

By Keith Tolman
Contributing Writer

SAWYER- In an apparent willful disregard of state law and the democratic process a faction of the Sawyer

Mayor Anna Bennett reported receiving a call Saturday from the security company that monitors the alarm

"I was unable to contact a Sawyer police officer, so I drove to city hall to find Trustee Tommy Mandrell,

Bennett reported receiving a voice message from Mandrell Saturday night stating he would have to be p

Sawyer Treasurer Sheila Kidd discovered the lock had been changed when she stopped by the office on

In a telephone interview, Mandrell admitted to having the locks changed.

"We have a glitch in the computer and some files missing. We have an obligation to protect information

He stated he intended to contact the district attorney, but admitted no investigation of a possible crime h

Mandrell abruptly terminated the interview when asked why an open emergency meeting of the entire co

Sawyer Police Chief Rick Hartman confirmed no investigation has been initiated concerning an alleged

Sources report Mandrell conferred with Trustee Geneva Baze concerning the lock change. Private com

Baze declined to comment when contacted about the matter.

The controversy is the latest involving the town of Sawyer. Residents have been battling for months over

Bennett tendered her resignation as trustee last week during a special town meeting. Her resignation became

It has been reported City Clerk Francis Osgood also resigned following the meeting. Efforts to confirm the

"Apparently, the Mandrell faction thinks some one has done something to the computer, or is trying to use

Both Bennett and Kidd report they have never been contacted or questioned about possible problems with

"This is like a coup in some Third World banana republic," Bennett commented. "I suppose all one can do

Bennett reported contacting the State Attorney General's Office concerning the matter. She is also considering