

PROCLAMATION



Office of the Mayor

WHEREAS, on June 19, 1865, slaves in Texas first heard the news of their freedom, nearly two years after President Abraham Lincoln issued an executive order abolishing slavery through the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863; and

WHEREAS, when these slaves heard the news, they sang, danced, and prayed with much rejoicing and jubilation that their life-long prayers and those of their ancestors had finally been answered; and

WHEREAS, many of the founders of our community were abolitionists who fought against the institution of slavery, and former slaves settled in Appleton to build their lives as free people; and

WHEREAS, the City of Appleton recognizes that diversity is its strength, and honors African, African American, Black, people of African descent, and all people who have an interest in Black issues; and

WHEREAS, the annual collaborative celebratory event supported by sponsorship of numerous businesses and organizations promoting educational and cultural exchanges for the area residents will be held at The Fox Cities Exhibition Center on Saturday, June 7th, 2026.


NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT I, JACOB A. WOODFORD, Mayor of the City of Appleton, Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim June 7th, 2026, as

Juneteenth Celebration Day

in Appleton and encourage all citizens to join in the commemoration and celebration of this historic day.



Signed and sealed this 27th day of May 2026



JACOB A. WOODFORD
MAYOR OF APPLETON

Proc: #46-561

*Pursuant to this Proclamation and in accordance with the Special Flag Policy, a special flag will be flown at City Hall on Friday, June 19, 2026