

SPECIAL SESSION  
OF THE  
ANNISTON CITY COUNCIL

JUNE 19, 2021

10:00 A.M.

- INVOCATION
- PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- CALL TO ORDER
- ROLL CALL
- ADOPTION OF AGENDA

I. RESOLUTION

- a) A resolution designating Juneteenth as City Holiday

ADJOURNMENT

**RESOLUTION NO. 21-R-\_\_**

**DESIGNATING JUNETEENTH AS CITY HOLIDAY**

WHEREAS, Juneteenth, also known as “Juneteenth Independence Day,” “Emancipation Day,” “Emancipation Celebration,” and “Freedom Day,” is the oldest African American holiday observance in the United States;

WHEREAS, Juneteenth, or June 19, 1865, is considered the date when the last slaves in America were freed when Union General Gordon Granger rode into Galveston, Texas, and issued General Order No. 3, almost two and one-half years after President Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation, which began most significantly with:

The people of Texas are informed that in accordance with a Proclamation from the Executive of the United States, all slaves are free. This involves an absolute equality of rights and rights of property between former masters and slaves, and the connection heretofore existing between them becomes that between employer and hired laborer.

WHEREAS, Juneteenth commemorates African American freedom and emphasizes education and achievement; it is a day to be marked with celebrations, reflection, rejoicing, inspiration and encouragement for the future;

WHEREAS, in recognition of the many ways in which the history and culture of African Americans, and the advancements, discoveries and achievements of African Americans, have contributed to the history, culture and social fabric of the City of Anniston, the State of Alabama, and the United States of America, the Council finds that it is appropriate to establish Juneteenth as a City Holiday;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Anniston, Alabama as follows:

Section 1. The Council designates Juneteenth as a City Holiday in recognition of the historical significance of June 19, 1865, and in commemoration of the ending of slavery in the United States. The Council desires for the celebration of Juneteenth, as a City Holiday, to provide an opportunity for our community to learn more about the past and to better understand the experiences that have shaped our country, and to honor and reflect on the significant role that African Americans have played in the history and heritage of the United States.

Section 2. The Council declares that the Juneteenth City Holiday shall be on June 21, 2021. In each year thereafter, the Juneteenth City Holiday shall be on the Friday preceding June 19.

Section 3. The Council hereby amends the Policies and Procedures Manual of the City of Anniston to identify and include Juneteenth as a normal holiday that the City will observe each

calendar year. The City will close its offices and allow employees time off from work as it does in observance of the other normal holidays, in accordance with the Policies and Procedures Manual.

Section 4. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its passage and adoption.

PASSED AND ADOPTED on this the **19<sup>th</sup>** day of **June, 2021.**

COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF  
ANNISTON, ALABAMA

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jack Draper, Mayor

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Jay Jenkins, Council Member

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Demetric Roberts, Council Member

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Ciara Smith, Council Member

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Millie Harris, Council Member

ATTEST:

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Skyler Bass, City Clerk