



City of Framingham

PROCLAMATION

June 19, 2022

Joint Proclamation to Recognize and Celebrate Juneteenth

Whereas; The American Civil War (1861-1865) was fought to ensure that freedom was shared by all Americans; and

Whereas; Six months hence from the Battle of Gettysburg; On January 1st, 1863, President Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation which gave freedom to African Americans in the Confederate states; and

Whereas; Two and a half years after the Emancipation Proclamation, On June 19th 1865, Union troops under the command of Major General Gordon Granger arrived in Galveston, Texas to issue the order and proclamation to African Americans and others that the war was over, slavery has ended and the freedom of African-Americans was now a reality; and

Whereas; Juneteenth is the oldest known celebration of Freedom for African Americans and is a celebration of freedom and justice for all Americans; and

Whereas; During the 1850's Harmony Grove on the eastern shore of Farm Pond here in Framingham was host to annual 4TH of July anti-slavery rallies by the Massachusetts Anti-Slavery Society. On July 4th 1854, a gathering of roughly 2,000 attendees came to hear prominent Anti-Slavery speakers which included notables Henry David Thoreau, Sojourner Truth and owner of the *Liberator* newspaper William Lloyd Garrison; and

Whereas; for abolitionists around the nation and here in Framingham, the Emancipation Proclamation and subsequently Juneteenth was the culmination of a decades long fight to abolish the abomination of forced human servitude in the United States of America; now Therefore

Be it Resolved; The Framingham Council and Mayor recognize the former Town and Presently City of Framingham's important role in the abolitionist movement during the Antebellum period in the United States that in part led to the abolishment of slavery and Juneteenth. We encourage all residents to celebrate these events and achievements.

RECOGNITION OF JUNETEENTH

in Framingham, and we urge all residents to take cognizance of this event and participate fittingly in its observance.

Charlie Sisisky, Mayor

Philip R. Ottaviani, Jr., Council Chair

Framingham City Council

Janet Leombruno
Council-at-Large & Vice-Chair

George P. King, Jr.
Councilor-at-Large

Christine A. Long
District 1 Councilor

Cesar G. Stewart-Morales
District 2 Councilor

Adam C. Steiner
District 3 Councilor

Michael P. Cannon
District 4 Councilor

Noval P. Alexander
District 5 Councilor

Leora Mallach
District 7 Councilor

John A. Stefanini
District 8 Councilor

Tracey Bryant
District 9 Councilor