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Bixby city clerk's job is still in limbo, awaiting city's decision

BY TIM STANLEY World Staff Writer
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BIXBY — With the city mulling its options in light of a recent court decision, a city official's future continues to hang in the balance.

City Clerk Cheryl Sasser remained on administrative leave this week after a Tulsa County district judge's ruling July 7 that a city move to consolidate her office with the Treasurer's Office violated the City Charter.

City Manager Blu Hulseley said Sasser will remain on leave with pay until the city decides its course.

"I really don't know how we're going to proceed at this point," Hulseley said. "It's something we're still looking into."

Sasser's attorney, Chris Camp, said Sasser has been left in a holding pattern and wants the city to make a decision.

"Ideally she'd like to return to work," he said.

The ruling was in response to a lawsuit Sasser filed against the city after officials announced in June that the Clerk's Office and Treasurer's Office were being combined to save money.

Sasser would have lost her job in the move, but the judge invalidated the action, ruling that the City Charter requires a vote to combine the offices.

The Sasser situation comes on the heels of former City Manager Micky Webb's resignation in May as part of a settlement with the city. Webb had claimed that the council tried to get him to fire the city clerk.

According to reports, Webb had set a hearing for Sasser in April for alleged misconduct but later canceled it, noting that he would counsel Sasser and that immediate termination was not warranted.

Sasser claims that the City Council wanted her gone because she had objected to alleged wasteful spending.

Camp said the city will either have to let Sasser come back to work or set a hearing toward her possible termination.

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