

Library Commission Seeking \$1000 To Pay Architects

At long last, a \$1000 progress payment has been recommended for preliminary architectural work on the proposed new downtown library center.

The recommendation by the city library commission this morning must be ratified by the city council.

The payment would be the first half of \$2000 for schematic drawings, the first phase of a contract made between the city and architects Kermit Darrow and Francis A. Lockwood three years ago.

Original programming has been stymied by consideration of alternate sites, higher priority bond issues and efforts to clarify the extent of county interest and participation in costs.

Darrow reminded the commission this morning, "It has been three years this month since the original agreement and we would certainly appreciate a little on account."

"We all saw the picture when we began. The picture has changed, but I think we've done

\$2000 worth of work," Darrow said.

Lockwood suggested the half payment, but asked authorization to start on the second—or preliminary—phase of study.

The commission rejected the latter suggestion, at least until completion of a study of service levels and demands by Arlene Hope, field representative of the state librarian. Miss Hope is to spend a week here in late October.

A contract calling for the county to pay \$93,000 as its 58 per cent share of library operations during 1960-61 was reviewed. The city librarian was requested to seek smaller, but more frequent payments of this sum.

The commission set up a special building and maintenance fund to handle rentals and expenses for expansion property purchased this summer from Dr. LeBaron Bliss. Rentals from the property amount to \$300 monthly. The parcel and professional building were purchased for about \$39,300, covered by an 8-cent ad valorem tax.