

# How Farmington Hills City Hall Has Changed

By DAN MCCOSH

FARMINGTON Who's who in the new City of Farmington Hills won't take much getting used to. The names for new posts in city hall are mainly the same people who worked for the township, but with new labels for their jobs.

But the new labels indicate a major reorganization.

The city manager's job is not yet filled, but Floyd Cairns will take over the responsibilities until it is. He was also named as the new city clerk - his real role in the new city hall.

Cairns, in his years at Township Hall, carved out an unusual role for the township clerk with bond issues, as-

sessments and most of the engineering plans for new construction going through his office.

In the new city, the charter outlines a clerk's job, which is almost a job description of Cairns' old duties.

It was no surprise to see him named to a job almost tailor-made to his abilities.

In this job, Cairns will be secretary to the new city council and still work with the bonds, plans, etc., within his scope in the former township.

Cairns is also unique in being the only elected administrator carried over to the new city.

Supervisor Robert McConnell exits his administrative duties to begin work as a councilman.

Thomas Nolan, two-term treasurer, has faded from the scene.

The new council named Chuck Rosch acting director of finance-city treasurer. A CPA under Nolan, his new job gives him a strong hand in the city financial affairs.

Nolan has been quietly withdrawing from Township Hall since his election to a second term. And since he didn't run for a city post, this apparently marks the end of his local political career.

Under Rosch is Mrs. Earle Barker, assistant city treasurer, supervising the cash collections and billings division.

Robert Romer, former township assessor, becomes the new city assessor, supervising the assessing division.

When he was hired from the Westland Police Dept., Holko made it clear he would answer directly to the township board, rather than to the supervisor Earl Teeples.

Mrs. Gladys Thomas was appointed assistant city clerk, a similar job to her old post of deputy clerk, where she was the focal point of the paperwork surrounding elections.

analysis

The police-fire department was unchanged, with the expected appointment of Ronald Holko as director of public safety.

Although on paper the job is unchanged, Holko faces a change in his position in city hall.

The scope of these jobs depends largely on whether the city decides to contract or attempt to create its own DPW department.

An ironic twist to the problem came Monday night when City of Farmington of-

may not have an effect on the operation of the department.

Charles Newing is appointed to a similar job as his old zoning.

There are 11 boards and commissions, handling problems ranging from housing to pensions now serving the city.

All were formed under the township, and the membership is expected to stay the same until terms expire.

The same is true for the four hired consultants formerly employed by the township - all were retained.

officials, well aware of the problem, presented a ribbon-tied shovel to the new city council "for the new DPW."

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The key to the new government is the city manager.

In contrast to the township, the charter calls for a direct line of authority from the council through the manager to the department heads.

This is bound to prevent political dandybros like the township refusing to speak to the supervisor, an occurrence in a recent administration.

It is also significant the council attempted to leave some opening for the new manager to have some say in the people he will work with - apparently part of the motivation of making the director of finance "acting."

With so many familiar names, the new city hall will look very much like the old township to people doing business there.

But the reorganization hopefully should eliminate some of the fulfilling, and make the administration of local government more responsive.

## Zoo Trip Is Planned

FARMINGTON A trip to the zoo for Farmington youngsters living in the "south section" schools served by the Farmington Area Recreation Commission leaves Friday, July 6 from the local playground site. The trip is 50 cents, and the buses leave from 8:30 a.m. to 9 a.m.

## Rubinstein Earns Honor

Mark D. Rubinstein of 28721 Rockledge, Farmington, was among high honors graduates of Ohio University in Athens at its recent commencement. High honors grads have achieved a grade point average of 3.5 or better on a 4.0 scale.



FIRST MEETING of the Farmington Hills Council named Robert McConnell mayor and Floyd Cairns acting city manager. From left: William Orman, W. Keith Deacon,

Mrs. Margaret Schaeffer, Robert McConnell, Joan Dudley, Earl Oppenheimer and Frederick Lichtman. (Ever photo)

## 2 Graduate As Engineers

FARMINGTON Two Farmington engineering students are taking part in the cooperative education program at the college of engineering at Michigan Technological University. They are Mark A. Lockwood, son of Mr. and Mrs. John W. Lockwood, 31031 Berryhill, a freshman spending the summer quarter working for General Motors at the Milford proving grounds; and Guy R. York, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph A. York, 25083 Castlereigh, working with McClurg and Associates of Bloomfield Hills.

## View Of Police Work Given Farmingtonite

FARMINGTON Scott Harrington of Farmington, was among the 34 Michigan youths who participated in the American Legion - State Police student trooper school. School subjects include state police history, first aid, military drill, fingerprinting, tracking dogs, patrols and accident investigation, traffic and water safety, voiceprint identification, polygraph examination, civil defense, juvenile delinquency, defensive tactics, and calisthenics.

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