

## HUNTLEY PARK DISTRICT

Board Workshop

October 11, 2017 at 6:00pm

Ribbon cutting for ***The Paul Ostrander Park Maintenance Facility***

Commissioners present: Jerry Nepermann, William Awe, Jim Blasky, Keith Wold and Melissa Kellas. Also present were Thom Palmer, Paul Ostrander, Laura Pisarcik, Debbie Kraus, Ryan Coffland, Heather Mattson, Missy Sopchyk, Meredith Johnson, Matt Szytz, Todd Weber, Mike Veague, Chuck Yerke, Mayor Sass, Dave Johnson, Barb Read, Chris Damsch, Chad Alexander, Roger Schroepfer, Monica McCrory, Mark Boster, Sunday Graham and many other staff, Chamber Members and guests.

Thom Palmer:

*Good evening everyone.*

*Thank you for coming out tonight!*

*My name is Thom Palmer and I am the Executive Director of the Huntley Park District.*

*Over the past 19 years I have attended many ribbon cutting ceremonies; Stingray Bay, the REC Center, the Pinecrest Clubhouse, Tomaso Sports Park and nine of the neighborhood parks. Many of you here today were at those events.*

*Tonight we will be hearing from President Nepermann for the naming dedication, Pastor Boster for the invocation, Vice President Dr. William Awe with the keynote address and a proclamation from Mayor Sass, followed by the Ribbon cutting ceremony provided by the Chamber of Commerce. Then you are all invited inside for treats and tours.*

*At this time we present this facility to the community, a facility that is long overdue and will last for generations to come.*

*Please welcome to the podium Mr. Jerry Nepermann, President of the Huntley Park District, for the dedication of this beautiful facility, Jerry...*

President Jerry Nepermann:

*Good evening everyone.*

*Thank you for joining us tonight to celebrate the opening of the latest Huntley Park District facility.*

*I have the privilege of dedicating this facility with a name, a name that represents the quality of the parks in our community.*

*So, on this Wednesday October 11th, 2017 I declare, on behalf of the entire Huntley Park District Board of Commissioners, that this facility will be known as:*

***“The Paul Ostrander Park Maintenance Facility”***

*You will hear more about Paul in Dr. Bill’s keynote address in just a few minutes.*

*Now, I would like to ask Pastor Mark Boster from Shepherd of the Prairie Church to give an invocation.*

*Thank you.*



Pastor Mark from Shepard of the Prairie Church provided the invocation.



Dr. Bill Awe offered the Keynote address:

*I guarantee you ... The person most incredulous about this honor is the most humble person here...Paul Ostrander.*

*As many of you know, Paul is a man of few words and a lot of accomplishments. We've all enjoyed the fruits of his labor as we've driven by a beautiful landscape, played on a safe and professional looking field, and enjoyed watching our kids and grandkids play in fun and exciting playgrounds.*

*Even after today... Many will never know who has orchestrated the beautiful lands that define our Village ... And that is just fine with him.*

*I don't believe Paul does the work for gratitude or acknowledgement.*

*I don't believe Paul does the work for the money*

*I don't believe Paul does the work because it's his job...*

*I believe Paul is an artist with a gift ... And these parks are his canvas!*

*I won't go on embarrassing him - but I will share this.*

*Paul Ostrander is approaching 30 years of service with the Huntley Park District. He has been involved in all the growth and improvement of these parks....literally building many from the ground. He and his ever expanding department has been moved multiple times and asked to make due in whatever barn or shelter he was in. He never complained...just got things organized and got to work.*



*All the while... more work...more responsibility...more staff to manage...more night meetings.....no problems.....results!*

*As a board, we have learned to expect that if Paul is given the task ... It will be done ... On time and on budget. And the results will be impressive.*

*Paul is a man of faith and I'm sure he's embarrassed a bit from all this attention. His humility is sincere but his talents are many. From the days of this organization being 99% "Betsey and Paul" to nearly 200 acres and almost 30 staff in season.... He has done a great work to create beauty, recreation, and peace in a growing community.*

*Most will never know why this town has that "something extra" feel of class, care, and community....why this town is a desirable place to live and play and relax.*

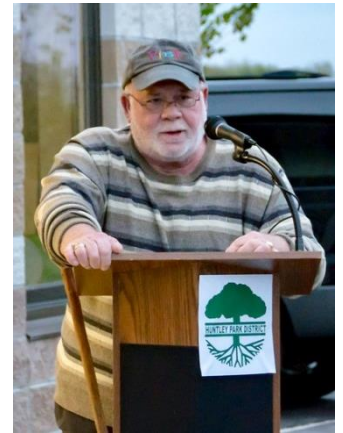
*But we hope a few will learn the legend of Paul Ostrander...the quiet man who came for a summer job and stayed for 50 years creating the most beautiful parks in the country.*

*A man who embodies "Country Charm".*

Mayor Charles Sass read a proclamation from the Village of Huntley:

*Certificate of Recognition*

The Village of Huntley Board of Trustees  
extend their sincere congratulations to the  
**Huntley Park District**  
at the official ribbon cutting ceremony for the new  
**Paul Ostrander Maintenance Facility**



The Village Board of Trustees recognize the **Huntley Park District** for your efforts and commend you on the construction of this beautiful new building. The **Paul Ostrander Maintenance Facility** will be the working headquarters for maintaining all the beautiful Huntley parks, and will allow for expanded services to the entire District. The Village of Huntley is proud to be partners with the **Huntley Park District** as the community continues to grow, and as a team we strive to enhance the quality of life for residents and visitors.

***Thank you for your commitment to the Village of Huntley!***

Sunday Graham Executive Director of the Huntley Chamber of Commerce coordinated the ribbon cutting photo with Gail Nepermann, official event photographer.



A reception for Paul was held in the new facility. Tours were offered as well.

Note: No official HPD business was conducted during this event.

These minutes are subject to approval at the next regular business meeting.

Respectfully submitted,  
Thom Palmer  
Board Secretary

