

Proclamation

WHEREAS, President Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863, declaring the slaves in Confederate territory free, paving the way for the passing of the 13th Amendment which formally abolished slavery in the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, word about the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation was delayed some two and one half years, to June 19, 1865, in reaching authorities and African-Americans in the South and Southwestern United States; and

WHEREAS, June 19th has a special meaning to African-Americans, and is called "**JUNETEENTH**" combining the words June and Nineteenth, and has been celebrated by the African-American community for over 150 years.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Michael L. Rell, Mayor of the Town of Wethersfield, do hereby recognize **JUNETEENTH** on the 19th day of June, 2020 in the Town of Wethersfield, Connecticut and urge all citizens to become more aware of the significance of this celebration in African-American History and in the heritage of our nation and town.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand and cause the Seal of the Town of Wethersfield to be affixed this 19th day of June, 2020.

Michael L. Rell

Michael L. Rell, Mayor

Dolores G. Sassano

Dolores G. Sassano, Town Clerk

