

# PROCLAMATION



## Office of the Mayor

**WHEREAS**, We believe in the joyful, transformative power of the human-canine bond and inclusivity of all citizens; and

**WHEREAS**, In the United States, 70 million adults have a disability and only 16,000 service dogs from accredited training programs exist nationwide and the need is growing; and

**WHEREAS**, Canine Companions created the service dog for people with physical disabilities 50 years ago in 1975, creating a new kind of support for disability; and

**WHEREAS**, Canine Companions is a nonprofit organization that enhances the lives of people with disabilities by providing expertly-trained service dogs and ongoing support to ensure quality partnerships, free of charge; and

**WHEREAS**, Canine Companions and their service dogs empower people with disabilities to lead life with greater independence by providing best-in-class training, ongoing follow up services and a deeply committed community of support; and

**WHEREAS**, National Service Dog Month aims to educate our community about the benefits of service dogs and the laws protecting their handlers; and

**WHEREAS**, The City of Appleton continues to work toward becoming an inclusive community in which all citizens, and their trained service dogs, are embraced;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, in recognition of service dogs and the adults and children with disabilities in our community, I, Mayor Woodford do hereby proclaim September to be

## NATIONAL SERVICE DOG MONTH

and encourage all citizens to celebrate service dogs and be respectful of the rights to safe access in our community afforded to the adults, children and veterans who lead more independent lives because of their assistance.

Signed and sealed this 11<sup>th</sup> day of September 2025

**Jacob. A Woodford**

Mayor of Appleton

