

**Memorandum  
Fire Department**



**To: Thomas Thomas, City Manager**  
**Subject: New Ambulance Rate Fee**  
**Date: March 30<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

The Fire Department has noticed an increase in the number of advanced life support (ALS) intercepts being requested by surrounding volunteer ambulance agencies. Fire Department staff recently attended a meeting with the Unity Point – Trinity EMS Coordinator, staff from AMT Ambulance, and representatives from the surrounding volunteer ambulance services to discuss ALS intercepts. The items covered included clarifying the predetermined locations for intercepts, clarifying the order of agencies dispatched to complete intercepts, and fees that are charged to the agency requesting the ALS intercept.

The agreed upon protocol, similar to current practice, is for AMT Ambulance to be notified first, followed by the Rock Island Fire Department if AMT is unavailable. AMT ambulance currently charges a fee for ALS intercepts, while the City of Rock Island does not.

Data obtained from the 2014 Rate Survey conducted by MEDIC EMS shows that of the nineteen (19) agencies included in the survey, thirteen (13) of those agencies charge for ALS intercepts to the requesting agency, with the average charge being \$150. Agencies requesting the ALS intercept are able to absorb this additional fee by billing the patient transported at a higher rate.

Fire department administration proposes the following addition to our ambulance fee structure upon Council approval:

	<u>Current</u>	<u>Proposed</u>
BLS	\$600.00	No Change
ALS	\$750.00	No Change
ALS2	\$1000.00	No Change
Non-Transport	\$200.00	No Change
Mileage	\$14.00	No Change
ALS Intercept	<b>New</b>	<b>\$225.00</b>

Data shows that in the last six (6) months, the Fire Department responded to thirty-three (33) ALS intercepts with the surrounding volunteer ambulance agencies, which would have generated \$7,425.00 in revenue at the proposed ALS intercept rate. This fee will offset our operational costs for the recovery of ALS equipment used during the incident, and for City ambulance operation when following the requesting agency to the hospital.

**Recommendation:** City Council consider, suspend, and pass the amended ordinance to establish an ALS Intercept fee as outlined.

Submitted by: James J. Fobert, Fire Chief

Approved by: Thomas Thomas, City Manager

A SPECIAL ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 6  
OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF  
THE CITY OF ROCK ISLAND, ILLINOIS

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ROCK ISLAND, ILLINOIS:

Section One. Chapter 6, Article IV, Section 6-63 of the Code of Ordinances of The City of Rock Island, Illinois, is hereby amended by deleting paragraph (a) in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

“(a) For any person of the ambulance area transported from a point within the ambulance area to another point within the ambulance area, the base rate for ambulance transport shall be as follows:

Basic Life Support (BLS)	\$ 600.00
Advanced Life Support (ALS)	\$ 750.00
Advanced Life Support 2 (ALS2)	\$1,000.00
Advanced Life Support Intercept (ALS Intercept)	\$ 225.00”

Section Two. All ordinances and parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed insofar as they do so conflict.

Section Three. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect 10 days from its passage and approval, as required by law.

\_\_\_\_\_  
MAYOR OF THE CITY OF ROCK ISLAND

PASSED: \_\_\_\_\_

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY CLERK