

SC City Manager Pete Tedesco Considering Another Position

By Jack Rannells

City Manager Peter Tedesco Saturday acknowledged he is giving serious consideration to another post.

"I have been offered a very attractive appointment, subject to certain clearances and conditions. If he works out, I'll take it," Tedesco told The Sentinel.

The personable 33-year-old city executive officer made the statement in response to rumors his resignation is imminent.

He said Mayor Bert Snyder and several councilmen have been fully aware of his plans for some time.

Rumors have persisted since March that the council had asked that Tedesco "move on."

Denied by several councilmen at the time, it again drew "I don't know anything about it" replies from five available councilmen Saturday.

"I know nothing about the council asking Pete to resign or Pete saying he may," said Mayor Bert Snyder.

"If the question ever came up, I'd be in favor of retaining him. I think he's done a helluva job. He may not be the best in the business, but he's conscientious and does what he thinks is right."

Asked if firing had ever been discussed by the council, the mayor said he "wouldn't be in a position to give any indication of anything that happened in a

Brown act meeting, where this sort of thing would be discussed."

Comments and endorsements by other councilmen, with the exception of George Wilson, were similar.

Wilson said "no comment", growling, "You know better than to ask me questions like that."

Dr. Ted Foster, who had been questioned earlier this spring, said, "I still don't know anything about it, but I'm beginning to wonder."

"For myself and what I know, there's been no official action asking Pete to resign," said Dr. Foster, who added he considers Tedesco "as close a friend as anybody."

He implied that if "unofficial action" was taken it was on the part of someone else. "I don't know if I'm getting all the information," he said.

John McBain branded any rumor that Tedesco had been asked to resign as "very untrue."

"There's been no pressure on Pete at all," said McBain, who admits he is "not very happy with the city manager form of government."

He said Tedesco's job has been discussed in "Brown act" personnel sessions as part of the council's duty. Under the charter, the manager and city attorney are council employees. The manager is responsible for all other city personnel.

Norman Lezin, appointed in April, said, "As long as I've been on the council, it's (Tedesco) never been a subject of discussion. I think Pete's an excellent man, the best we could possibly get."

Tedesco, with the city since August 1955, has been manager since June 1958.

His relations with the council frayed last fall as he was trying to get their approval of a University of California cooperation agreement.

When he was locked out of one of several "Brown act" personnel meetings held by the council during the fall, rumors started.

These increased in January, when Dr. Foster publicly presented an ill-conceived case of "favoritism" by Tedesco to Police Officer Charles Scherer on a planning matter. The council gave the manager a mild public reproof.

Jim Tait, Pioneer Resident, Expires

Final rites for James David (Jim) Tait, 93, pioneer Santa Cruz county resident, will be conducted from White's chapel tomorrow at 8:45 a.m., thence to Holy Cross church where a requiem low mass will be offered for the repose of his soul commencing at 9 o'clock. Interment will be in the family plot in Holy Cross cemetery. Rosary will be recited in White's chapel tonight at 7 o'clock.

A native of San Andreas, Calaveras county, Tait died while working in his garden, 422 Escalona drive, Friday.

Tait came to Santa Cruz in 1869 with his father, James A. Tait. His father, a miner in Calaveras, served in Colonel Stevenson's regiment during the Mexican War of 1846.

He attended local schools and was first employed as a compositor by The Sentinel for six years.

It Really Rained