

Office of the Mayor  
City of Sheboygan

# Proclamation

**WHEREAS,** President Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863, declaring the slaves in Confederate territory free, paving the way for the passing of the 13th Amendment which formally abolished slavery in the United States of America; and

**WHEREAS,** word about the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation was delayed some two and a half years, to June 19, 1865, in reaching authorities and African-Americans in the South and Southwestern United States; and

**WHEREAS,** June 19th has a special meaning to African-Americans, and is called "JUNETEENTH" combining the words June and Nineteenth, and is the oldest known public celebration of the end of slavery in the United States; and

**WHEREAS,** Juneteenth commemorates African-American freedom and celebrates the successes gained through education and greater opportunity; and

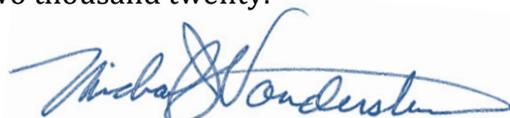
**WHEREAS,** on a larger scale, celebration of Juneteenth reminds each of us of the precious promises of freedom, equality, and opportunity which are at the core of the American Dream,

**NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Mike Vandersteen, Mayor of the City of Sheboygan, do hereby proclaim June 19, 2020 as

## JUNETEENTH DAY

in Sheboygan, and urge all residents to become more aware of the significance of this celebration in African-American history and in the heritage of our nation and city. We must continue to eliminate racial disparities and support efforts to increase diversity and promote racial equality in Sheboygan.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of Sheboygan to be affixed. Done this fifteenth day of June, in the year of our Lord, two thousand twenty.



**MAYOR MIKE VANDERSTEEN**

