

# Loan helps library meet payrolls

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LANSING - The Lewis O. Flom Lansing Public Library will borrow about \$50,000 from the village to help meet its payroll over the next two months, said library board Treasurer Bill Lathrop.

During his regular monthly report to the board Thursday, Lathrop said the library will see a shortfall of about \$25,000 in both July and August.

The shortage is due to a "significant" increase in last year's budget, Lathrop said. The increase - about \$45,000 - was needed mostly to pay for roof repairs at the library.

Tax revenue needed to cover

last year's budget will not be received until September. At the same time, the library has three payrolls to make this month.

The short-term loan from the village will be interest-free. Library board President David Tanis said the library has had similar loan arrangements with the village in the past.

In other business, the board agreed to reimburse technical services librarian Irene Sherlund \$211 for 50 percent of the tuition cost for a job-related college course she took.

Tanis cautioned the board in making its decision because it sets a precedent for future requests from employees. "This is going to become a policy situation."

Board members said they plan

to establish a policy on continuing education for employees that deals with who would be eligible for tuition reimbursements and how much the library would pay.

The board also will apply for another grant from the state by July 15 for a variety of items including an increase in the library's materials collection, increased publicity through a newsletter, a computer system for technical services and continuing education reimbursements.

The library last year received about \$29,039 in grant money which was used to help pay about five months' salary for the library's new reference librarian, the publication of a trial newsletter, and an increase in the library's adult materials.

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