

# BLANCHARD E-NEWSLETTER

4 DECEMBER 2020

VOLUMN 102, ISSUE 1

## *ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS*

The City of Blanchard is advertising sealed bids for debris removal from the City's public right-of-way. Bids will be received at City Hall, located at 122 N. Main Street, Blanchard, until **1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, December 9<sup>th</sup>**.

For more information, please visit the legal notices in the Blanchard News on Thursday, November 19<sup>th</sup> or visit the City's website at [www.cityofblanchard.us](http://www.cityofblanchard.us) of the City's Facebook Page.

## *After Hours*

For Public Works after-hour incidents (ie: water leaks, sewer backups, low-water pressure, no water, etc.) please call 405.485.9391. The City's Central Dispatch is manned 24-7 and will contact the on-call personnel regarding the incident.

## *Alert System*

Sign up for the City's NEW Emergency Alert System by going to the City's website below at <http://blanchardok.pt7.civic-cms.com/.../pa.../emergency-alerts>.

## *CDBG Public Hearing*

The City of Blanchard will hold a Public Hearing on a proposed FY-2021 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) to update and replace existing water lines in old town Blanchard.

The Hearing is scheduled on **Tuesday, December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020**, at **6:00 p.m.** at the Blanchard Municipal Courthouse located at 300 North Main Street, Blanchard, OK.

The Public meeting will provide citizens with information on:

- » Type of projects for which funding is available.
- » Identify needs and priorities.
- » The amount of funds available.
- » How much of the funding will be for low and moderate income.
- » A timetable for implementation of proposed program when funded.
- » Opportunity for comment on proposed activities.
- » Discussion of proposed budget.

It is anticipated that the City will make an application to the State of Oklahoma Department of Commerce for CDBG Grant funds to carry out the proposed activities. All interested citizens are invited to attend this hearing. The application will be available

from the City Clerk for review at the time of submission. The project serves the Blanchard Old Town Area.

## Christmas Break

The Blanchard Public Schools will be closed for the Christmas Holidays. Students in the Blanchard School District will be out of school from **December 21<sup>st</sup>, 2020** to **January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021**.

No classes will be held during this period.

## Christmas Parade

**Blanchard's**  
**A Magical Disney Christmas**  
**Lighted Christmas Parade**  
**December 12th @ 6 PM**  
**FREE Picture with Santa**  
**2-4 pm @ Senior Center on Main**

**Carriage Rides**  
**2-4 pm**

**Christmas Concert @ 5 pm**

**Main Street Blanchard, OK**

**Shop Blanchard Give-a-ways**  
**4-6 pm**

## Debris Removal Update

Unfortunately, the site was too muddy to open today. The site will be allowed to dry-out and open Monday.

The City appreciates everyone's patience during this natural disaster that has plagued forty-seven (47) counties in Oklahoma.

We received our permit from DEQ to accept and burn tree damage from the October 26<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> winter storm.

Bids for debris removal are due on Wednesday, December 9<sup>th</sup>. A special meeting of the City Council in order to award bid or bids for picking up the debris from the curbside.

As we progress, we will post on the City's FACEBOOK page.

## Free Breakfast & Lunch

The Blanchard Public School has announced that the USDA is allowing the school district to feed breakfast and lunch to children 1-18 years of age, for FREE! This will last until December 31, 2020, or until funds run out.

They are working on getting everyone's accounts credited for the meals they have charged. If your child still has a balance on their account, please continue to pay this off, as the USDA will not pay for past charges.

If you would like to receive a meal, please contact Jamie Romine,

[jromine@blanchard.k12.ok.us](mailto:jromine@blanchard.k12.ok.us) or by phone 405-485-3391 ext 270, please leave a message stating how many you request to pick up.

## *Holiday Closing*



City offices will be closed on Christmas Eve, **Thursday, December 24<sup>th</sup>** and on Christmas Day, **Friday, December 25<sup>th</sup>**.

If you have a police or fire emergency, please call 911.

If you have a water or sewer emergency, please call 485.9391.

Offices will reopen on **Monday, December 28<sup>th</sup>**.

## *Meeting Calendar*

**December 7<sup>th</sup>** ~ BPS Board of Ed

**December 7<sup>th</sup>** ~ BETA

**December 8<sup>th</sup>** ~ City Council

**December 8<sup>th</sup>** ~ BMIA

**December 10<sup>th</sup>** ~ Planning Commission

**December 15<sup>th</sup>** ~ BOA

## *Major Disaster Declaration*

Governor Kevin Stitt requested a Major Disaster Declaration from the federal government related to the devastating

early season ice storm that began on October 26 on November 13, 2020.

The thirteen (13) counties included in this request are: Caddo, Canadian, Cleveland, Dewey, Grady, Kingfisher, Kiowa, Logan, Noble, Oklahoma, Payne, Pottawatomie, and Roger Mills.

The multi-day storm system produced up to two (2) inches of ice in some areas, left hundreds of thousands without power and caused millions of dollars in damages for local governments and tribes.

Damage assessments are ongoing, but in these thirteen (13) counties alone, the storm resulted in an estimated \$27 million in debris removal and other damages.

Due to FEMA policies as a result of the pandemic, damage assessments had to be conducted virtually by state and local emergency management using photos, videos, measurements and GPS data and then validated manually by FEMA Region 6 in Texas.

If approved, the designation would deliver federal funding to assist municipalities, counties, tribes and rural electric cooperatives with debris removal, infrastructure repairs and other costs associated with responding to the storm. Governor Stitt stressed that the state will continue to request additional counties be added to the Major Disaster Declaration in the coming weeks.

## *Notice of Continuance On the BMIA Agenda*

The Oklahoma Corporation Commission gave notice that the hearing on the administrative authorization to drill and complete the Goose 1-4, as a commercial saltwater disposal well proposed to be located in the SE/4 of the SE/4 of the SW/4 of Section 4-T8N-R4W, McClain County (north side of NE 55<sup>th</sup> and east of Rockwell Avenue) has been continued from January 8, 2021 to February 5, 2021 @ 8:30 a.m., Corporation Commission, Jim Thorpe Office Building, First Floor, 2101 North Lincoln Blvd, OKC, OK 73105.

## *On the BMIA Agenda*

The Blanchard Municipal Improvement Authority (BMIA) will hold their December meeting on **Tuesday, December 8<sup>th</sup>** beginning at 6pm, Municipal Courthouse to discuss, consider and take appropriate action regarding the following agenda items:

- 1 ~ FYE2020 Audit Report.
- 2 ~ Truck purchase.
- 3 ~ Emergency Declaration.
- 4 ~ Consent Agenda.

The full agenda packet can be found on the City's website at [www.cityofblanchard.us](http://www.cityofblanchard.us).

The next regular meeting will be Tuesday, January 26, 2021.

## *On the BETA Agenda*

The Blanchard Economic Trust Authority (BETA) will hold their December meeting on **Monday, December 7<sup>th</sup>** beginning at 6pm, Municipal Courthouse to discuss, consider and take appropriate action regarding the following agenda items:

- 1 ~ Economic Development.
- 2 ~ Farmer's Market.
- 3 ~ 2021 Schedule of Meetings.
- 4 ~ Consent Agenda.

The next meeting of the Trust will be Monday, February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021.

## *On the BOA Agenda*

The Blanchard Board of Adjustment will hold their December meeting on **Tuesday, December 15<sup>th</sup>** beginning at 6pm, Municipal Courthouse to discuss, consider and take appropriate action regarding the following agenda items:

- 1 ~ 2021 Schedule of Meetings.
- 2 ~ Consent Agenda.

The full agenda packet will be found later on the City's website at [www.cityofblanchard.us](http://www.cityofblanchard.us).

The next meeting will be Tuesday, January 19, 2021.

## *On the Council Agenda*

The Blanchard City Council will hold their December meeting on **Tuesday, December 8<sup>th</sup>** beginning at **6pm**, Municipal Courthouse to discuss, consider and take appropriate action regarding the following agenda items:

- 1** ~ Public Hearing for FY2021 CDBG Grant.
- 2** ~ Citizen's Participation Plan.
- 3** ~ Resolution authorizing grant application.
- 4** ~ Resolution on Leveraged (Matching) Funds for FY2021 Proposed CDBG.
- 5** ~ Residential Anti-Displacement Plan.
- 6** ~ Fair Housing Proclamation.
- 7** ~ Agreement for grant administration.
- 8** ~ FYE2020 Audit Report.
- 9** ~ Ordinance amending oil and gas regulations.
- 10** ~ Emergency Clause.
- 11** ~ Resolution calling a General Election in April 2021.
- 12** ~ Resolution accepting AG's Safe Oklahoma Grant in the amount of \$20,000.
- 13** ~ Special hMeeting scheduled for 12/15/20.
- 14** ~ Consent Agenda.
- 15** ~ Executive Session.

The full agenda can be found on the City's website at [www.cityofblanchard.us](http://www.cityofblanchard.us).

The next regular meeting will be Tuesday, January 26, 2021.

## *On the PC Agenda*

The Blanchard Planning Commission will hold their December meeting on **Thursday, December 10<sup>th</sup>** beginning at **6:30pm**, Municipal Courthouse to discuss, consider and take appropriate action regarding the following agenda items:

- 1** ~ Resolution recommending approval or denial to the City Council regarding a Conditional Use Permit for medical marijuana growing facility.
- 2** ~ Public Hearing on a proposed Conditional Use Permit for a medical marijuana growing and processing facility.
- 3** ~ Resolution recommending approval or denial to the City Council of Conditional Use Permits for a medical marijuana growing and processing facility.
- 4** ~ Public Hearing on a proposed Conditional Use Permit for a medical marijuana growing facility.
- 5** ~ Resolution recommending approval or denial to the City Council of Conditional Use Permits for a medical marijuana growing facility.
- 6** ~ Public Hearing on a proposed rezoning from A-1, Agricultural District to R-E, Residential Estates District.
- 7** ~ Resolution recommending approval or denial on a proposed rezoning from A-1,

Agricultural District to R-E, Residential Estates District.

8 ~ Resolution approving or denying Final Plat for Walnut Creek Estates Phase II.

9 ~ Resolution approving or denying Final Plat for Oasis Ranch Section 4.

10 ~ Resolution recommending revisions to the Subdivision Regulations regarding design standards.

11 ~ Consent Agenda.

The full agenda packet can be found on the City's website at [www.cityofblanchard.us](http://www.cityofblanchard.us).

The next regular meeting will be Thursday, January 14, 2021.

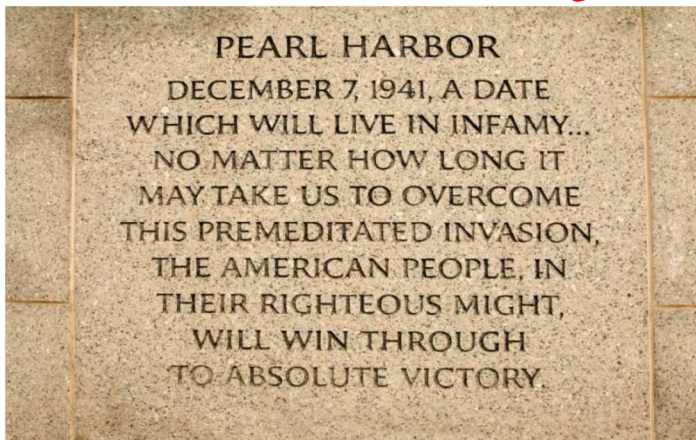
## Police Blotter

Jail activity:

11/28 - DAVIS, Robert arrested on DUS.

11/29 - PIPER, Brandi arrested on DUI.

## Pearl Harbor Day



The National Pearl Harbor Remembrance

Day, which is annually on **December 7<sup>th</sup>**, commemorates the attack on Pearl Harbor, in Hawaii, during World War II. Many American service and women lost their lives or were injured on December 7, 1941. Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day is also referred to as Pearl Harbor Day.

## Redistricting

The Oklahoma Senate's series of statewide redistricting town hall meetings gets underway next week with meetings in Ada and Chickasha. The Senate and the Oklahoma House of Representatives are partnering together with each chamber hosting a series of meetings the next several weeks at sites across the state in an effort to solicit input and inform citizens about the redistricting process.

The first Senate-hosted meeting will be at 6 p.m., Tuesday in Ada in the Seminar Center of the Pontotoc Technology Center. The second Senate-hosted meeting will be at 6 p.m., Thursday in Chickasha in the Community Building at the Grady County Fairgrounds. Each meeting will follow the pandemic protection protocols of the facility hosting the meeting.

At each redistricting meeting, presenters will provide an overview of the legislative redistricting process and cover redistricting principles. The public also

will have the chance to comment on the redistricting of legislative districts and congressional districts. The collaboration between the Senate and the House means the public at each meeting can share input on either House or Senate redistricting. Additionally, the public can submit redistricting comments via email to the Senate at [redistricting@oksenate.gov](mailto:redistricting@oksenate.gov).

Meetings will be livestreamed when possible. The public can watch Senate and House meeting livestreams on the website of the chamber hosting the meeting. No passwords or log-in is necessary to watch meeting livestreams.

Dates, times and locations for other meetings can be found on the Senate and House websites.

The Legislature is constitutionally required every ten (10) years to redraw legislative and congressional district boundaries using the latest U.S. Census data.

## *Senior Nutrition*

Curbside pickup and home deliveries will continue for the Blanchard Senior Citizens Center. The dining area will reopen with a limited occupancy of twelve (12), so RESERVATIONS ONLY.

### LUNCH MENU

(December 7<sup>th</sup> ~ 11<sup>th</sup>)

**Monday** ~ Grilled Cheese Sandwich, Tomato Soup, Salad, Bread and Dessert.

**Tuesday** ~ BBQ Smoke Sausage, Potatoes, Cabbage, Cornbread, Dessert.

**Wednesday** ~ Tamale Casserole, Fruit, Green Beans, Cornbread and Dessert.

**Thursday** ~ Southwest Stew, Okra, Cornbread, Dessert.

**Friday** ~ Pizza, Salad, Corn and Dessert.

If you are 60 or older, you are eligible to participate free of charge. However, a suggested donation of \$2.00 is requested. Citizens under the age of 60 may participate but are required to pay \$5.00 for the meal.

Please call 485-9260, if you would like to be considered for a home delivered meal or RESERVATION. Please be advised, the home delivery will begin the next business day. The Center is still delivering lunches daily.

## *Shop Local*

Citizens are encouraged to stay local and spend their money where they live all year long, however, during these dates, they can keep their receipts and turn them into the Chamber on **December 12<sup>th</sup>** to win multiple items donated by local businesses and Chamber members.

Shop Blanchard sponsored by the Blanchard Chamber of Commerce kicks off beginning **November 11<sup>th</sup>** and runs thru **December 12<sup>th</sup>**.

## Special Events

- 12/7<sup>th</sup> ~ Pearl Harbor Day
- 12/12<sup>th</sup> ~ Magical Disney Parade
- 12/21<sup>st</sup> ~ Winter Begins
- 12/21 - 1/1<sup>st</sup> ~ School Holidays
- 12/24<sup>th</sup> ~ Xmas Eve (Closed)
- 12/25<sup>th</sup> ~ Xmas Day (Closed)
- 12/31<sup>st</sup> ~ New Year's Eve

The word solstice is derived from the Latin word sol, or "Sun" and stitium, or "stoppage."



## Ways to Shop Local



\* Connect with local owners and let them know that you support them!

- \* Buy a local gift card for use later!
- \* Shop online or by phone!
- \* Order take-out!
- \* Order food ahead of time (don't wait in line!)
- \* Utilize delivery options!
- \* Send online flowers or gifts!

## Winter Solstice



The winter solstice is one of the two times each year that the Sun is at its farthest point from the Equator and appears to stand still. It occurs on Monday, December 21<sup>st</sup> at 4:02 p.m. CST.