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Ex-Seymour employee faces trial for embezzlement

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APPLETON — A former deputy treasurer for the city of Seymour will go on trial May 15 on charges that she embezzled more than a half-million dollars in city funds.

Carolyn M. Austin, 45, De Pere, entered not-guilty pleas Monday to five counts of felony theft and one count of misconduct in office at her arraignment before Outagamie County Circuit Judge Harold Froehlich.

The judge scheduled a three-day trial.

Austin had previously waived her right to a preliminary hearing.

The charges carry a maximum penalty of 68 years of prison and extended supervision.

Austin is accused of stealing \$589,695 from city coffers between Jan. 7, 2000 and Dec. 30, 2004.

According to the criminal complaint, she manipulated the payroll accounts by creating duplicate direct deposit accounts for those receiving payroll checks and having the direct deposits deposited into one of four ghost accounts she had created for herself.