

Not

Lansing trustees hear fund requests

The Lansing Village Board of Trustees spent part of Tuesday night hearing financial requests from the heads of its three largest departments.

Lansing Police Chief Dean Stanley wants money to hire an additional administrative clerk to the tune of about \$15,000.

Lansing Fire Chief Ralph Schauer Jr. confirmed that he will indeed be receiving a \$200,000 emergency response vehicle unit sometime next year.

Lansing Public Works Superintendent Al Poortenga asked for a \$70,000 sewer truck and a \$40,000 backhoe.

The Board of Trustees seemingly took the requests under advisement

as it continues to discuss the village's 1992-93 budget, but if looks and nods among trustees are any indication, the department heads may see their requests fulfilled.

According to Stanley, the Police Department is swamped with paperwork and additional duties.

"There are a lot of additional requirements mandated by the (Cook County) 6th District Circuit Court. There are increased calls and an increased demand on people we already have there," Stanley told the Board of Trustees.

"We've fallen further and further behind," the police chief said. "This is something we have to have."

Likewise, Schauer said the Fire

Department has needed the emergency response vehicle for 16 years.

Mayor Bill Balthis — who drove from Springfield to attend the committee meeting and then returned to the state capital, where he serves as a state representative, immediately after the meeting — indicated the 1992-93 budget will hover at around \$16 million, in line with last year's budget.

Balthis also noted that the \$16 million does not take into account revenues from the controversial income tax surcharge for the upcoming fiscal year. Whether municipalities will see any money from the surcharge is being debated in the state Legislature.

Meanwhile, Lansing residents will

not see an increase in property taxes from the village, Balthis said, but can expect a jump in library-related taxes.

The anticipated hike will reportedly pay for the cost of major renovations, mainly a new roof.

"They're finally going to do it," Trustee James McCollum informed the Board of Trustees. "Over the years, they've constantly been repairing that roof. Leaking roofs and books aren't too compatible."

The library line-item in the village budget will reportedly jump from a "few thousand dollars" last year to \$104,000 next year, McCollum said.

In addition, the Board of Trustees

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to be taken

Money

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still must speak to several department heads regarding wage increases for the coming year before it can sign off on the proposed budget.

The board, which met behind closed doors to discuss potential litigation and wage increases prior to Tuesday's committee of the whole meeting, hopes to pass the budget in July.