



The graph above shows that the cost of books has been going up while the library's book budget has been in a general decline. In 1978, the average book cost the library \$19.30. The cost jumped to \$30.84 last year.

Mayor questions library spending

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standards as set forth by the city of Farmington Hills, that the amount of surplus as being retained (by the library) is far too much," he said.

Williams was critical of the decline in the amount of money the library used for spending on books and periodicals. In 1979, it spent approximately \$137,000, compared to \$130,000 in 1983.

"If the Library Board is concerned about the level of funding and the funding for books, the Library Board should dip into the accumulated surplus that has been developed in order to cover this expenditure," he said.

Library officials, on the other hand, claim that they have been forced to juggle funds to meet other increased expenses such as utility costs, while the book budget has suffered.

SINCE 1982-83 fiscal year, the library's electric bill has increased from

\$68,563 to an estimated \$82,000 this fiscal year. Last year, the actual bill was \$76,000 for the library system's two buildings.

The library's heating bill was \$10,066 for the 1982-83 fiscal year and shot up to \$16,000 the next year. This year's heating bill has been budgeted at \$17,000.

Salaries have increased from \$532,355 in 1982-83 to \$591,000 in 1983-84. This year, \$642,000 has been budgeted for salaries.

And with the onslaught of the new computer technology, the library will pay out an estimated \$12,400, a cost that in 1982-83 was unknown to the system.

Meanwhile the book budget has been on a roller coaster schedule. In 1978, the library spent \$99,000 on books. By 1981, the expenditure had risen to \$111,000.

But by the 1982-83 year, that budget had been cut to \$89,000. Last year it

was increased to \$99,000. This year \$110,000 has been allocated for books.

MEANWHILE the average price of a book since 1978 has risen from \$19.30 to \$30.84, according to a recent study by Publisher's Weekly.

But Williams sees the book budget problem being solved by the library surplus, part of which is an "endowment fund" made up of gifts and the annual collection from the old Farmington Library building which was sold.

"It is my understanding that the (library) board has discretion over this fund and could use these funds for purchase of books or other uses by the library," he said.

Williams denies the allegation by critics who say the city hasn't stood financially by the library.

In 1979, Farmington Hills provided \$535,000 to the library. In 1984-85 the appropriation will be \$609,917. The city of Farmington rounds out the budget with an allocation of \$152,133.

WILLIAMS ALSO noted that while the library spent \$857,123 in 1979, its

expenses for the year ending June 30, 1983, were \$1.2 million, which amounted to an average 8-percent-a-year increase or 41 percent overall for that period. The city's general fund, he said, in that same period has increased only by a 5.6 percent average.

"I am of the opinion...that they (the library) are getting the support they need, which does provide one of the best libraries of any community in Oakland or Wayne counties," said Williams.

He criticized those who say the library isn't allowed to use the one mill allocated to it in township days.

"It should be remembered also that the voters gave the new city of Farmington Hills 10 mills and that not once has the city council levied that much for local taxation to provide for general city expenditures," he said.

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Transplant access debated in Congress

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of hospitals in the nation" that deal with organ transplants, according to Ken Nakamura, Broomfield's legislative assistant.

THE MAJOR difference is that the House is seeking a detailed program with a much higher price tag. Representatives voted June 21 to spend \$40 million over four years to establish new organ transplant agencies, aid existing facilities and to encourage the public to donate organs.

House Bill 5550, "National Organ Transplant Act," also calls for \$30 million during two years to provide hospitals with drugs which will fight off the body's natural tendency to reject the newly implanted organ. Nakamura said.

"What's the use of having a transplant, if the person can't keep the organ," Nakamura said.

In addition, the house bill would establish a computer system with national organ information at a \$2 million cost.

Senate Bill 2048, passed April 11, is less elaborate. It includes \$2 million for a national computer, and \$5 million during three years for grants to the 110 hospitals. The Senate also seeks a task force to study what actions should be taken.

Both bills ban the sale of human organs for transplants.

"A few decades ago, replacing a human heart, kidney, liver or other vital organ with a functioning one, and having the patient return to a near normal life, was the stuff of dreamers and science fiction writers," Broomfield said.

"Advances in medicine, however, have turned those dreams into reality with more organ transplants being done each year with an ever growing success rate."

The bills were initiated to combat what legislators see as a lack of organization involving transplants.

"In one reported case, six livers became available to a transplant surgeon in need of just one," Broomfield said.

"One of the extra donated organs was sent to Minnesota to save another life, but the rest did not find recipients in time and were discarded."

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