Council Member Alice Berry made a motion to adopt the following resolution. A vote of 5-0 in favor.

RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING JUNETEENTH 2025

Resolution No. R-25-27

WHEREAS, on September 22, 1862, President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation, declaring that as of January 1, 1863, all enslaved people in the rebellious states would be thenceforward and forever free; and

WHEREAS, it took almost three more years of conflict and loss to bring about the end of the Civil War and the ratification of the Thirteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution in December 1865 to officially end slavery in the United States; and

WHEREAS, as the news of freedom spread gradually throughout the nation; on June 19, 1865, two months after the official surrender of the Confederacy at Appomattox, Union Soldiers arrived in Galveston, Texas, and issued General Order No. 3 announcing freedom to some of the last enslaved people in the United States; and

WHEREAS, June 19th, or Juneteenth, also known as Freedom Day, Jubilee Day, Liberation Day, and Emancipation Day, celebrates the emancipation of those who had been enslaved in the United States and became a federally recognized holiday in 2021, observed annually on June 19th; and

WHEREAS, on this anniversary each year, organizations and individuals throughout North Carolina and our nation celebrate African American heritage, history, freedom, and culture with events and ceremonies that reflect the power of community, family, art, and tradition in the face of oppression; and

WHEREAS, observing Juneteenth encourages all residents to learn from the past, engage in meaningful dialogue, and continue working toward a community that values diversity and ensures the dignity and rights of every individual.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council of the Town of Black Mountain does hereby proclaim June 19th, 2025, as "**JUNETEENTH"** in the Town of Black Mountain and encourages residents, organizations and institutions to commemorate this historic occasion through education, reflection, and celebration.

Adopted this 9th Day of June 2025.

_____

C. Michael Sobol, Mayor

Attest:

_____

Wesley M. Barker, Town Clerk