



E~Mail Newsletter

17 May 2024

Volume 144, Number 2

Meeting Dates

MAY

20th ~ Tourism

21st ~ Board of
Adjustment [**CANCELED**]

21st ~ Special City
Council

*All City Boards,
Commissions, & Authority
meets at the Municipal
Court House unless
otherwise noted.

City of Blanchard
P.O. Box 480
122 N. Main Street
Blanchard, OK 73010
Phone: (405) 485-9392
Fax: (405) 485-3199

Agritourism

Strawberry season is upon us and you have the opportunity to pick your own berries. You can bring the whole family and spend the day picking fresh strawberries!

Below is a list of u-pick strawberry farms in central Oklahoma near you:

- Buffalo Creek Berry Farm | Mustang, OK
- Growing Paynes | Mustang, OK
- McRay Farms, Luther, OK

All You Can Eat Breakfast

The Masonic Lodge (10th Street & Main Street) will host their AYCE Breakfast at the Lodge beginning at 7am, tomorrow (Saturday, May 18th). The cost is \$7.

BMIA Action

The Board of Trustees of the Blanchard Municipal Improvement Authority will met in regular session on Tuesday, the 14th of May and discussed, considered and took action as follows:

1. **ADOPTED** Resolution No. 2024-05 replacing and superseding Resolution No. 2024-03 approved by the Borrower on March 12, 2024 authorizing a loan from the Oklahoma Water Resources Board in the total aggregate principal amount of not to exceed \$9,200,000.00; approving the issuance of a Promissory Note in the total aggregate principal amount of not to exceed \$9,200,000.00, secured by a pledge of revenues and authorizing its execution; designating a local trustee; approving and authorizing the execution of a Trust Agreement; approving and authorizing the

Special Events

MAY

18th ~ May Daze

18th ~ Armed Forces Day

18th ~ Farmers Market

25th ~ Farmers Market

27th ~ Memorial Day

30th ~ Veterans Memorial Dedication

execution of a Loan Agreement; approving and authorizing the execution of a Security Agreement; ratifying and confirming an amended Lease Agreement pertaining to the utility systems serving the City of Blanchard, Oklahoma; approving and authorizing the modification of the security with respect to certain outstanding indebtedness of the borrower, specifically adding one percent (1.0%) of Use Tax revenue to the security pledge and approving and authorizing the execution of any and all necessary documents, including but not limited to an amended Sales Tax Agreement and an amendment to general bond indenture; approving and authorizing a Note Purchase Agreement; approving various covenants; approving and authorizing application to the Oklahoma Water Resources Board; approving and authorizing a Parity Agreement; approving and authorizing Professional Services Agreements; approving and authorizing payment of fees and expenses; and containing other provisions relating thereto.

2. **ADOPTED** Resolution No. 2024-06 placing a temporary moratorium until further notice by not allowing developers outside the municipal limits to tie onto and extending the City water system unless said development is first annexed to the City.

3. **ADOPTED** Resolution No. 2024-07 acknowledging receipt of Construction Permit No. WL000044240035 for the construction of 774 linear feet of six (6) inch pvc pipe for water line distribution and all appurtenances to serve Contemporary Family Dentistry.

4. **DISCUSSED** WATER IMPROVEMENTS to take necessary actions as the Board of Trustees desire.

5. **DISCUSSED** SEWER IMPROVEMENTS to take necessary actions as the Board of Trustees desire.

6. **APPROVED** DEPARTMENT REQUEST by the Public Works Director to spend \$12,875.00 (W&W Electric) to repair/rebuild the pump for the east lift station (East of Tyler on 7th).

7. **APPROVED** Consent Agenda.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 11th.

For more info, visit the Parks Facebook Page regarding City sponsored events.

For Blanchard City events: Please visit our website at www.cityofblanchard.us

Library Events: Please visit their website @ <https://pioneer.libnet.info/events?l=virtual,blanchard>

After Hours

For Public Works
after-hour incidents:

- * water leaks
- * waterline breaks
- * sewer backups
- * sewer line breaks
- * lift station alarms
- * manholes over flowing
- * low-water pressure
- * no water
- * potholes
- * road repairs
- * signs missing
- * signs down
- * roadway flooding
- * debris in road
- * street lite out

Please call
405.485.9391.

The Blanchard
Emergency
Communications

Board of Adjustment

The May meeting of the BOA is canceled due to a lack of agenda items.

Council Action

The Blanchard City Council met in regular session on Tuesday, May 14th and discussed, considered and took action as follows:

Issued four (4) Proclamations:

- Armed Forces Day ~ May 18, 2024;
- Memorial Day ~ May 27, 2024;
- Flag Day & Week ~ June 9 - 15, 2024;
- Flood Prevention Month ~ June 9 - 15, 2024.

1. **HELD PUBLIC HEARING** to receive public comments on the Planning Commission's recommendation to approve Zoning Application submitted by:

Applicant: Abraham Aviles & Hanna H. Aviles
Address: SW Corner of Laura Meadows Dr & US-62
Current Zoning: R-E, Residential Estates District
Proposed Zoning: A-1, Agricultural District
Legal: E2 NE4 NW4 SW4 of Section 36-T8N-R5W of the Indian Meridian, Grady County, State of Oklahoma.

PC Recommendation: Approval
PC Resolution No.: 2024-14

2. **ADOPTED ORDINANCE NO. 815** reclassifying property from the R-E, Residential Estates District to the A-1, Agricultural District for a tract of land located at the southwest corner of Laura Meadows Drive and W. Veterans Memorial Highway (US-62), within the City of Blanchard, Oklahoma; providing for severability; declaring repealer; and declaring an emergency.

3. **ADOPTED EMERGENCY CLAUSE for Zoning Ordinance No. 815.**

4. **HELD PUBLIC HEARING** to receive public comments on the Planning Commission's recommendation to approve Zoning Application submitted by:

Applicant: Sunshine Development of Indian Ridge

Center is 24-7 and will contact the on-call personnel regarding the incident.

Shop Local

Here's what happens when you "shop local."

1. For every \$100 you spend at locally owned businesses, \$68 stays in Blanchard. What happens when you spend that same \$100 at a national chain? Only \$43 stays in the community*.
2. You wouldn't want your house to look like everyone else's in the U.S. So why would you want your community to look that way?
3. Local businesses are better at creating higher-paying jobs for your neighbors. When you shop locally, you help create jobs for firemen, police officers, and many other essential professions.
4. Buying from a locally owned business conserves energy and resources in the form of less fuel for transportation and less packaging.
5. Local business owners know you, and you know them. Studies have shown that local businesses donate to community causes at more than twice the rate of chains.
6. Shopping in a local business district means less infrastructure, less maintenance, and more money available to beautify the community.

Address: Near 3730 W. Memorial Highway (US-62)
Current Zoning: A-1, Agricultural District
Proposed Zoning: R-1, Single Family Residential District
Legal: W2 of Section 35-T8N-R5W of the Indian Meridian, Grady County, State of Oklahoma.
PC Recommendation: Approval
PC Resolution No.: 2024-15

5. **ADOPTED** [ORDINANCE NO. 816](#) reclassifying property from the A-1, Agricultural District to the R-1, Single Family Residential District for property located near 3730 W. Veterans Memorial Highway (US-62), within the City of Blanchard, Oklahoma; providing for severability; declaring repealer; and declaring an emergency.

6. **ADOPTED** [EMERGENCY CLAUSE for Zoning Ordinance No. 816.](#)

7. **ADOPTED** [ORDINANCE NO. 817](#) amending Ordinance 807 adopted 2/13/24 pertaining to animal regulations.

8. **ADOPTED** [EMERGENCY CLAUSE for Ordinance No. 817.](#)

9. **ADOPTED** [RESOLUTION NO. 2024-31](#) replacing and superseding Resolution No. 2024-14 approved by the City on March 12, 2024 approving action taken by the Blanchard Municipal Improvement Authority (the "AUTHORITY") authorizing issuance, sale and delivery of a Promissory Note of the AUTHORITY to the Oklahoma Water Resources Board; ratifying and confirming an amended Lease Agreement; approving and authorizing an amended Sales Tax Agreement; and containing other provisions related thereto.

10. **ADOPTED** [RESOLUTION NO. 2024-32](#) accepting a proposal from BCBS on a new Health Insurance Benefit Plan for all municipal employees beginning July 1, 2024.

11. **ADOPTED** [RESOLUTION NO. 2024-33](#) acknowledging extension of Construction Permit No. WL000044230165 Extension 1 for 1-year from the date of the letter for the proposed 2024 CDBG Original Town Waterline Replacement, Phase 2, Facility No. 3004710.

12. **ADOPTED** [RESOLUTION NO. 2024-34](#) acknowledging receipt of Construction Permit No. WL000044240262 for the construction of 490 linear feet of eight (8) inch PVC pipe for water line distribution and all appurtenances to serve the N. Main Street,

Also, spending locally instead of online ensures that your sales taxes are reinvested where they belong – in Blanchard.

7. Locally owned businesses pick the items and products they sell based on what they know you like and want. Local businesses carry a wider array of unique products because they buy for their own individual markets.

8. You are their friends and neighbors, and locally owned businesses have a vested interest in knowing how to serve you. They're passionate about what they do. Why not take advantage of it?

9. Creativity and entrepreneurship are what the American economy is founded upon. Nurturing local business ensures a strong community.

10. The more interesting and unique Blanchard community, the more we will attract new neighbors, visitors and guests. This

BENEFITS EVERYONE!

* Civic Economics – Andersonville Study of Retail Economics.

Blanchard, OK, McClain County, Oklahoma.

13. **ADOPTED** [RESOLUTION NO. 2024-35](#) authorizing certain officers of the City to sign checks, checking, and savings accounts, MMDA accounts and other investments and transfers, as necessary; and authorizing certain officers access to the safety deposit boxes.

14. **ADOPTED** [RESOLUTION NO. 2024-36](#) approving a street lite at US-62 and Sara Road (southside).

15. **ADOPTED** [RESOLUTION NO. 2024-37](#) selecting two (2) nominees to serve on the OMAG Board of Directors for a three-year term.

16. **ADOPTED** [RESOLUTION NO. 2024-38](#) approving a request from Trinity Holiness Church for the City to establish a cross-walk from their parking lot to the Church.

17. **ADOPTED** [RESOLUTION NO. 2024-39](#) declaring the eligibility of the City of Blanchard to submit an application to the Oklahoma Department of Transportation for use of Transportation Alternatives Program fund set forth by IIJA for the Blanchard Sidewalk Project promoting safe Routes to Retail Businesses and Pedestrians in the City of Blanchard and authorizing the City Manager of the City of Blanchard, Mr. Robert L. Floyd, to sign this application.

18. **ADOPTED** [RESOLUTION NO. 2024-40](#) accepting the improvements as “public utilities”; approving Change Order No. 5 in the amount of \$59,570.00; and approving Final Payment in the amount of \$26,979.42 to Quicksilver Utility Contracting, LLC.

19. **ADOPTED** [RESOLUTION NO. 2024-41](#) approving three (3) Agreements for Fiscal Year 2024-25 beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025 with McClain County:

- a. Interlocal Agreement between City of Blanchard and McClain County pertaining to grading, draining, and hard surfacing of certain streets within the County; and
- b. Interlocal Agreement between McClain County and City of Blanchard pertaining to grading, drainage, and hard surfacing of certain streets within the City; and
- c. Interlocal Agreement with McClain County for jail services at \$42.00 per day (**NO** increase).

We're on the Web!
Please visit us at
www.cityofblanchard.us

20. **ADOPTED** [RESOLUTION NO. 2024](#) accepting the utility improvements as “public utilities” for water line extension (outside the municipal boundary) to serve North Main Street contingent upon receipt of 2nd Bac-T results.

21. **ADOPTED** [RESOLUTION NO. 2024-43](#) accepting the “Certificate of Acceptance” and Trust Indenture creating and forming a “public trust” with the City of Tuttle.

22. **ADOPTED** [RESOLUTION NO. 2024-44](#) approving a Joint Resolution between the City of Blanchard and the BMIA establishing a moratorium on allowing the extension of water mains and water lines to locations outside of the corporate limits of the City for residential, commercial or industrial uses, except for those areas where the City is currently contractually obligated to allow such services to be extended or established.

23. **APPROVED** the colors of blue and yellow for the City’s new website.

24. **DISCUSSED** [VETERANS MEMORIAL](#) re: the status of the completion of the Memorial and its’ dedication on the morning of Thursday, May 30th.

25. **ESTABLISHED** the number pf members and appointing 9-members to the Ad Hoc Committee for the development of a program of improvements and grants focusing on the Blanchard Historical Central Business District.

26. **DISCUSSED** [ROAD PROJECTS PHASE II](#) status of funding and cost estimates of Phase II and bidding time frame.

27. **DISCUSSED** [STREET IMPROVEMENTS](#) re: status of local street evaluation and ranking of projects.

28. **APPROVED** the [CONSENT AGENDA](#).

29. **HELD** [EXECUTIVE SESSION \(ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT\)](#).

The next City Council meeting will be Tuesday, June 11th.

Employment Opportunities

The City of Blanchard has the following positions open:

- 3 ~ Police Officers;
- 1 ~ Water & Sewer Utilities Technician;
- 1 ~ Sanitation Worker (Transfer Center);
- 1 ~ Heavy Equipment Operator;
- 3 ~ Seasonal Street Workers;
- 4 ~ Line Install Crew;
- 1 ~ City Planner; and
- 2 ~ Dispatchers.

Applications available for download from the City's website at www.cityofblanchard.us. Return to the HR Director at payroll@cityofblanchard.us or drop off at City Hall, 2008 N. Council Avenue. The City is an EOE.

Farmers' Market

The annual Blanchard Farmers' Market is opened every Saturday beginning at 8am thru September

The Market is located on US-62 across from Ten Arrows Coffee and Bistro.



Holiday Observance

City offices will be closed **Monday, May 27th** in observance of Memorial Day. If you have a police or fire emergency, please call 911.

If you have a water or sewer emergency, please call 485.9391. Trash service will run as usual.

House Numbering

In an emergency, first responders (fire, police and ambulance) and utility service technicians depend on clearly marked addresses to find the right home as quickly as possible. Finding a residence can be challenging if street addresses (house numbers) are unreadable, hidden, unlit or missing. You can help emergency responders and service technicians locate your home by following these tips:

- Replace aging or faded numbers;

- Clear all obstructions (hanging plants, bushes, flags, etc.) from blocking your house number;
- Post large numbers to allow visibility from the street;
- Place your numbers near the street or on the curb, with a reflective coating and contrasting background;
- Allow numbers to be seen from all directions (if your home is on a corner, have numbers posted on all sides).

The BMC §4-402 requires all building and houses to be numbered. The even numbers (2,4,6, etc.) shall be on the east side of the streets extending north and south, and on the south side of the streets extending east and west; the odd numbers (1,3,5, etc.) shall be on the opposite side of streets.

May Daze Festival

31st Annual
**MAY
DAZE**

May 17th & 18th
10 am-8pm
Main Street - Blanchard

Sponsored
By:


FESTIVAL
**Blanchard
Chamber of Commerce**

Live Music
100+ Vendors
Food Trucks & Vendors
KID'S ACTIVITIES

For more information, call the Blanchard Chamber Office at 405.485.8787.

Oil 'n Gas

There were **NO** oil wells permitted or completed in Blanchard according to the Oklahoma Corporation Commission since **Friday, May 10th**.

Park Events

5/18/24 ~ May Daze
5/24/24 ~ Summer Concert Series
6/7/24 ~ Concert in the Park
Movies Under the Stars
6/14/24 ~ Concert in the Park
6/15/24 ~ Fishing Derby
6/21/24 ~ Concert in the Park
Movies Under the Stars
6/28/24 ~ Concert in the Park
7/02/24 ~ Independence Day Celebration
8/16/24 ~ Bluegrass Festival
8/17/24 ~ Bluegrass Festival
9/28/24 ~ Mufflers On Main
10/31/24 ~ PumpkinFest
11/09/24 ~ Veterans Day Parade
12/14/24 ~ Christmas Parade of Lights
12/14/24 ~ Christmas on Main

Police Blotter

NO ARRESTS REPORTED.

Senior Nutrition Center

The Blanchard Senior Nutrition Center serves a fully balanced lunch (entrees, sides, desserts, tea and coffee) for all senior citizens five (5) days a week beginning at 11:30am, Monday thru Friday (except City Observed Holiday).

MENU

Monday ~ Chicken Patty, Mashed Potatoes, Veggies, Bread, Dessert.

Tuesday ~ Taco Salad, Beans, Chips, Dessert.

Wednesday ~ Chicken Salad, Carrot and Raisin Salad, Beets, Crackers, Dessert.

Thursday ~ Chili Beans, Salad, Corn, Cornbread, Dessert.

Friday ~ Fish, Baked Beans, Coleslaw, Bun, Dessert.

The Senior Nutrition **MENU** for the week of May 20th thru May 25th is published in the Thursday edition of the Blanchard News on May 16th.

If you are 60 or older, you are eligible to participate free of

charge. However, a suggested donation of \$2.00 is requested to insure the continuance in meeting the nutritional needs of our elderly citizens.

Citizens under the age of 60 may participate but are required to pay \$5.00 for the meal.

If you need a ride to the Center located at 101 S. Main Street, the City contracts with Delta Transit to provide bus service. Rides are available by calling 1-866-THAT-BUS. For more information, please call (405) 485-9260.

So...Think Shop Live Blanchard

Please keep in mind that Blanchard's quality of life and the local economy relies on where residents spend their money and do their shopping. Sales tax is a direct and vital lifeline to essential services like public safety (police, fire, 911 services), public facilities, projects, programs and services. Shopping locally keeps businesses here in Blanchard, providing jobs and benefiting community schools and non-profits.

If there's one thing we can all do to make our dollars work for this community, it's to shop local! Grab dinner in Blanchard on your way home. You'd be surprised what a difference that can make. Shopping locally benefits the entire community. Make your tax dollars work for you and our community.

Splash Pad

Happy Memorial Day!



The City's Splash Pad located 415 SW 7th Street just west of Main Street plans on opening for the Summer season on Friday, May 24th.

The Splash Pad will be open from **11am - 9pm** each day!

Please help keep our Parks clean and beautiful

by using trash receptacles.

Summer Concert Series

Memorial

Food Truck

Weekend

Cool Treats

Kickoff

The Blanchard Parks & Recreation Department Proudly presents
All the way from Nashville, Tn.



The Zach Ray Band



Live in Lions Park

May 24th 7pm

**415 SW 7th Street
Blanchard, Ok.**

Tornado Safety

In Oklahoma, tornadoes are frequent in the spring and summer months. An average of 800 tornadoes are reported each year, causing 80 deaths and over 1,500 injuries per year. These storms are capable of tremendous destruction with wind speeds of 250 mph or greater. The following guidelines will assist in keeping you safe:

Tornado Watch - means a tornado is "possible". When the National Weather Service issues a warning, it is time to turn on a TV or radio, look out the window from time to time, and be more alert to what is happening outside.

Tornado Warning - means that a tornado has actually been

spotted, or is strongly indicated on radar, and it is time to go to a safe shelter immediately.

Warning Signs - A sickly greenish or greenish black color to the sky.

» If there is a tornado warning or watch posted, then the fall of hail should be considered as a real danger.

» A strange quiet that occurs within or shortly after the thunderstorm.

» Clouds moving by very fast, especially in a rotating pattern or converging toward one area of the sky.

» A sound a little like a waterfall or rushing air at first, then turning into a roar as it comes closer.

» Tornadoes usually move from southwest to northeast.

Safety Tips -

- Shelter indoors, away from flying debris.

- Go to your basement, storm cellar, safe room or lowest level of your home.

- Go to the most interior hallway or room without windows. Stay away from windows and doors.

- Avoid places/rooms with wide-span roofs (cafeterias, gymnasiums, shopping malls).

- Don't try to outrun a tornado in your car. It's one of the most unsafe places to be during a tornado.

- Don't seek shelter in drainage systems, culverts or ditches because of flash flooding.

- Use your arms to protect your head and neck.

Tourism Action

The Blanchard Tourism Board met in special session on Monday, May 13th and discussed, considered and took action as follows:

- **DISCUSSED** the status of final preparations for May Daze (May 17 & 18).

The next meeting of the Tourism Board will be Monday, June 17th.

Veterans Memorial Dedication

The Veterans Memorial Dedication is scheduled for **Thursday, May 30th** at 10am. The Governor, LT Governor, Secretary of Transportation, Tourism Director, Assistant Adjutant General and other dignitaries will be in attendance.

Weatherization Assistance

PSO offers to its customers a 'Home Weatherization Assistance Program'.

Homeowners and renters with an annual household income of \$55,000 or less in a home less than 2,200 square feet and built prior to 2010 may be eligible for FREE home upgrades such as attic insulation, air and duct sealing, and more.

PSO's service provider, Titan ES, will perform an energy assessment at your home. If your home qualifies, Titan will schedule and complete the necessary home upgrades.

The services are completed at NO cost to you. PSO pays Titan ES for any approved upgrades completed on your home.

For more information, contact the PSO Customer Services Account Representative at 405.222.7615.

