

The city already has committed itself to several substantial increases in expenditures next year, including full-year salaries for several new employees hired for only part of 1968. A \$560,000 bond issue expected to be passed later this Summer probably will result in a higher debt service total next year.

**\$130,000 EXTRA**

Mayor Thomas J. Monaghan recently pointed out that if the city merely increases salaries of all city employees by four per cent, the present rate of inflation, it would cost the city an additional \$120,000 for salaries in 1969.

In order to meet increased costs of city government next year, the city administration, with the approval of council, substantially hiked water rates and imposed a new \$10 occupation privilege tax on all persons working in the city. Although no official word has been received on what the city will do in 1969, it is generally expected by officials in City Hall that there will have to be new taxes or tax increases in 1969.

**ASK FOR RAISE**

Against this background of general rising costs of city government, the request by the police for collective bargaining poses particular problems, since it is generally expected that the police will ask for more than a four per cent salary increase.

Further, the police in recent years have been a pace-setter in determining the amount of pay raises given to other departments.

A pay study underway of city employees is expected to play an important role in the salary discussions. Since one of the rules of the study is that no salary cuts can be recommended, although some jobs can be downgraded and eventually phased out, the overall effect of the study is expected to be recommendations for salary increases.

The letter to councilmen from George J. Schreder, president of

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