

Town of Elon, North Carolina

PROCLAMATION

COMMEMORATING JUNETEENTH AS A NATIONAL HOLIDAY

WHEREAS, the Emancipation Proclamation, an executive order issued January 1st, 1863 by President Abraham Lincoln immediately freed approximately five hundred thousand from generational bondage, but still left approximately 3.5 million enslaved across the United States; and

WHEREAS, Juneteenth is the oldest known celebration commemorating the ending of slavery in the United States, when Union soldiers led by Major General Gordon Granger arrived in Galveston, Texas to announce the war had ended, freeing the enslaved; and

WHEREAS, 2022 is the 157th anniversary of Juneteenth Day, a nationally recognized day which commemorates June 19, 1865 as the observance of African American Emancipation Day of Freedom; and

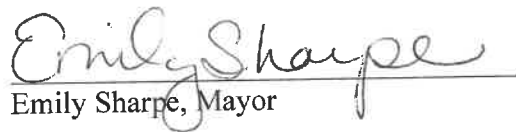
WHEREAS, Juneteenth is a time to cultivate the true spirit of freedom and remember our ancestors as the men and women who bravely acted as catalysts for change; and

WHEREAS, at the February 14, 2022, Regular Meeting, the Elon Board of Aldermen, approved Juneteenth as an additional paid holiday for all Town of Elon full-time employees; and

WHEREAS, for calendar year June 2022 the holiday will be observed, Monday, June 20th because June 19th is on Sunday,

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mayor Emily Sharpe and the Town Council do hereby proclaim June 19th, 2022 as “Juneteenth Day” and encourage citizens to recognize and commemorate Juneteenth which honors the history, legacy, and culture of African Americans throughout the United States of America by participating in celebrations and festivities during the month of June.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the Town of Elon to be affixed on this 14th day of June 2022.


Emily Sharpe, Mayor

