

RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION AND CELEBRATION OF JUNETEENTH

At a regular meeting of the Township Board of the Charter Township of Meridian, Ingham County, Michigan, held on the 4th day of June, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. local time.

PRESENT: _____

ABSENT: _____

WHEREAS, Juneteenth is the oldest celebration of the emancipation of African-American slaves, and is so named for the June 19, 1866 adoption of Black Independence Day in Galveston, Texas; and,

WHEREAS, Juneteenth celebrates America’s commitment to liberty and equality in accordance with the Constitution of the United States, along with the Emancipation Declaration, issued by President Lincoln on September 22, 1862, and later became effective on January 1, 1863 and the 13th Amendment to the Constitution which abolished slavery, ratified by Congress on December 6, 1865; and,

WHEREAS, the history of African-Americans is a study of resilience for the plight of slavery in our history, and today, for the over 45 million people in forced labor and other forms of human trafficking; and,

WHEREAS, Juneteenth was established as a federal holiday in 2021 and a State of Michigan holiday in 2023; and,

WHEREAS, On the 26th of April, 2022, the Meridian Township Board established Juneteenth as a paid holiday for Meridian Township, as part of the ongoing efforts of the Meridian Township Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee’s work; and,

WHEREAS, In 2023, Meridian Township held its first annual Juneteenth Celebration for its residents to great success; and,

WHEREAS, the Meridian Township Board encourages the entire community, region, state and country to celebrate Juneteenth;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN, INGHAM COUNTY, MICHIGAN, that the Meridian Township Board recognizes, adopts and proclaims this Resolution to underscore the freedom with dignity of every human being. As a governmental body, we oppose and reject any form of oppression and pledge to support our residents, churches and organizations working to achieve social justice, genuine equality and protect the human rights for all people of Meridian Township.

ADOPTED:

YEAS: _____

NAYS: _____

Resolution declared

STATE OF MICHIGAN)

)SS:

COUNTY OF INGHAM)

I, the undersigned, the duly qualified and acting Clerk of the Township Board of the Charter Township of Meridian, Ingham County, Michigan, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted at a regular meeting of the Township Board on the 4th day of June 2024.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Deborah Guthrie', written over a horizontal line.

Deborah Guthrie
Meridian Township Clerk