

**Awards,  
Presentations,  
Public Hearings,  
Public Participation &  
Proclamations**



# Proclamation *In Recognition of* Juneteenth National Freedom Day

**WHEREAS,** Juneteenth, or Juneteenth National Freedom Day, commemorates the traditional observance of the end of slavery in the United States and is observed annually on June 19th; and

**WHEREAS,** President Abraham Lincoln declared that “in giving freedom to the slave, we assure freedom to the free - honorable alike in what we give, and what we preserve. We shall nobly save or meanly lose, the last best hope of earth;” and

**WHEREAS,** on January 1, 1863, using his war powers as President, Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation, providing that all persons held as slaves within any State or designated part of a State “shall be then, thenceforward, and forever free;” and

**WHEREAS,** more than two years would pass before news reached slaves living in Texas, when on June 19th, 1865, Union Major General Gordon Granger and his regiment arrived in Galveston and spread the word that slavery had been abolished; and

**WHEREAS,** the following year, the first official Juneteenth celebrations took place in Texas and have continued across the United States throughout the years since; and


**WHEREAS,** Juneteenth is the oldest nationally celebrated commemoration of the ending of slavery; and since then, the State of Illinois, 47 other states, the District of Columbia, and the Federal Government have declared it an official holiday; and

**WHEREAS,** Juneteenth is an important opportunity to honor the principles of the Declaration of Independence and celebrate the achievements and contributions Black Americans have made, and continue to make, in Winnebago County and across our Nation.

**NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Joseph Chiarelli, Chairman of the Winnebago County Board do hereby proclaim the day of June 19<sup>th</sup> to be “**Juneteenth National Freedom Day**” in Winnebago County, and urge all citizens to commemorate and celebrate June 19<sup>th</sup> as such.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the County of Winnebago, Illinois to be affixed this 9<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2022.

  
Joseph Chiarelli, Chairman  
Winnebago County Board

# **Approval of Minutes**

# **CONSENT AGENDA**

# Appointments

# **Reports of Standing Committees**

# **FINANCE COMMITTEE**