



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, on January 1, 1863, President Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation, setting in motion the end of slavery in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Civil War ended with the surrender of General Lee on April 9, 1865; and


WHEREAS, this news reached Texas when Union General Granger and Union troops arrived in Galveston Bay. It was on June 19, 1865 that he announced “The people of Texas are informed that, in accordance with a proclamation from the Executive of The United States, all slaves are free”; and

WHEREAS, the celebration of the end of slavery, which became known as Juneteenth is the oldest known public celebration of the end of slavery in the United States. Juneteenth commemorates African-American freedom and celebrates the fundamental truth that all people are created equal, and that liberty is a right endowed by our Creator; and

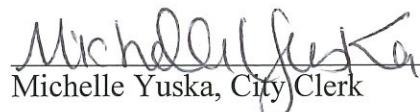
WHEREAS, Juneteenth 2023 celebrates African-American freedom and achievement, while encouraging continuous self-development and respect for all cultures; the celebration of Juneteenth reminds us of the precious promises of freedom, equality, and opportunity which are the core of the American Dream.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Mark Holm, Mayor of the City of Ankeny, do hereby proclaim June 17, 2023 as a day to celebrate Juneteenth 2023, in the City of Ankeny and encourage all citizens become more aware of the significance of this celebration in African-American History and in the heritage of our nation, county, and city. Respect and appreciation for all of our differences grows out of exposure and working together.

DATED AND SIGNED this the 15th day of May, 2023.


Mark E. Holm, Mayor

ATTEST:


Michelle Yuska, City Clerk

