

**ORDINANCE NUMBER 1290 SUPPLEMENTAL
CONCERNING THE DECLARATION OF JUNETEENTH AS A HOLIDAY**

WHEREAS, on January 1, 1863, President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation, declaring all enslaved people in Secessionist Confederate States to be free, however in reality, many remained enslaved for two and a half more years; and

WHEREAS, on June 19th, 1865, the promise of freedom was officially fulfilled for the people of Texas; and

WHEREAS, on that date, after the arrival the previous day of Union troops, Major General Gordon Granger issued General Order No. 3, informing the people of Texas that all enslaved people were now free; and

WHEREAS, in the previous month an army brigade made up of more than 1,000 African-descendant soldiers had captured Galveston, removed the rebel government and soldiers, and begun to spread the word of freedom; and

WHEREAS, the ratification of the 13th Amendment in December ended legalized enslavement in the United States in 1865; and

WHEREAS, Juneteenth has been recognized as the oldest continuous celebration commemorating the end of slavery in the United States; and

WHEREAS, it has been determined that it is in the best interests of the City of Stamford to declare June 19th of each year a City holiday known as "Juneteenth."

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF STAMFORD THAT Chapter 37 of the Stamford Code of Ordinances be added as follows:

CHAPTER 37. - JUNETEENTH

Sec. 37-1. – Declaration of holiday.

The 19th of June of each year is declared a legal holiday in the City of Stamford, and only those city personnel actually necessary to maintain the good order of the city shall work on that day. If the 19th of June falls on a weekend, the holiday shall be celebrated on the following Monday.

Sec. 37-2. – When effective.

This chapter shall take effect on adoption and shall be observed yearly.

Jeff Curtis, President, and Megan Cottrell, Clerk, do hereby certify that the foregoing Ordinance was approved on the Consent Agenda by the 31st Board of Representatives at the regular Board Meeting held on Monday, January 3, 2023.




Jeff Curtis, President

Dated this 10th day of January, 2023



Megan Cottrell, Clerk

Dated this 10th day of January, 2023



Caroline Simmons, Mayor, City of Stamford

Dated this 11th day of January 2023

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 21, 2023

cc: Mayor Caroline Simmons
Sandra L. Dennies, Director of Administration
Matthew Quiñones, Director of Operations
Loren Nadres, Director of Economic Development

Douglas Dalena Esq., Law Department
Elda Sinani, Director of OPM
Lyda Ruijter, City & Town Clerk
Bridget Fox, Chief of Staff