Your Top Local Public Officials Get These Salaries:

Do you know how much money your local public officials are paid for running your city, or your township, or your school district? Are you aware of the salaries paid to the members of the elected boards in your area? Have you ever compared these salaries to other similar positions elsewhere?

The Birmingham Eccentric, on a periodic basis, will try to answer these questions by reporting the salaries earned by the elected officials in the various communities. This month, we are presenting the salaries of the officials in the Birmingham city council.

For a period of 15 years, the salaries of the elected officials in Birmingham have increased steadily. In 1930, the mayor was paid $500 a year, the city clerk was paid $450, and the city treasurer was paid $400. Today, the mayor is paid $25,000 a year, the city clerk is paid $23,000, and the city treasurer is paid $20,000.

The increase in salaries is due to the growing population and the increased demands on the services of the city. The salaries are intended to attract competent and experienced officials to serve the city.

The Birmingham city council is composed of a mayor and four council members. The mayor is elected by the voters and the council members are elected by their wards. The mayor is paid $25,000 a year and the council members are paid $20,000 a year.

The city council meets on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month. The mayor presides over the meetings and serves as the ex-officio member of all boards and committees.

The city council has jurisdiction over all matters pertaining to the city, including the adoption of ordinances, the imposition of taxes, the issuance of permits, the construction of public works projects, and the maintenance of public property.

The city council also has the power to appoint the city administrator, the city attorney, the city auditor, and the city clerk. These appointees are responsible for the day-to-day operation of the city government.

The city council also has the power to levy taxes and to appropriate the funds necessary to carry out the city's responsibilities.

The city council is the highest elected body in the city and it is responsible for the welfare of the citizens of Birmingham.

The Birmingham Eccentric is committed to providing accurate and timely information about the city of Birmingham. We believe that the citizens of Birmingham have a right to know how their elected officials are serving them.

Barbara J. Thompson, Editor