

*Whereas,* Black History Month originated in 1926 when scholar Carter G. Woodson conceived of a yearly celebration to highlight the central role that African Americans have played in our nation's history, as for too long both their contributions and the injustices they suffered had been ignored; and

*Whereas,* the theme of Black History Month 2023 is "Black Resistance," recognizing that African Americans have been resisting injustice, oppression, and violence since arriving in this country and still to this day; and

*Whereas,* Black resistance has taken many forms, from spirituals to hip-hop; from the underground railroad to the Civil Rights movement; from boycotts to protests – generations of people working for freedom, justice and equality; and

*Whereas:* during Black History month we celebrate the legacy and essential contributions of brilliant African Americans in the arts, science, technology, medicine, education, economics and all areas that have shaped our country; and

*Whereas:* we must also acknowledge that the struggle for freedom and equality is ongoing, and it will continue to take the resistance work of African Americans and their allies toward, in Rev. Dr. King's words, "the creation of the beloved community."

**NOW THEREFORE,** I, Cory Mason, Mayor of the City of Racine, do hereby proclaim February 2023

## Black History Month

*IN WITNESS WHEREOF*, I have here unto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Racine to be affixed.

Accomplished at the City Hall this 7th day of February, 2023.

Mayor			