



PROCLAMATION

RECOGNIZING JUNE 19TH, 2021 AS JUNETEENTH NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE DAY IN THE TOWN OF MUNSTER INDIANA

WHEREAS, President Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation on September 22, 1862, to be enforced on January 1, 1863, prohibiting enslavement in those states and areas in secession from the Union; and

WHEREAS, Many enslaved people not in the secession states won their freedom by joining the Union Army when President Lincoln, at the urging of Frederick Douglass, proclaimed that enslaved people entering the army would be freed; and

WHEREAS, The news of the end of slavery did not reach the frontier areas of the United States for more than two and a half years after President Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation and months after the conclusion of the Civil War; and

WHEREAS, On the "19th of June," 1865, Union soldiers led by Gen. Gordon Granger arrived in Galveston, Texas, with the news that the Civil War had ended and that the enslaved people were free and with the reading of General Order Number 3, the former enslaved people, Americans of African descent, celebrated with praise, music, dance, and prayer, establishing the first Juneteenth freedom celebration in history; and

WHEREAS, On June 17, 2021, President Joseph R. Biden, Jr. signed into law: the "Juneteenth National Independence Day Act," which designates Juneteenth National Independence Day as a legal public holiday; and

WHEREAS, Juneteenth and the Emancipation Celebration include all races, ethnicities, religions, and nationalities, in that citizens across the country acknowledge a period in our history that has influenced our society, a society that advances the ideals of liberty and justice for all:

THEREFORE, does the Munster Town Council, hereby proclaim:

June 19, 2021 as Juneteenth National Independence Day in the Town of Munster, Indiana

As we acknowledge that the end of slavery is an important and enriching part of the history and heritage of the United States and our history should be regarded as a means for understanding the past and solving the challenges of the future.

PASSED AND ADOPTED, By the Town Council of the Town of Munster, Lake County, Indiana, this ____ day of June, 2021, by a vote of ____ in favor and ____ opposed.

Dr. Andy Koultourides President

Chuck Gardiner Vice President

Dr. Kenneth Schoon

Attest:

Lee Ann Mellon

Wendy Mis Clerk-Treasurer

Steve Tulowitzki