

Council colleagues tap Jan Dolan as new mayor

By Joanne Maliszewski
staff writer

Farmington Hills City Council Monday unanimously elected Mayor Pro Tem Jan Dolan as mayor for 1985. She will replace Mayor Charles Williams at the first council meeting in January.

Council delayed the election of a mayor pro tem. In November, council agreed to postpone that election until after a recount of ballots cast in the special election between Ben Marks and Terry Sever.

Despite the recount, in which Ben Marks was declared the winner by one vote, council decided Monday to stay on schedule and elect a mayor pro tem in January.

IN NOMINATING Dolan for mayor, Councilwoman Joan Dudley lauded the veteran council member as a "lady with a capital L," who is the "best chairperson" at meetings.

In touting Dolan's qualifications, Dudley said she has "a remarkable ability" for remembering facts and handling "irate" council members and the public.

Councilman Ben Marks supported Dolan's nomination, calling her a "beautiful lady."

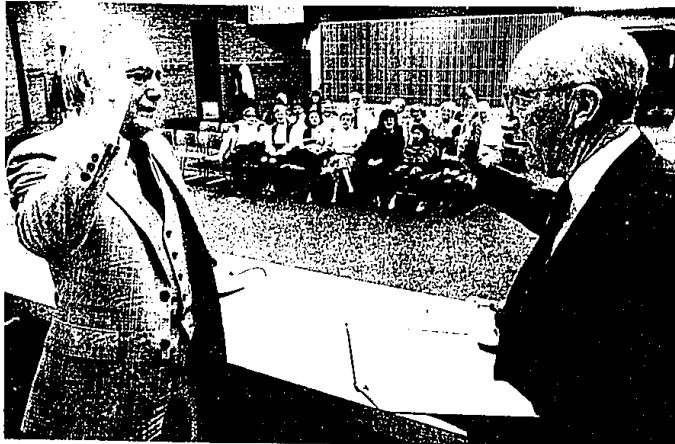
DOLAN IS the longest-serving member of the current council. She served as mayor once before — in 1978, as well as mayor pro tem in 1977. She was first appointed to council in 1975 to replace Margaret Schaeffer, who had then been elected district judge.

Dolan was re-elected to a four-year term in 1981.

Looking ahead to 1985, Dolan said she would "like to see the council work together in a common goal." An immediate goal is the city's six-year capital improvements program, Dolan said.



Jan Dolan



RANDY BORST/staff photographer

Second time around

Ben Marks, left, is sworn in by Farmington Hills City Clerk Floyd Cairns as the newest member of the city council. Marks won the seat after a

recount of the ballots revealed he was the victor by one vote over Terry Sever.

Television courses are offered

Six college courses, ranging from an introduction to humanities to organization of the health and safety industry, will be offered by television during the winter term by Madonna College.

The courses are provided in cooperation with the Southeast Michigan Educational Television Consortium and can be viewed in Farmington Hills on cable or on WTVS-Channel 56.

The courses are "Business of Man-

agement," "Introduction to Business," "Introduction to Computers," "Vietnam: A Television History," "Introduction to Humanities," "Contemporary Health Issues" and "Health Care Organization." They range from two to four college credits. Tuition is \$75 per credit.

Students earning credit through television courses are required to view the weekly program and also attend up to

six group discussion sessions with assigned faculty.

Persons wishing to enroll for college credit by television or for other courses on the Madonna campus in Livonia, may call the admissions office at 591-5053. Telecasts begin the first week in January.

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"The ballots, in fact, were changed," Sever told council. He claimed that the ballots were not recounted as they were counted on election night.

In the election night tally, Sever chalked up 11,005 votes to Marks' 10,980.

"Whether by law, design, justice or injustice," a number of the ballots were changed when they were counted by hand, Sever charged.

"Again, it's not my intention to disrupt anything," Sever said, adding, "The only thing I am seeking is fair-

ness."

SEVER TOLD council he wants to find out how and why he lost seven votes.

"You are inferring the ballots had been changed," said Councilman Joe Alkateeb.

Sever replied that he is trying to clarify the issue for the public and that evidence would be provided in court regarding the recount process.

After reviewing some of the vote totals, Sever said, "I am still very confident I was elected by the people."

"He inferred he was elected by the

people and that infers I wasn't," said Councilman Ben Marks.

Saying he hopes Sever is not inferring anything was illegal with the recount process, Marks said only the Oakland County Board of Canvassers touched the ballots. The chads which had at least two broken corners were punched out, Marks said.

In turn, Sever said he is not implying that anything illegal was done to the ballots. He also suggested to council that once the recount issue is over, the city's election procedure should be reviewed.

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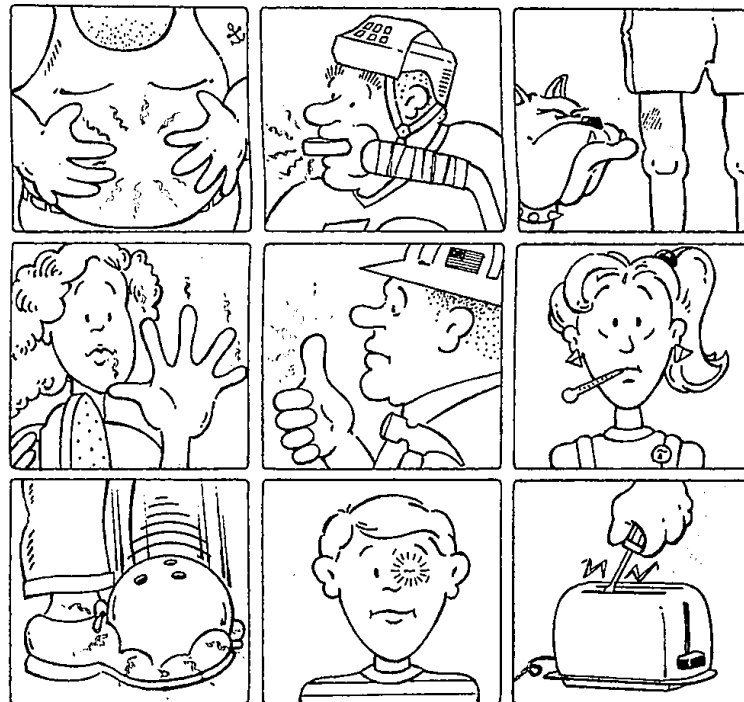
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