

OTHER BUSINESS (continued):

Thereupon, Councilman Falkoski set forth the motion, seconded by Councilman Guis, to approve the following resolution:

- 16) Authorizing Mayor Budesheim to sign a contract with TCR. Terms shall be for TCR to purchase 90,000 gallons sewer capacity from the Pequannock River Basin Regional Sewage Authority at a price of \$40.00 per gallon = \$3,600,000.00 plus additional 5% (\$180,000.00) = \$3,780,000.00. No additional conditions will apply.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Astarita, Carelli, Guis, Wetzal, Falkoski
Nays: None
(5 ayes – 0 nays – motion carried)

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION NO. 2:

There being no comments, Councilman Falkoski set forth the motion, seconded by Councilman Carelli, that the public portion be closed.

ALL IN FAVOR.

Councilman Falkoski set forth the motion, seconded by Councilman Guis, to designate Charles Quant Sr. as town historian for the Borough of Riverdale.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Astarita, Carelli, Guis, Falkoski
Nays: None
(4 ayes – 0 nays – motion carried)

MAYOR BUDESHEIM MAKES PRESENTATION TO MERCEDES SWANSON FOR 20 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE RIVERDALE LIBRARY.

Mayor Budesheim read the following biography into the record:

Mercedes was born Mercedes Annicarelli in Agnone in central Italy. The family decided to move to the United States. After a nine-day voyage, her father and Mercedes, age 3-1/2, and her three sisters arrived in the United States in 1929, just at the start of The Great Depression. At first the family lived with an uncle in Youngstown, Ohio, but soon moved to Gates, Pennsylvania where her father found work in a coal mine. After the mine closed, the family moved to Jersey City and her mother and brothers were able to join them. A talented cobbler, her father opened a small shoe shop. However, there were years of hardship during The Depression while the family struggled to support itself and all the children who could worked to help support the family. Mercedes was always a quick learner. Even though her first language was Italian, and Italian was always spoken in the home, she learned to speak English fluently by the time she started school. Mercedes was an excellent student throughout high school. Her first love, however, was the theater and she excelled in all the shows put on in the high school. In her yearbook was written "Mercedes, Miss America 44, Glamour Girl by Every Score". Mercedes' first job right after high school was as an office messenger in the company where her sister worked as a translator during WW-II. Her next job was as a file clerk at a military office in Exchange Place in Jersey City. Somehow she managed to pay for tap and singing lessons in Manhattan. She was so good that her dance instructor lined up a job for her dancing the chorus at the Empire Theater in Newark. Unfortunately, her family didn't approve and she did not continue. Soon after, she married a sailor who was in the Navy Medical Corp. They moved to his hometown in Minnesota where they shared a home with his parents. Mercedes' first child, Jimmy, was born but she was homesick for New Jersey and they returned in a year or two. Jimmy was followed by Johnny, Ricky,

PRESENTATION TO MERCEDES SWANSON (continued):

Linda, Jerry and Nancy. Shortly after Nancy was born, Mercedes had to take full responsibility for raising her family. Raising six wonderful kids is a real accomplishment. Through a government sponsored work study program she attended Passaic County Community College where she obtained her Associates Degree in Liberal Arts at the age of 60 in 1985. English classes were among her favorite where the head of the Poetry Department dubbed her a true poet. In 1986 she began work at the Borough of Riverdale, transferring to the library in 1987. It was the perfect match for Mercedes' talent working with children and her eye for detail. For 15 years she handled all aspects of library operations at the library at 56 Post Lane in partnership with Director Nancy Steel. Generations of Riverdale children grew up knowing Mercedes as the librarian. When the new municipal library opened in 2002, Mercedes officially joined the staff of the Free Public Library of the Borough of Riverdale and has been running the Technical Services Department ever since. With her knowledge, experience, initiative, dependability and commitment to the library, Mercedes continues making valuable contributions to the library in the community of Riverdale. As she celebrates 20 years of service, we look forward to many more.

Councilwoman Bush assisted Mayor Budesheim in presenting a certificate and gift to Mercedes Swanson and thanked her for her years of service as well as her kindness and cheerfulness.

Mercedes Swanson thanked the Mayor and Council, Library Board of Trustees and Library Directory Abby Sanner for the honor. She stated it has been a privilege working for the Riverdale Public Library and if during that time she influenced some of the youth in Riverdale in their love of reading, she has accomplished something worthwhile. She recalled enjoying many book discussions with Mayor Budesheim's sons. She is especially proud of the new library with all of the technology and thanked the Mayor and Council for making that happen.

ADJOURNMENT:

Councilman Falkoski set forth the motion, seconded by Councilman Guis, to adjourn the meeting.

ALL IN FAVOR.

Adjourned: 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Carol J. Talerico, R.M.C.
Municipal Clerk