

# PRESS RELEASE

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### Emergency Medical Services

In a surprise move, the Antioch Rescue Squad (ARS) abandoned its contract with the Village of Antioch to provide Emergency Medical Service (EMS) to the citizens of Antioch. Having just received the vote of the Village Board to extend their license by 6 months, the ARS President declined the extension and stated that ARS would cease providing EMS on July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013. Trustee Scott Pierce made the motion to terminate the ARS license and contract as of June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013. The Village Board set an emergency meeting for May 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00 p.m. to further discuss these issues and receive recommendations from staff on arrangements to ensure uninterrupted high quality EMS.

Mayor Hanson, Administrator Keim and Fire Chief Nixon reassured the Board and citizens that backup plans have been formulated and the safety and health of residents will not be jeopardized in any way during the coming transition period. Mayor Hanson expressed sadness and disgust with ARS's surprise announcement. "After all the Village has done to support ARS as it worked its way through sex scandals, alcohol and drug abuse, ARS slapped its partners in the face. Citizens who questioned ARS's integrity when its license was being investigated by the State of Illinois had their worst concerns confirmed. Antioch deserves better and will have it shortly"