ORDINANCE (FIRST READING)

DESIGNATING JUNETEENTH A TOWN HOLIDAY

MAY 3, 2022

Town of
CASTLE ROCK
COLORADO

JUNETEENTH

- Celebrated each June 19 to commemorate the end of slavery in the United States

- Became a federal holiday in 2021, and the Colorado General Assembly in its 2022 session adopted a bill designating Juneteenth a state holiday

- 33 Colorado municipalities as of December 2021 had designated Juneteenth as a municipal holiday; the Colorado Municipal League expects this number to grow now that Juneteenth is a state holiday
    - Within Douglas County, Parker is observing Juneteenth; Castle Pines, Douglas County and Lone Tree have not decided to do so at this time

- In addition to Colorado, the District of Columbia, Delaware, Illinois, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, New Jersey, New York, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Virginia and Washington observe Juneteenth

TOWN CONSIDERATIONS

- Council at its April 19 meeting directed staff to bring back information about how the Town can honor and acknowledge Juneteenth

- Chapter 2.06 of Town Code specifies 10.5 holidays annually and states, "Town Council may grant other holidays as it deems fit." Council can acknowledge Juneteenth as a Town holiday by approving an ordinance to amend this section of the Code

- If Council adopts the ordinance, staff recommends that – on years when June 19 falls on a weekend – the holiday be observed on the closest working weekday, consistent with how the Town observes other holidays

- There is a cost associated with establishing an additional holiday, to provide holiday pay for employees on duty on the holiday – generally public safety and water staff. Finance estimates the cost would be about $61,000 in 2022, including about $41,000 within the General Fund to compensate Fire ($21,000) and Police ($14,500) employees. Staff believes this cost could be accommodated within existing 2022 appropriations. If Council adopts the ordinance, staff would budget this expense in future years

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