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MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE. (5.7.67)
COMMITTEE.
TOWN CLERK'S DEPARTMENT.

## RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION OF ENGINEERS.

The City Engineer has drawn attention to the pressing need to recruit and retain senior engineers, especially Principal Engineers. The difference between salaries and fringe benefits paid in the private sector and the Council's service should be narrowed. He favours a "career" salary grade for the professional civil engineer to become a specialist engineer rather than an administrative engineer. He suggests -
(a) The payment of a temporary non-pensionable allowance scheme based essentially on the shortage and necessity factor.
(b) Sponsoring specialised and advanced studies at overseas universities to attract the brighter young graduates into the Council's service.

The General Manager of Electricity Department suggests -
(a) Engineers be given what he terms an Engineer's Scarcity Saving Allowance amounting to $10 \%$ of his basic salary increasing to a maximum of $15 \%$ by $1 \%$ for every two years service with the Council. This amount would not be given direct to the engineer but would be invested in Government Bonds or Building Society subscription shares to mature initially in ten years time. The basis of this suggestion is a forced saving which would not be taxable and would not cause inflation.
(b) The grant of additional leave accumulative above the present ceiling on the understanding that only a certain amount is to be taker each year. This leave may be used for a trip overseas (long leave) or up to one month's leave per annum may be cashed so as to act as a Christmas bonus.
(c) Consideration should be given to the Council paying the premiums of endowment policies or group life insurance in the name of the engineer. A premium of R18 per month is suggested.
(d) The payment of the engineers $7 \%$ contribution to the Pension Fund.

TOWN CLERK'S DEPARTMENT.

The General Manager, Electricity Department, contrary to the City Engineer, does not favour the payment of extra salary, whether by temporary allowance or otherwise, over and beyond the finding of the job evaluation carried out. He feels that will ruin the structure that has been built up over the past three years and which has been accepted by all ranks, including the artisans. It would break down the general acceptance of those techniques.

Both the City Engineer and the General Manager are against benefits such as free cars and housing loans at low interest rates. The City Engineer is of the opinion that attempts to bolster an inadequate salary structure by using fringe benefits will fail.

There can be no doubt that whatever measures on these lines are adopted will only serve as a palliative. There are too many posts and too few engineers. An approach to this problem could be to concentrate at present on absolutely essential work. It may be possible to give greater responsibilities to some of the non-professional ranks down as far as the NonEuropeans. A general survey by an outside firm into the better utilization of engineers might help alleviate the position.

The findings of the Straszacker Commission that investigated the shortage of engineers should be brought to the attention of the United Municipal Executive via the Transwaal Municipal Association.

In deciding on a solution it must be borne in mind that employees are very much interested in and affected by the net income they receive. Any increase in remuneration that is taxable acts against this requisite and is a very expensive way of achieving a greater take-away pay packet. Extra leave costs no more in cash if it is taken and not allowed to accumulate but the grant of extra leave seems to be against present policy.

FOR CONSIDERATION
(240/2/54)
(C/C 226/67)

N.P.A. = Non Pensionable Allowance.

## S.B. $37 / 67$ <br> 29.6.67.

/ECC

|  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { JULY } 1938 \\ & \text { Price Index No. }=100 \end{aligned}$ | CALCUlated RæTaIL PHICE INDEX NO. $=259.6$ May 1967 | $\begin{gathered} \text { POIMIS INCREASE } \\ \frac{1.59 .6}{\%} \text { Increase over } 938 \end{gathered}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | R |  |  |
| Head of Major Departrient | 5,000 | $13,080$ | 161 |
| Deputy Head of Major Department | 3,000 | 10,416 | 247 |
| Third in line (Assistant Head) | 2,000 | $\begin{gathered} 9,480 \\ (\text { Level 4) } \end{gathered}$ | 374 |
| Branch Head | 1,800 | 8,736 | 385 |
| Principal Accountant | 1,400 | $\begin{aligned} & 5,676 \\ & (\text { Level 10) } \end{aligned}$ | 305 |
| Principal Engineer | 1,400 | 5,676 | 305 |
| Engineer | 1,080 | 4,812 | 346 |
| Medical Officer | 1,600 | $\begin{gathered} 5,244 \\ \text { (Level Ell) } \end{gathered}$ | 227 |
| Legal adviser | 1,500 | $\begin{aligned} & 6,7.80 \\ & \text { (Level E9) } \end{aligned}$ | 312 |
| Superintendent (Sewer Maintenance) | 1,160 | $\begin{gathered} \text { 4,812 } \\ \text { (Job Evaluation) } \end{gathered}$ | 315 |
| Committee Clerk | 1,300 | $\begin{gathered} 4,224 \\ \text { (Level E13) } \end{gathered}$ | 225 |
| Health Inspactor | 1,080 | 3,600 | 233 |
| Foreman | 1,080 | 3,600 | 233 |
| Artisan | 812 | 2,380 | 193 |
| Running Staff | 702 | $2,150$ <br> Including Attendance Bonus R45 per annum average. | 206 |

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