

City manager looks back on career

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ment). Still I believe it's an important function. But when I made the change, I really put away the badge."

IN MAKING the switch from police work to public administration, Deadman said he also had some things to learn. "I had to learn the operation of the departments. I had little experience in a lot of procedural things."

Zoning ordinances, parks and recreation and road maintenance were among the things that Deadman had to study up on.

When it came to figuring out special assessments for road paving and sewer projects, Deadman had little time for learning. When he hopped on board, the city council was right in the middle of paving roads and installing sewers.

It was the "people skills" that came easy for Deadman in his new job.

The same skills he acquired as a police officer — helping and work-

ing with people in the community — came in handy as a city manager. "A major segment of the job is finding solutions to the problems of the community," he said.

Thanks to his work experience and education before becoming a public safety officer, the business and financial side of running a city was not a rude awakening, he said. "The financial end was not that difficult to learn. I had taken accounting classes and my general education was business oriented."

HIS BUSINESS acumen comes from his work following high school graduation, when he worked for Copco Steel and Engineering Co. in Detroit. After that, he went to Ford Motor Co. with one thing in mind: to learn about computers.

In those days, Deadman recalls, the only training on computers was available through the companies that manufactured them — IBM, Burroughs, Univac.

Deadman struck a deal with Ford officials, who at the time needed an offset printing press operator for

the afternoon shift. He took the job on the condition that during the day, Ford would send him to the IBM computer school.

"I went to school for about a year," Deadman said. "When I felt confident, I asked for a transfer into the data processing unit. They (Ford) did well by me. They served me well. I learned all the jargon of data processing. It really taught me that things have to be done systematically."

But Deadman still wanted to be a police officer. The problem in the late 1950s was that the Detroit Police Department would not take applicants who did not have 20/20 vision, something Deadman did not have. "Farmington, though, did not have that same restriction," he said.

When he was newly married, Farmington native, moved to the area in 1955, with his eye on becoming a police officer with the local department.

IN 1957, Deadman was hired by Farmington. The department had

been recently converted from a police department to a public safety department, which provided both fire and police protection.

"Like most police officers, I felt the work was intriguing and different. I really enjoyed being a police officer. I've always held a close affection for the work of the department," Deadman said.

As a police officer, Deadman's goal was to eventually become a chief of a larger department.

As a city manager, Deadman isn't looking for a larger community. He said he has watched the community grow up and he's happy to be a part of the growth. "I've not really had any serious desire for another community. I've been treated very well by this community — by the councils and the citizens."

In turn, Deadman has given a lot of time and energy to the community, pulling it through its growing pains to adulthood.

"Most of my time is involved with work. Monday through Friday, from the time I wake up to the time I go

to sleep, really belongs to the town. There are a lot of night meetings. Anyone in this work has to expect that. But I try to limit my weekends to my family. That doesn't always work out," he said.

HIS FAMILY, three grown children — two who live in Arizona, a third in Birmingham — grew up accustomed to Deadman's work schedule, first as a public safety officer then as a city manager.

When he began a career as a public safety officer, Farmington was a community of young married couples with children.

Today, the community includes many older folks — quite a few those young marrieds from a generation earlier. The community also includes some of their children, who have stayed on to raise their families in the community in which they grew up.

The city has gone through a lot of changes. When Deadman took over as city manager, the city's Department of Public Works was poorly

equipped. Today, it's "well-equipped with an adequate work force," in Deadman's view.

The same can be said for the city's Department of Public Safety. It began as a poorly equipped department "that didn't have a real clear direction." Today, "it is second to none for the quality of service, quality of officers and quality training," as Deadman put it.

DEADMAN WATCHED the city grow from gravel to paved roads, from septic tanks to sanitary sewers. And he, like most community members, weathered the move toward consolidation with Farmington Hills.

As Deadman put it: "Farmington, by vote, indicated they liked the intimacy of the community, the public safety concept and the ability to deal directly with the administration. Once consolidation was put aside, we (Farmington and Farmington Hills) continued to work together and we maintained our friendship."

School task force to zero in on the future

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present a list of recommendations on which these changes will affect the district and its future.

"If we are to look beyond the future, we need to be in a dialogue with our community in its many facets," Lewis said.

That's why Lewis is hoping the task force can be comprised of representatives of the cities of Farmington and Farmington Hills, the police and fire departments, and the religious and business communities.

THE TASK force's job, Lewis said, is to determine what kind of school system will meet the changing needs of the community. Although collection of data will be necessary, Lewis said he would also like to collect people's opinions. "What do people have in their minds? What's the nature of the incoming population?"

Armed with a \$5,000 budget, the task force will examine facility needs, review enrollment projections and determine what the community would like to see provided to both students and parents.

The bottom line, according to school officials, is to prepare for the future,

not just react to it or be caught off guard when changes occur.

Specifically, the task force is expected to:

- Develop a list of community needs. The list is expected to reflect the needs, wishes and desires of parents and students. The list should also give an appraisal of the district's future responsibilities.
- Develop enrollment projections and school housing capacities.
- Conduct a thorough examination of changes necessary for programs that reflect concern about total education, not just kindergarten through 12th grade programs. This examination is

expected to include the need for up-graded community education programs, such as job training and re-training, cultural and artistic activities, health, social, nutritional, fitness and athletic services, and activities for the elderly.

TO COMPLETE its responsibilities, the task force will have to investigate the impact of social changes — such as 60 percent of mothers of school-age children holding jobs. Also to be considered is the growing enrollment in early childhood programs and the need for

additional space to accommodate the increase.

"There are different facets of our community that are changing," Lewis said. "We are looking for these representative groups that can give us insight."

Interior secretary will speak in Troy

Donald Hodel, secretary of the U.S. Department of Interior, will speak in Troy Tuesday, Oct. 8 on the nation's natural resource policies.

The Troy Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring Hodel's appearance in cooperation with 14 other local chambers. He will speak at a noon luncheon in the San Marino Club, 1655 E. Big Beaver, Troy. Tickets are \$12.50 per person and should be reserved by Oct. 1. Send checks payable to the Troy Chamber of Commerce, 155 W. Big Beaver, Troy 48064.

Hodel was sworn in as the 45th Secretary of the Interior in February, replacing James Watt. Hodel is a native of Portland, Ore., and earned a BA in government from Harvard University in 1957 and a law degree from Oregon School of Law in 1960.

He served as secretary of the Department of Energy 1982-85 and as under secretary of the Department of Interior 1981-82.

Prior to his government service, Hodel worked in the private sector as president of his own energy consulting firm, administrator of the Bonneville Power Administration and in private law practice.

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REGISTRATION NOTICE FOR CITY ELECTION NOVEMBER 5, 1985

TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF FARMINGTON HILLS, COUNTY OF OAKLAND, STATE OF MICHIGAN

Notice is hereby given that in conformity with the "Michigan Election Law", I, the undersigned Clerk, will upon any day, except Sunday and a legal holiday, the day of any regular or special election or primary election, receive for registration the name of any legal voter in said Township, City or Village not already registered who may APPLY TO ME PERSONALLY for such registration.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT I WILL BE AT MY OFFICE OCTOBER 7, 1985 -- Last Day 8 A.M. TO 5:00 P.M. The 30th day preceding said Election As provided by Section 498, Act No. 116, Public Acts of 1954 As Amended.

For the purposes of REVIEWING the REGISTRATION and REGISTERING such of the qualified electors in said TOWNSHIP, CITY or VILLAGE as SHALL PROPERLY apply therefor.

The name of no person but an ACTUAL RESIDENT of the precinct at the time of registration and entitled under the Constitution, if remaining such resident, to vote at the next election, shall be entered in the registration book.

JOAN R. REYNOLDS, City Clerk

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