

Municipal Facts—City of El Paso

Accomplishments of City Administration

The city's management under the present administration shows a record of progress along public improvement lines and also along lines of efficiency and economy.

Along the lines of public improvement this administration has:

1. Paved 476,052 sq. yds. of streets at a cost of \$842,592.
2. Laid 53,986 lineal feet of sewer.
3. Added about 3,000,000 gal. of water daily to the city's water supply.
4. Increased the carrying capacity of the water system by the construction of over \$300,000 worth of water mains.
5. Created a City Planning Commission with the view of working out a complete plan for the development of every phase of El Paso's physical life.
6. Provided \$150,000 for a scenic drive and for park improvement, and \$25,000 for the improvement of the public library.
7. Provided \$220,000 for the building of elementary school buildings.
8. Provided \$100,000 for improvement of streets which is now being painstakingly spent.
9. Provided \$100,000 for sewer improvement which is also beneficially spent.

Along the lines of efficiency and economy this administration:

1. Has completely motorized the scavenger and street cleaning departments which has effected about a 30% saving in operating expenses and also improved the efficiency of the departments.

2. Has installed essential features of the budget system resulting in City departments planning work programmes and expenditures at the beginning of each fiscal year and living within the work programmes and budget appropriations during the year.

3. Has established the city's sinking fund on an actuarial basis resulting in giving present tax payers the benefit of all future interest accruals, and saving the tax payers of the present tax levy year about \$50,000.

4. Has established the water department on a budget basis which resulted in a lowering of the water rate and in the water department carrying the cost of its own debt service which relieved the present tax levy year of \$40,000.

The Mayor.

The chief executive of the city administration is the Mayor. Although most all of the city's functions come under the general supervision of one of the four Aldermen, the Mayor by virtue of being chairman of the Board of Aldermen is charged with the leadership over all the administrative affairs. He also has direct supervision over the administration of the Police Department, over the corporation court, over the civil service commission and over the city clerk.

The Mayor's term is two years. His salary is \$4,000 a year. In conjunction with the Council, he appoints and removes all the officials of the city, with the exception of the employees of the police and the fire departments. As chairman of the council he has one vote in case of a tie. He has the power to veto over the or-

dinances and resolutions of the council. His vote can be over-ridden by a three-fourths vote of the council.

The Council.

This council is charged not only with the administrative functions of the City, but also acts as the legislative body. It is composed of the Mayor and four Aldermen, all elected for a two year term. The leading subjects on which the council may legislate are, public order; police and fire protection; the opening, maintenance, repair, lighting, and use of streets; water and light supply; public health; regulating and licensing of business; the granting of franchises or privileges to street railway, telephone, gas, and similar companies; appropriating and borrowing of money, and the levying of taxes, subject to the limits of the State law. The meetings of the Council are open to the public. The Council meets in official session every Thursday, at eleven o'clock, and also meets in business session every week day at 11 o'clock.

The Aldermen.

Each of the four Aldermen of the city serve for a term of two years. An alderman's salary is \$2,400 per year. Various city departments are assigned to each alderman, and the alderman is directly responsible for the department to which he is assigned. A chart showing the organization of El Paso's city government and the departments assigned to each alderman and the mayor appears below.

Scavenger and Disposal.

A Sanitary Commissioner is appointed by the council, who is in charge of the work done by the sanitary and disposal departments.

CHART SHOWING ORGANIZATION OF THE CITY OF EL PASO

