



WAUWATOSA COMMON COUNCIL
CITY OF WAUWATOSA
PROCLAMATION

*Recognizing Amanda Saso for Her Protection of The Little
Red Store in the August 2025 Storm and Flood*

The “Little Red Store,” located at 7720 Harwood Avenue, is one of Wauwatosa’s most beloved buildings. Built in 1854, it is an official City of Wauwatosa landmark and the city’s oldest commercial structure.

The Little Red Store is owned by the City of Wauwatosa and leased and managed by the Wauwatosa Historical Society for the benefit of the entire Wauwatosa community.

On Saturday, August 9, and Sunday, August 10, 2025, Wauwatosa experienced a “1,000-year flood” during a storm that brought 8-14 inches of rain to our community and caused the Menomonee River to rise to 14 feet and overflow its banks.

At 3:00 a.m. on Sunday morning, Amanda Saso, the Executive Director of the Wauwatosa Historical Society, began monitoring security cameras and watched as water continued to rise around the store. At 7:00 a.m., she contacted and retained a trusted water and disaster mitigation company. At 4:00 p.m., after floodwaters began to recede, she was able to enter the building with the help of the Wauwatosa Police Department. The basement was completely flooded and water had reached the landing on the first floor. At its peak, more than nine feet of water had filled the basement. Water had also entered through the back door, making its way down the hall and into the kitchen. By 5:00 p.m., a mitigation crew was on site. Submersible pumps began removing water, and volunteers began removing sludge from floors and walls.

Nothing irreplaceable was damaged, but all of the items stored in the basement were destroyed. The City’s Department of Public Works completed removed and disposed of the ruined items. Some damage occurred to the wood floor on the first level, the front porch stairs and back ramp sustained structural damage, and the gardens were devastated. Nevertheless, because of Ms. Saso’s courage and foresight, the Little Red Store was saved from destruction.

NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE KNOWN that the Mayor and Common Council of the City of Wauwatosa commend these extraordinary efforts and express their gratitude and the gratitude of all Wauwatosans to Amanda Saso for her courage and extraordinary efforts on behalf of our community.

Dated this 28th day of October, 2025.

Dennis McBride, Mayor

James Moldenhauer, District 1

Margaret Arney, District 2

Joseph Makhoulf II, District 3

Ernst Franzen, District 4

Sean Lowe, District 5

Joseph Phillips, District 6

Mike Morgan, District 7

Jason Wilke, District 8

Andrew Meindl, District 1

Brad Foley, District 2

Robin Brannin, District 3

David Lewis, District 4

Rob Gustafson, District 5

Aletha Champine, District 6

Amanda Fuerst, District 7

Melissa Dolan, District 8