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BREAKING

Key Colony Beach mayor abruptly resigns

By RICHARD TAMBORRINO Special to The Citizen

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In a surprise development hastened by resident outrage against the Key Colony Beach City Commission, as well as media scrutiny about the myriad investigations into the dealings of the commission, Mayor Patti Trefry abruptly resigned Wednesday afternoon, Oct. 11, effective at midnight.

She submitted a letter to City Administrator Dave Turner that read, in part, that her decision was attributed to wanting to be closer to family. However, the mounting pressures within the tiny municipality regarding the rebuilding of City Hall, a pending FEMA fraud investigation and deep resident unrest hovered over her administration.

"Life is short and none of us are guaranteed tomorrow," Trefrey wrote in her letter to Turner. "This time in our grandson's life is priceless and we want to enjoy every second. ... Therefore, it is with deep regret that I tender my resignation as Mayor/City Commissioner ..."

The City Commission is now left with only four commissioners, who are expected

to convene later this month, likely at the regularly scheduled commission meeting on Thursday, Oct. 19. They are expected to encourage interested applicants to apply to fill the open commission seat at that session. The sharply divided commission will now be faced with coming to consensus on Trefry's replacement.

In her letter, Trefrey acknowledged the problems the city faces, as well as the roles of the commissioners.

"While I know this is a difficult time, I have complete confidence in my fellow Commissioners, both current and future," she wrote. "Our community is in capable hands."

Vice Mayor Beth Ramsay Vickery will step in as mayor.

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