028	2028-2029	2029-2030
		Approved Budget	Approved Budget	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast
	TRUSTEE'S NON-DISCRETIONARY EXPENSES					
1	Property Taxes					
	County (Property + Crossing Guard + Rebates)	\$124,000	\$126,000	\$92,500	\$95,275	\$98,133
	School (Brandywine + Votech + Rebates)	\$520,000	\$535,000	\$375,000	\$386,250	\$397,838
	Property Tax Reassessment Contingency					
2	Trust Administration (Details below)	\$21,000	\$21,000	\$22,000	\$23,000	\$24,075
	<i>Audit</i>					
	<i>Professional-Legal</i>	\$11,000	\$11,000	\$11,600	\$12,200	\$12,875
	<i>Operations & fees</i>	\$7,600	\$7,600	\$8,000	\$8,400	\$8,800
	<i>Office Rent</i>	\$2,400	\$2,400	\$2,400	\$2,400	\$2,400
	SUBTOTAL TRUSTEE'S NON-DISCRETIONARY EXPENSES	\$665,000	\$682,000	\$489,500	\$504,525	\$520,046
	TOWN NON-DISCRETIONARY EXPENSES					
	Trash/Recycle Service	\$74,655	\$76,895	\$79,201	\$81,578	\$84,025
3	Grasscutting & Related Services		\$18,000	\$18,720	\$19,468	\$20,248
4	Operations & Fees	\$27,250	\$20,894	\$23,025	\$23,716	\$23,341
	<i>Audit</i>					
	Printing, postage, phone, internet	\$3,550	\$3,550	\$4,250	\$4,378	\$4,509
	Insurance	\$15,000	\$15,450	\$16,500	\$16,995	\$17,505
	Municipal Memberships and misc. fees	\$824	\$849	\$875	\$901	\$928
	IT Services	\$1,014	\$1,045	\$1,400	\$1,442	\$1,485
	Legal fees	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$15,000
	State Aid and Grants					
	Municipal Street Aid	\$18,150	\$18,100	\$17,400	\$17,400	\$17,400
	Town Expenses					
	Secretary	\$5,725	\$5,725	\$5,725	\$5,725	\$5,725
	Treasurer	\$5,725	\$5,725	\$5,725	\$5,725	\$5,725
	Bookkeeping and Payroll Tax Services	\$6,901	\$7,108	\$9,000	\$9,270	\$9,548
	Town Payroll Taxes	\$2,550	\$2,550	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000
5	Buzz Ware Village Center Operations	\$44,750	\$46,093	\$47,475	\$48,900	\$50,367
6	Buzz Ware Village Center Commitment	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000
	SUBTOTAL TOWN NON-DISCRETIONARY EXPENSES	\$202,706	\$218,090	\$225,271	\$230,782	\$235,379
	TOWN DISCRETIONARY EXPENSES					
	Advisory	\$125	\$127	\$129	\$131	\$133
	Archives	\$2,200	\$2,233	\$2,266	\$2,300	\$2,334
	Archives-Website Hosting & Maintenance		\$500	\$500		
	Assessors	\$125	\$127	\$129	\$131	\$133

	Budget	\$125	\$127	\$129	\$131	\$133
7	Buzz Ware Village Center Support	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000
	Civic Committee	\$28,000	\$44,000	\$44,660	\$45,330	\$46,010
	Community Planning	\$700	\$711	\$722	\$733	\$744
	Forests	\$9,200	\$9,338	\$9,478	\$9,620	\$9,764
	Playground	\$4,750	\$4,821	\$4,893	\$4,966	\$5,040
8	Registration	\$450	\$457	\$2,339	\$2,374	\$2,410
	Registration Enhanced Communication	\$800	\$875			
	Registration Electronic Voting System		\$10,000			
	Safety - General	\$4,200	\$4,263	\$4,327	\$4,392	\$4,458
	Safety - Speed Enforcement	\$1,200	\$1,218	\$1,236	\$1,255	\$1,274
	ACRA Donation	\$2,200	\$2,200	\$2,200	\$2,200	\$2,200
	Arden Page Donation	\$750	\$750	\$750	\$750	\$750
	Arden Library Donation	\$1,375	\$1,375	\$1,375	\$1,375	\$1,375.00
	Fire Companies Donation	\$1,750	\$1,750	\$1,750	\$1,750	\$1,750.00
	Arden Club Donation	\$600	\$600	\$600	\$600	\$600.00
9	Contingencies	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000
	SUBTOTAL TOWN DISCRETIONARY EXPENSES	\$73,550	\$100,472	\$92,483	\$93,038	\$94,108
10	American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)	\$219,926	\$219,926			
	TOTAL TOWN EXPENSES	\$496,182	\$538,488	\$317,754	\$323,820	\$329,487
	TOTAL TRUSTEE & TOWN EXPENSES	\$1,161,182	\$1,220,488	\$807,254	\$828,345	\$849,533
	Expected Offsetting Income					
	Municipal Street Aid	\$18,150	\$18,000	\$17,400	\$17,400	\$17,400
5	Buzz Ware Village Center Operations	\$45,000	\$46,093	\$47,475	\$48,900	\$50,367
10	American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)	\$219,926	\$219,926			
	Other Town Income					
	Interest and Other Income	\$18,300	\$18,300	\$18,300	\$18,300	\$18,300
	TOTAL Offsetting Income	\$301,376	\$302,319	\$83,175	\$84,600	\$86,067
	Additional income required	\$859,806	\$918,169	\$724,079	\$743,745	\$763,466
	Place-holder budget item					
	Town Legal Expenses	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$15,000
9	Contingencies	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000
7	Buzz Ware Village Center Support	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000
	Total Place-holder budget item	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$30,000
	Final Deficit	\$829,806	\$888,169	\$694,079	\$713,745	\$733,466

NOTES: 3-Year Financial Forecast 2027-2028

1. Property Taxes: County Taxes – New Castle County taxes paid in 2025 following the NCC property tax reassessment were much lower than anticipated. School Taxes charged in conjunction with the property taxes were also much less than anticipated. The full approved referendum increase of \$.45/\$100 of assessed value was charged in school taxes paid in 2025. **NOTE:** The New Castle County property and school taxes are grossed up to include rebates paid to qualifying leaseholders.
2. Trustee's Administration expense estimate.
3. Grasscutting & Related Services - Expense of this annual contract was transferred from Civic Committee to non-discretionary town expenses beginning with FY2026-2027.
4. Operations and Fees have been updated since 2023 to include IT services & municipal memberships.
5. BWVC Operations – Estimated expenses for operating the facility and running programs include all utilities, payroll, licenses and fees. Insurance expenses for operating and maintaining the facilities are included in town non-discretionary expenses.
6. BWVC Commitment - \$2,000 from Arden matches other villages' recent annual contributions.
7. Buzz Ware Support – Village support for BWVC is based on prior years' experience in Maintenance & Operations. These funds would only be used in case of budget income shortfall from rentals.
8. Registration – Enhanced communications and electronic voting system software upgrades and technical support are rolled into this committee's general budget allotment for 2027-2028.
9. Contingencies remain fully funded with no need to collect additional funds until money is spent.
10. Funds from the American Rescue Act: All funds must be spent by December 31, 2026. Any residual amount is returned to the funding agency. This line item will not appear on future projections.