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 157 years; and

WHEREAS, we do not want to delay this declaration of freedom and justice any longer,

THEREFORE, I, Timothy Swadley, Mayor of the City of Stoughton, Wisconsin, do hereby declare June 19, 2022 as JUNETEENTH in the City of Stoughton, Wisconsin, and urge all citizens to become more aware and reflect on the significance of this celebration in African-American History and African-Americans enduring quest for freedom and justice in our nation and City.

Dated this 14th day of June 2022.

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Tim Swadley, Mayor
City of Stoughton