

Recommend Pay Increase For Municipal Employees

By Jack Rannells

The city civil service commission last night unanimously recommended 9.4 per cent salary increases for about one-third of the city force. The remainder were recommended for 4.7 per cent hikes.

In another action, the commission threw 2-1 vote support behind an employees association suggestion of three weeks paid vacation after five years city service.

Cost of the various pay boosts has been estimated at above \$100,000.

Recommended for the two-step pay hike were police, fire and mechanical trades employees, including about 95 persons.

Four positions received special attention in recommendations for "equity" adjustments.

Recommendation will go to the city council for consideration during budget sessions.

The commission action went right down the line with recommendations of salary consultants Griffenhagen-Kroeger Inc. and Personnel Director William Buckley. These had been endorsed by the civil service employees association.

Department heads were not included in the recommendations.

About 40 city employees were present for the meeting.

Geno Pini, chief of police, spoke in behalf of the public safety employees; Donald Bruce, director of field services, in behalf of the mechanical trades and an "equity" increase for his assistant; and Bill Nunes building inspector, and Carl Bengston, parks director, in behalf of other adjustments.

The salary recommendations were made on six basic series and reflect study of local private

business and nearby public jurisdiction salary scales.

Buckley, in a memorandum to the commission, pointed out that local employers indicated they had given raises in 1959 and intended to do so in 1960.

The 4.7 per cent figure represents one step on the salary ladder.

Specific recommendations were as follows:

Clerical, fiscal and stores — one step.

Engineering and planning — one step.

Mechanical trades — two steps.
Maintenance and construction — one step.

Police and fire — two steps.
Library and recreation — one step.

The public safety and mechanical trades series include 95 employees, about one third of the city force.

Equity adjustments included basic series increase included):
Building and construction inspectors (five effected) — three steps.

Assistant field services director — three steps.

Park maintenance men (seven effected) — two steps.

Assistant parks and recreation director — two steps.

Commissioner Gene Prolo voted against the three weeks vacation proposal. Other commissioners are Tom Twohig and Robert Lyons.