

**CITY OF PEORIA, ARIZONA
COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS**

CC: 10 C
Amend No. _____

Date prepared: March 5, 2008

Council Meeting Date: March 18, 2008

TO: Terrence L. Ellis, City Manager
THROUGH: Susan K. Thorpe, Deputy City Manager *ST*
FROM: Mary Jo Kief, CMC, City Clerk *mjkief*
SUBJECT: Citizens Commission on Salaries for Elected City Officials Report and Recommendations

RECOMMENDATION: Discussion and possible action to accept the recommendations of the Citizens Commission on Salaries for Elected City Officials and approve a 5 percent increase in salaries for Mayor and City Council.

SUMMARY: The Citizens Commission on Salaries for Elected City Officials was established by a Charter Change approved by the voters at the Primary Election held in March 1997. The Commission's responsibilities are to meet, review data, and then make recommendations to the City Council of any possible changes to the voter-approved salary for the Mayor and City Council. The Commission is required to make their recommendations every two years. The City Council, by Charter, must either accept or reject the Commission's recommendations.

The Commission is limited to making one of two recommendations to the Council as follows:

1. To recommend increasing or decreasing the existing salary of the Mayor and each Councilmember by 5.1 percent or less, which Council, by majority vote, may accept or reject.
2. To recommend exceeding a 5.1 percent increase or decrease in the existing salary for the Mayor and each Councilmember, which if accepted by Council, would require a resolution to be prepared referring the matter to the voters.

CITY CLERK USE ONLY:

- Consent Agenda
 Carry Over to Date: _____
 Approved
 Unfinished Business (Date heard previous: _____)
 New Business
 Public Hearing: No Action Taken

ORD. # _____ RES. # _____
LCON# _____ LIC. # _____
Action Date: _____

Recommendation as to salary:

It is the Commission's recommendation that the Mayor should receive \$2,523 per month, and the Councilmembers should receive \$1,682 per month beginning on January 6, 2009.

If rejected by Council, the Commission's recommendation process does not occur again for two years; and the salary of the Mayor will remain at \$2,403 per month and the salary of Council will remain at \$1,602 per month.

This recommendation is less than 5.1 percent and may be adopted by Council and does not require being placed on the September 4, 2008 Primary Election ballot. Pursuant to the City Charter, the change shall become effective upon taking the oath of office following an election after the recommendation. Therefore, if Council accepts the recommendation, the salary increase will go into effect on January 6, 2009.

Attachment: Report and Recommendations Submitted by the Citizens Commission on Salaries for Elected Officials

**REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS
TO THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF PEORIA, AZ**

**Submitted by
CITIZENS COMMISSION ON SALARIES
FOR ELECTED CITY OFFICIALS**

February 11, 2008

SUMMARY OF COMMISSION DISCUSSION AND REPORT:

The Citizens Commission on Salaries for Elected City Officials met on February 11, 2008. The Commission reviewed documents that had been prepared by City Staff including but not limited to Salary Survey of Valley Cities/Towns; Consumer Price Index (CPI) table; and Recap of Municipal Elected Official's Salaries February 2008. The City Charter prescribes that salary recommendations be presented to the City Council every two years.

We, therefore, as required by the Charter of the City of Peoria, Arizona, hereby submit this report containing our recommendations for the salary for Mayor and City Council of the City of Peoria, Arizona to the Office of the City Clerk.

We further request that the City Clerk herewith comply with the requirements of said Charter, and submit this report containing our recommendations to the City Council for their discussion and possible action.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Commission on Salaries for Elected City Officials reports to the City Council a recommendation to increase the salary for Mayor and Council by 5.0 percent to become effective January 6, 2009. Based on the increase, the new salary for Mayor beginning on January 6, 2009 will be \$2,523 per month and the new salary for members of the City Council beginning on January 6, 2009 will be \$1,682 per month.

This recommendation is less than 5.1 percent and may be adopted by Council and does not require being placed on the September 2, 2008 Primary Election Ballot.

As provided by City Code, the salary adjustment does not take effect until the next City Council is sworn in.

BACKGROUND:

In 1997, the Electors of the City of Peoria approved an amendment to the Charter of the City of Peoria that mandated the establishment of a five-member Citizens Commission on Salaries for Elected City Officials.

The current Commission members are:

Phil Hanson, Chairman
David Eberhart, Mark Hughes, Joyce Mozicatto, and Craig Wismer

By Charter, the Commission is required to provide recommendations to the City Council every two years for any possible changes to the salary of the Mayor and City Council.

The Charter sets forth very specific requirements that the Commission must follow regarding their responsibilities and recommendations. One of the requirements is that the Commission's recommendations for any salary adjustment must be filed with the City Clerk a minimum of 150 days prior to the Primary Election.

The City Clerk is then required to place the Commission's recommendations on a City Council agenda, and the City Council is required by the Charter to either accept or reject the Commission's recommendations.

The Commission is limited to making one of two recommendations in regards to salaries for the Mayor and City Council.

1. To increase or decrease the existing salary of the Mayor and City Council by an amount less than 5.1 percent.

* The Council, by majority vote, may accept or reject their recommendations of an amount less than 5.1 percent without having the salary adjustment recommendation placed on the City's September 2, 2008 Primary Election Ballot.

2. To increase or decrease the existing salary for the Mayor and City Council by an amount of 5.1 percent or greater.

* The Council, by majority vote, may accept or reject the Commission's recommendation to exceed 5.1% by their approval or denial and by resolution direct that the City Clerk place the issue on the upcoming September 2, 2008 Primary Election ballot.

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BACKGROUND: (continued)

If the City Council, by majority vote, rejects the recommendation of the Commission, the salary of the Mayor and Council remains the same, and the Commission's recommendation process does not occur again for two years.

The City Charter limits the recommendations that the Commission may make to adjust the Mayor and Council's salary, and if the salary adjustment goes forward to the voters the ballot recommendations must read as follows:

Shall the recommendations of the Citizens Commission on Salaries for Elected City Officials of \$____ per month for Mayor, and \$____ per month for each Council member be accepted?

Yes _____, No _____

Respectfully submitted on this 7th day of March, 2008.



Phil Hanson, Chairman

Citizens Commission on Salaries for Elected City Officials

Attachment: Elected Official Salary Survey Benchmark Comparisons FY2008