



Juneteenth Proclamation

WHEREAS, on January 1, 1863, President Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation declaring that African Americans who were enslaved in the Confederate territory were free; and

WHEREAS, two and a half years after that Proclamation was signed, and two months after the Civil War ended in the spring of 1865, the Union Army arrived in Galveston, Texas, on June 19, 1865, and announced to the people of that state that enslaved African Americans were free; and

WHEREAS, the 13th Amendment officially abolishing slavery was approved later that year, the date of June 19th continues to be celebrated as an important date in American history when many of the last enslaved Americans finally learned they were free; and

WHEREAS, the name of this holiday comes by combining the words June and Nineteenth and has been observed in places around the country for more than 150 years; and

WHEREAS, in June of 2021, President Biden proclaimed June 19th to be a federal holiday in the United States commemorating the end of slavery; and

WHEREAS, today we recommit our efforts as a city to work toward racial justice for all residents who live, work, or visit our community because there is much work to do; and

WHEREAS, the City of Red Wing will hold a Juneteenth Celebration in which everyone is invited on Sunday, June 19, 2022, from noon to 4:00 p.m. in Central Park with free food, live music, games, history, prizes, and other family fun activities,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that I, Michael Wilson, Mayor of Red Wing, on behalf of the City Council and the residents of Red Wing, do hereby recognize the day of June 19, 2022, as “Juneteenth,” and urge all residents to become more aware of the significance of this celebration in the history of our nation and city.

Michael Wilson, Mayor
City of Red Wing, Minnesota