

Laurie Mueller

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Sent: Wednesday, July 30, 2025 3:49 PM
To: Laurie Mueller
Subject: Historic Downtown Palmyra

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Dear Village of Palmyra Trustees,

At the upcoming meeting, the Palmyra Historic Preservation Commission would like to discuss the possibility of Main Street Palmyra and other significant commercial buildings being listed on the Wisconsin State (and possible National) Registry of Historical Places.

In May, we had a walking meeting with a representative of the State Historical Society who identified 29 different structures that she felt fell into the qualifications needed to be designated as historically significant. The Village, via the Historic Preservation Commission, would apply for a grant that is available to cover the costs of the research needed to be done, \$11,000-\$13,000. Each building in the area would be individually researched to verify the qualities needed.

Simply put, if the grant is approved, the work would be contracted, the Village pays the fee and the grant would refund the monies. To satisfy the grant administrators, the Villages 2026 budget would need to show the expense and reimbursement as line items. If the grant doesn't get approved, the project stops there with no costs out of pocket by the Village.

If approved, the State would hold a meeting explaining the benefits to building owners or their representatives. (Tax breaks on both the State and Federal level, access to grants for the upkeep on these sites.) Owners would have no obligation to be part of this historic district nor would it cost them anything to be included. The buildings need to maintain their original construction details but things such as replacement of existing windows and doors are allowed as long as they stay as close to original as possible. This will be explained in more detail during the aforementioned meeting.

The Palmyra Historic Preservation Commission kindly asks permission of this board to move forward in the grant process and to include the grant fees and reimbursement in the 2026 budget.

Thank you for your time.

Alissa J. Adams-Simmons
Commissioner