

Stockton City Charter
Article IV, SECTION 410. Compensation.

Each member of the Council, including the Mayor, shall be paid as compensation for his or her services as a member of the Council, for each calendar month during which he or she is a member of the Council, a monthly salary together with appropriate benefits, which shall be established by ordinance adopted pursuant to and in accordance with the provisions hereinafter set forth in this Section. No salary shall be established for any member of the Council, including the Mayor, except as provided in this Section.

Between March 1st and April 30th of every even-numbered year, the Council Salary Setting Commission shall recommend to the Council the amount of monthly salary and the benefits which it deems appropriate for the members of the Council for the two-year period commencing January 1st of the next year. The amount recommended for each Councilmember shall be the same.

Between March 1st and April 30th of a Mayoral election year, the Council Salary Setting Commission shall recommend to the Council the amount of monthly salary and the benefits which it deems appropriate for the Mayor for the entire term commencing on January 1st of the next year at the beginning of the term of the elected Mayor. The amount recommended for the Mayor shall exceed that of the other members of the Council.

No recommendation shall be made except upon the affirmative vote of three (3) members of the Commission. Failure of the Commission to make a recommendation in any year within the time prescribed shall be deemed to mean a recommendation that no changes be made.

Each recommendation, together with the reasons therefor, shall be made in writing. Before it submits any such recommendation to the Council, the Commission shall conduct at least one public hearing on the matter. When such a recommendation has been submitted to the Council, it shall not thereafter be amended by the Commission.

The Council shall, by ordinance, adopt the salaries as recommended by the Commission, or in some lesser amount, but in no event may it increase the amount. Salaries of the Councilmembers and Mayor may be reduced at any time by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Council.

Salaries established by ordinance adopted pursuant to the provisions of this section shall remain in effect until amended by a subsequent ordinance adopted pursuant to the provisions of this Section.

The compensation being paid to the Councilmembers and Mayor as of the effective date of this section shall continue until established as required by this section. In the first year after passage, which will be an odd year, the Salary Setting Commission will make salary recommendations as per prior to this amendment with the exception that the Mayor's salary will be set for the full remaining period of the Mayor's term of office and the Councilmembers' salaries will be set for the remaining period of the terms of the Councilmembers to next be elected.

***** End of Proposed Amendment *****

Discussion of Amendment

The above proposed amendment does the following:

1. It separates the periods of time that salaries are in effect for the Councilmembers and Mayor.
 - a. Since there is a Councilmember election every two years and, since all Councilmembers are to receive the same salary, Councilmember salaries are set biennially.
 - b. The Mayor's salary is set for the full term prior to the election of a Mayor.
 - c. Stipulates that the Mayor's salary shall exceed that of Councilmembers.
2. The salaries are set in the spring of an election year so that candidates can know the salaries for the upcoming terms. This also allows for the salaries to be factored in the upcoming FY Budget.
3. Provision is made for making the transition from the current Charter provisions to the amended Charter provisions.

Dale Stocking, Chair
CRAC Sec. 410 Subcommittee