



**A JOINT RESOLUTION AND PROCLAMATION HONORING JUNETEENTH & GAHANNA'S SECOND ANNUAL JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION**

**WHEREAS**, on June 19, 1865, more than two years after the Emancipation Proclamation was issued, Union troops arrived in Galveston, Texas, liberating enslaved African Americans, and today we honor that pivotal moment in American history as Juneteenth, also known as Emancipation Day; and

**WHEREAS**, Juneteenth stands as a powerful reminder of freedom, resilience, and the ongoing pursuit of justice, equity, and opportunity for all people; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2021, Juneteenth was established as a federal holiday and recognized as a state holiday in Ohio, and the City of Gahanna designated Juneteenth as an official observed paid holiday for City employees; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Gahanna values a welcoming, supportive, and safe community that fosters mutual respect, understanding, and belonging; and

**WHEREAS**, on Friday, June 19, 2026, Gahanna's Juneteenth Celebration will return for its second year in collaboration with the Creekside Blues & Jazz Festival at Creekside Park, bringing residents and visitors together through music, dance, spoken word, education, and community connection; and

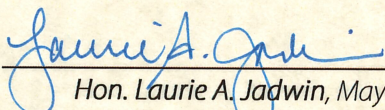
**WHEREAS**, the 2026 Juneteenth Celebration will honor African American history and culture through performances, storytelling, fellowship, and shared experiences that celebrate freedom, culture, and community.

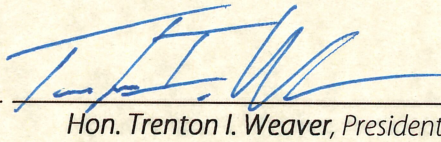
**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT JOINTLY RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL AND PROCLAIMED BY THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF GAHANNA, COUNTY OF FRANKLIN, STATE OF OHIO:**


**Section 1.** That the Council and Mayor hereby recognize Juneteenth, June 19, 2026, in the City of Gahanna and commend the individuals and organizations working to advance unity, understanding, and community connection.

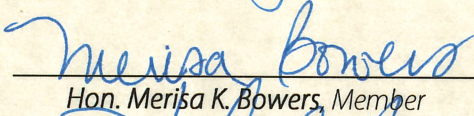
**Section 2.** That the Council and Mayor encourage all residents and visitors to participate in the 2026 Juneteenth Celebration and continue engaging in efforts that promote inclusion, understanding, and a stronger, more connected Gahanna community.

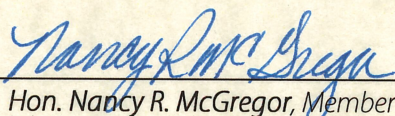
**Section 3.** That this Resolution shall be in full force and effect at the earliest period allowed by law.

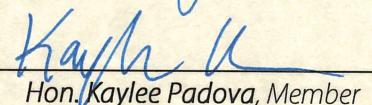
  
Hon. Laurie A. Jadwin, Mayor

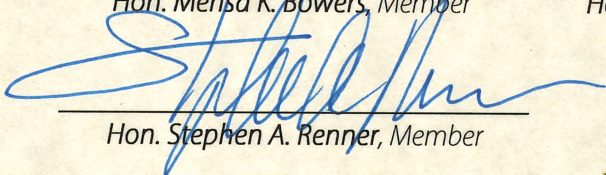
  
Hon. Trenton I. Weaver, President

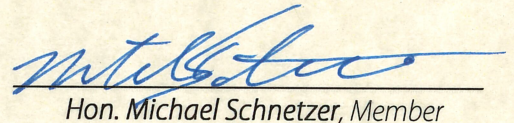
  
Hon. Jamille Jones, Vice President

  
Hon. Merisa K. Bowers, Member

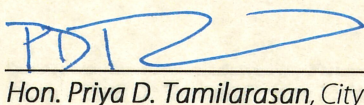
  
Hon. Nancy R. McGregor, Member

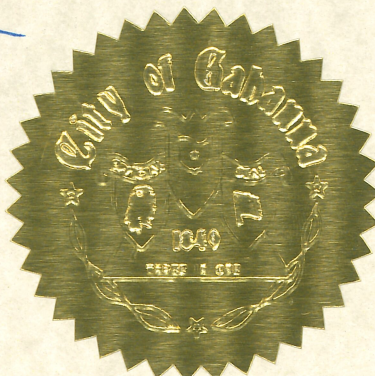
  
Hon. Kaylee Padova, Member

  
Hon. Stephen A. Renner, Member

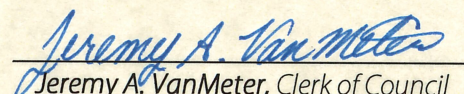
  
Hon. Michael Schnetzer, Member

Approved:

  
Hon. Priya D. Tamaras, City Attorney



Attest: Certified as passed this 1<sup>st</sup> day of June 2026, RES-0019-2026.

  
Jeremy A. VanMeter, Clerk of Council