

Lathrup Council Approves Budget

By MARY BAHN
Staff Writer

A budget calling for an increase of 50 cents per each \$1,000 of assessed valuation was approved Monday night by the City Council of Lathrup Village.

The total tax rate, including five different tax rates, will rise to \$13 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation from the current \$12.50.

The increase came with the approval of a special tax to provide weekly garbage and rubbish pickup service. The city now has a twice-a-month service.

Although the vote on the budget was unanimous, Councilman Vincent Zatsil said that he felt the added collection was not necessary and was not wholeheartedly for the increase in the tax rate. He, however, did vote for approval of the budget.

- A retirement plan for employees beginning this year with an allocation of \$2,000.

- A \$50 a month raise, to \$3,600, for the retainer for the city attorney.

- A \$2,000 allocation for a police radar unit to enforce speed limits especially on the new Southfield Road.
- A sum of \$40,000 in the municipal rent reserve fund will be used for purchase of land on 12 Mile Road for a city hall and recreation center.

THE GENERAL fund tax remains at \$7.50, the charter limit; the Evergreen Interceptor tax is up 70 cents to \$1; the city-built sanitary interceptor tax dropped 10 cents to \$1.40; and the storm water sewer tax dropped 60 cents to \$2.40.


The special garbage-rubbish pickup tax, now in use in Livonia and Huntington Woods, accounts for 70 cents per \$1,000 of assessed valuation, raising about \$6,500 yearly. This would mean an average increase of \$4.90 for the average Lathrup homeowner.

THE BUDGET totals \$237,860, or \$28,910 higher than the budget adopted last year. The general fund's share is \$180,000, while the public works department will be allocated \$57,860.

This compares with the \$160,550 general fund and \$51,400 DPW budgets running the current time. The council also passed the water-sewer department budget of \$84,750, which included a \$19,000 surplus of last year.

Stone expects Lathrup to end the fiscal year in July with a surplus of \$40,300. This sum will be added to the anticipated general fund of \$139,700 to total the \$180,000 the city expects to use next year.

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ACID-LOVING PLANTS, including rhododendrons, camellias & azaleas need this ACID TYPE fertilizer. If the soil is very acid it will tend to keep it that way. If it is not acid enough you must use some ALUMINUM SULPHATE to get the pH (acidity) down to about 4½. Call us for free soil testing.



This ROSE FOOD may bring you a BLUE RIBBON at the next Flower Show if you use ACCORDING TO INSTRUCTIONS. Don't take liberties with AGRICO's instructions. They have a research department and know what they are talking about.



FLOWER & VEGETABLE food for flowers & vegetables. Note that the stuff is now 8-16-8 (instead of 5-10-5). This means that you use 2 lbs. for 100 sq. ft. instead of 4 lbs. as with the old 5-10-5. Costs you less, also.

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