

City of High Point

*Municipal Office Building
211 S. Hamilton Street
High Point, NC 27260*



Meeting Agenda

Wednesday, December 8, 2021

9:00 AM

Council Chambers

Prosperity and Livability Committee

Wesley Hudson - Chair

Michael Holmes

Cyril Jefferson

Monica Peters

Jay Wagner, Mayor (Alternate)

Britt Moore, Mayor Pro Tem (Alternate)

**Prosperity and Livability Committee - Council Member Wesley Hudson,
Chair**

CALL TO ORDER

PRESENTATION OF ITEMS

[2021-550](#)

Presentation-Juneteenth Holiday Proposal

Staff is requested to give a presentation to consider adding Juneteenth as a paid city holiday.

Attachments: [Juneteenth Agenda Memo](#)
[Juneteenth Holiday Proposal](#)

ADJOURNMENT

Juneteenth Holiday Proposal

December 8, 2021

Juneteenth History

Juneteenth celebrates the country's longest running observance of the abolition of slavery. This holiday commemorates the emancipation of slaves in Texas on June 19, 1865, after Union soldiers landed in Galveston, Texas. The slaves in this region were the last to learn of their freedom.

Initially celebrated in Texas, where it is now observed as a state holiday, the celebration of Juneteenth has gradually spread across the nation.

Juneteenth History

Every year, June 19 marks the day that African Americans exercised independence from those who benefitted from their labors in the founding of this nation.

Government units nationwide have recognized the need to honor and remember the endurance of African Americans that have persevered despite the injustices and hardship that they have faced.

Current City Paid Holidays

- The City currently offers 9 paid holidays with 11 total days off annually:
 - New Year's Day
 - Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
 - Good Friday
 - Memorial Day
 - Independence Day
 - Labor Day
 - Veterans Day
 - Thanksgiving Day (2 days)
 - Christmas (2 days)

Holiday Comparison

- A review of the top 20 cities by population in North Carolina show that:
 - Seven cities (including High Point) offer 11 days off annually
 - Six cities offer 12 days off annually
 - Seven cities offer 13 days off annually

Holiday Comparison

- Eleven Cities offer Juneteenth as a holiday
 - Apex
 - Asheville
 - Chapel Hill
 - Cary
 - Durham
 - Greensboro
 - Greenville
 - Jacksonville
 - Raleigh
 - Rocky Mount
 - Winston-Salem
- Charlotte is considering adding for 2022

Data

FY 2022	New Years	MLK	Good Friday	Memorial Day	Juneteenth	Independence Day	Labor Day	Veterans Day	Thanksgiving	Christmas	Floating Holiday	Total Days
Winston-Salem	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1		11
Fayetteville	1	1	1	1		1	1	1	2	2		11
High Point	1	1	1	1		1	1	1	2	2		11
Gastonia	1	1	1	1		1	1	1	2	2		11
Jacksonville	1	1		1	1	1	1	1	2	2		11
Burlington	1	1	1	1		1	1		2	3		11
Rocky Mount	1	1	1	1	1	1	1		2	2		11
Charlotte	1	1	1	1		1	1	1	2	2	1	12
Durham	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2		12
Wilmington	1	1	1	1		1	1	1	2	3		12
Chapel Hill	1	1	1	1	1	1	1		2	3		12
Huntersville	1	1	1	1		1	1	1	2	3		12
Kannapolis	1	1	1	1		1	1	1	2	3		12
Raleigh	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	3		13
Greensboro	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	3		13
Cary	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	3		13
Asheville	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	3		13
Greenville	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	1	13
Apex	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	3		13
Concord	1	1	1	1		1	1	1	2	3	1	13

Questions?

CITY OF HIGH POINT

AGENDA ITEM



Title: Juneteenth Holiday

From: Eric Olmedo, Assistant City Manager

Public Hearing: None

Attachments:

Meeting Date: December 8, 2021

Advertising Date / N/A

Advertised By:

PURPOSE:

Council is requested to consider adding Juneteenth as a paid city holiday.

BACKGROUND:

Staff was asked to provide information related to establishing Juneteenth as a City paid holiday.

Juneteenth celebrates the country's longest running observance of the abolition of slavery. This holiday commemorates the emancipation of slaves in Texas on June 19, 1865, after Union soldiers landed in Galveston, Texas. The slaves in this region were the last to learn of their freedom. Initially celebrated in Texas, where it is now observed as a state holiday, the celebration of Juneteenth has gradually spread across the nation.

Every year, June 19 marks the day that African Americans exercised independence from those who benefitted from their labors in the founding of this nation. Government units nationwide have recognized the need to honor and remember the endurance of African Americans that have persevered despite the injustices and hardship that they have faced.

Currently, the City of High Point offers the following days as holidays with pay for eligible City employees: New Year's Day, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Good Friday, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Veteran's Day, Thanksgiving (2 days) and Christmas (2 days). When a holiday falls on a Saturday, the preceding Friday is observed as the holiday, and when a holiday falls on a Sunday, the following Monday is observed as the holiday.

BUDGET IMPACT: There is no direct budget impact to adding a holiday. There is a cost in lack of productivity due to having one additional day off as a holiday and shifting existing workloads to fewer days.

RECOMMENDATION / ACTIONS REQUESTED:

Staff ask that the Prosperity and Livability Committee hear the request and make a recommendation to the City Council regarding the addition of Juneteenth as a city paid holiday.