

CITY OF WATERVLIET
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
OFFICIAL PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, on June 19, 1865, nearly two and a half years after President Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation, Union soldiers, led by General Gordon Granger, arrived in Galveston, Texas bringing to some of the last enslaved Americans news of their legal status as free persons; and

WHEREAS, the nineteenth of June has become nationally recognized as "Juneteenth" to commemorate the abolition of slavery and honor the strength, determination, and triumphs of African Americans in the face of extreme oppression and hardship; and

WHEREAS, Juneteenth today is a symbol of the human spirit achieving victory over cruelty and oppression, and its anniversary serves to remind us that endurance, determination and perseverance can change our world for the better, and

WHEREAS, the City of Watervliet is firmly committed to fostering a culture of diversity and inclusion for all.

NOW, THEREFORE,

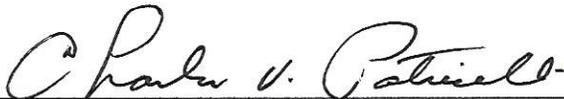
I, CHARLES V. PATRICELLI, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF WATERVLIET, NEW YORK, DO HEREBY RECOGNIZE AND COMMEMORATE

JUNETEENTH

IN THE CITY OF WATERVLIET AND ENCOURAGE ALL CITIZENS TO BECOME MORE AWARE OF THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE CELEBRATION IN AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY AND IN THE HERITAGE OF OUR NATION AND OUR CITY.



In Witness Whereof,
I have hereunto set my hand and caused
the Seal of the City of Watervliet to be
affixed on this 19nd day of June, 2020



Mayor