TOWN OF GREENWICH
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Fred Camillo
First Selectman

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Juneteenth Independence Day, also known as Jubilee Day, Emancipation Day, Freedom Day, and Black Independence Day, is a federal holiday commemorating the emancipation of enslaved African-Americans; and

WHEREAS, originating in Galveston, Texas, it has been celebrated annually on June 19 in various parts of the United States since 1865; and

WHEREAS, it was on that date that Union Army General Gordon Granger proclaimed freedom for enslaved people in Texas — more than two years after President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation which freed all slaves in Texas and other Southern secessionist states on January 1, 1863; and

WHEREAS, today, June 17, 2022, marks the 157th anniversary of the last African American slaves being freed in Texas, and recognizes the need to continue efforts to bring equity, equality and justice for all; and

WHEREAS, Greenwich is proud to join our national effort to promote and enhance the unity and spiritual strength that brought African Americans out of slavery and sustained their dignity and prosperity to the present day; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, FRED CAMILLO, FIRST SELECTMAN OF THE TOWN OF GREENWICH, do hereby proclaim Friday, June 17, 2022 as

JUNETEENTH DAY

in the Town of Greenwich and urge all citizens to become more aware of and recognize the significance of this celebration of African American history and heritage, and the cultural contributions made within our community.

Fred Camillo, First Selectman