Masten resigns, council will carry on until April

Councilman Tim Crist fits spot after mayor leaves
Council with sudden resignation

After a controversial 17-month reign as mayor, Debbie Masten has decided not to run for another term on the Kirksville City Council.

She officially resigned from her position Monday.

Mayor Pro-Tem Tom Crist will take over those duties as the interim until a new council member is appointed Sept. 18. At that point, the council will reorganize and choose a new mayor and mayor pro-tem.

In a press release emailed to Kirksville streets, Masten said, “I would like to thank you for your support during my term on the city council, and for sharing in the vision of economic growth and prosperity forever everyone... I am resigning my position on the city council effective today,” Aug. 30, 2006. And local reports confirm that the city of Kirksville to pursue other business opportunities.

The Business Masten refers to is bar and restaurant Too Talls Two. The investigation of the bar, from its opening in January of 2004 until it was closed its doors, was ongoing. Masten has been named the suspect in the case.

City Manager Matt Macomber said she first received notice of Mamie’s decision Monday afternoon.

“I was somewhat taken by surprise,” Macomber said. “I wasn’t expecting it. We will have to figure out how the council will proceed.”

She said as far as she is aware, there is no period of time designated by which City Council members must give notice of their intention to resign. Macomber said Mamie had informed her she would be relocating to her family farm in Schuyler County.

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