

After-Hours Incidents

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](http://blanchardok.pt7.civic-cms.com/.../pa.../emergency-alerts) at <http://blanchardok.pt7.civic-cms.com/.../pa.../emergency-alerts>.

Blanchard's Bluegrass Festival

Plans for the City's 10th annual Bluegrass Festival is scheduled for **Friday, August 21st** from 6pm to 10pm and **Saturday, August 22nd** from 3pm to 10pm.

- Activities will include:
- * **Friday Gospel Night;**
 - * **Saturday is traditional Bluegrass;**
 - * **Food;**
 - * **Vendors;**
 - * **Featuring live music by:**
 - The Horn Family**
 - H&W Bluegrass Express**
 - Genetic Connection**

- Honey Creek Pass**
 - Southbound Mule**
 - Pearlgrace & Co**
 - Graystone Bluegrass Revival**
 - The Russell Clan; and**
- * **FREE Entry.**

August Events

- August 7th ~ Sales Tax Holiday**
- August 8th ~ Sales Tax Holiday**
- August 9th ~ Sales Tax Holiday**
- August 13th ~ School Starts**
- August 16th ~ National Airborne Day**
- August 21st ~ Bluegrass Festival**
- August 22nd ~ Bluegrass Festival**
- August 25th ~ Primary Run-off Election**

BMIA Action



The Board of Trustees of the **Blanchard Improvement Authority** held their July meeting on **Tuesday, July 28th** and discussed, considered and took appropriate action on the following items:

- * **Discussed Water Improvements;**
- * **Discussed Sewer Improvements and authorized the expenditure of \$31,000 for replacement of sprinkler heads;**

- * Approved Real Estate Contract Extension;
- * Approved a 3% Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) for all BMIA employees;
- * Approved Consent Agenda.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 25th, 2020 at 6pm or immediately following the City Council meeting.

Conditional Use Permits

The Blanchard Planning Commission will conduct Public Hearings on applications for Conditional Use Permits for:

- * Application by Billy Joe Hall and Vicki Marie Hall, 3357 SW 8th Street, for medical marijuana grow facility; and
- * Application by Raymond Brooks, Unplatted land, for medical marijuana grow facility.

The meeting will be Thursday, August 13th beginning at 6:30pm.

For more information, please contact Ryan Conner, City Planner, at 405-485-9392.

Council Action



The Blanchard City Council held their July meeting on Tuesday, July 28th and discussed, considered and

took appropriate action on the following items:

- * Approved FYE2021 Contract Renewals;
- * Approved City Attorney Agreement with David Perryman effective August 21st;
- * Approved DEQ Applications;
- * Adopted Resolution No. 2020-11 approving a Social Media Policy;
- * Approved a 3% Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) for ALL City employees;
- * Approved Fire Station Change Order No.1 deduct in the amount of \$137,900;
- * Approved Consent Agenda; and
- * Held Executive Session.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 25th, 2020 at 6pm.



The City is seeking qualified candidates to fill the following position:

- * Full-Time CLEET Certified Police Officer or obtain CLEET Certification within one-year of hire; must be 21 years of age or older.

An application can be downloaded from the City's website at www.cityofblanchard.us. Please return to City Hall, 122 North Main, Blanchard, OK 73010 or mail to City Hall, P.O. Box 480, Blanchard, OK 73010.

The City of Blanchard is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Hotel-Motel Tax

The City Council approved an election ballot to place before the voters the question whether to approve or deny a hotel-motel tax, which if voter approved, will apply to hotels, motels, bed 'n breakfasts, and RV parks.

The question will be on the General Election on Tuesday, November 3rd.

Mandatory Water Restrictions

Due to an increase in water usage, Blanchard citizens are experiencing low water pressure and/or NO water at all.

Blanchard and Central Oklahoma is in a dry to moderate drought due to the extreme lack of rain in June. The City is experiencing a massive increase in water usage (over 31,000,000 gallons purchased from OKC). This increase has had a negative impact on our system's water pressure.

Therefore, a mandatory odd/even watering (Stage 1) is in effect until further notice.

Meeting Calendar

August 3rd ~ BETA

August 3rd ~ BPS Board of Education

August 13th ~ Planning Commission

August 18th ~ Board of Adjustment

August 20th ~ Code/Juvenile Court

August 25th ~ Traffic Court

August 25th ~ City Council

August 25th ~ BMIA

National Airborne Day



August 16th is a day designated by the United States Congress to honor the nation's airborne units of the armed forces. It was created in 2001 by President George W. Bush. August 16, 1940 marked the first official Army

parachute jump, validating the innovative concept of inserting United States ground combat forces behind a battle line by parachute.

During World War II, airborne tactics were critical to the success of important missions, including the D-Day invasion at Normandy, the Battle of the Bulge, the invasion of Southern France, and many others. In Korea and Vietnam, airborne soldiers played a critical combat role, as well as in later conflicts and peacekeeping operations, including Panama, Grenada, Desert Storm, Haiti, Somalia, and the Balkans. Most recently, airborne forces were vital to liberating the people of Afghanistan from the repressive and violent Taliban regime;

and these soldiers continue to serve proudly around the world in the global coalition against terrorism.

The elite airborne ranks include prestigious groups such as the 82nd Airborne Division, "America's Guard of Honor," and the "Screaming Eagles" of the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault). Paratroopers in the Army's XVIII Airborne Corps, the 75th Infantry (Ranger) Regiment and other Special Forces units conduct swift and effective operations in defense of peace and freedom.

Airborne combat continues to be driven by the bravery and daring spirit of sky soldiers. Often called into action with little notice, these forces have earned an enduring reputation for dedication, excellence, and honor. All citizens are encouraged to recognize the contributions of these courageous soldiers to our Nation and the world.

On the BETA Agenda



The Blanchard Economic Trust Authority will hold their August meeting on Monday, August 3rd to discuss, consider and take

appropriate action on the following items:

- * Economic Development Activities;
- * O'Reilly Auto Parts;
- * Farmers Market; and
- * Consent Agenda.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 5th, 2020 at 6pm.

Permits Required

Residents may experience an increase in door-to-door sales associates. If you do encounter a solicitor at your door, they are required to have a permit from the City of Blanchard. These permits are required because they allow the City to perform background checks on applicants, which then allows the City to approve or deny the permit request. Not only are solicitors required to carry the permit on them at all times, they are also restricted to go door-to-door from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., Monday through Saturday. Residents who wish to have no interaction with solicitors are asked to display "No Solicitation Allowed" or "No Peddlers Allowed" sign that can be easily visible. If you suspect that a person in your neighborhood is soliciting without a permit, please call the Blanchard Police Department at 405.485.9391.

Pet Care

IF IT'S TOO HOT FOR YOU, IT'S TOO HOT FOR YOUR PET!

Keep your pets safe and cool in the summer by remembering that if it's too hot for you, it's too hot for them. Bring pets inside when it's hot, and provide them with plenty of shade and fresh water when they're outside. Walk your pets at cooler times of the day and never

leave an animal in a car. Contact Animal Control at 405-485-9392 if you see an animal in distress.

Police Blotter

Jail activity:

7.24 ~ SHANNON, Gage arrested on DUI.

Primary Run-off Election



Exercise Your Constitutional Right!
PLEASE VOTE! on Tuesday, August 25th.
The state of Oklahoma will conduct its primary

run-off election for candidates seeking to represent their respective parties in the General Election which will be held on Tuesday, November 3, 2020.

Road Repairs

City crews will remove concrete on Main Street just north of 10th Street beginning Friday, July 31st, in order for the contractor (Precision Contracting) to repour on Tuesday, August 4th.

That portion of Main Street will be ready to be reopened and drivable on the 6th.

Please make arrangements to avoid this area while construction begins as

that portion of Main Street from 10th Street north to Summerfield which will be closed to thru traffic.

Other repairs of concrete streets will be planned accordingly without shutting down thru lanes.

Saltwater Injection Well

The Oklahoma Corporation Commission postponed a Public Hearing on a proposed saltwater injection well to be located between US-62 and MacArthur off of 55th Street NE until September 23rd.

School Begins



The first day of school for Blanchard begins on Thursday, August 13, 2020.

PLEASE DRIVE CAREFULLY thru SCHOOL ZONES and IN and AROUND SCHOOLS.

Senior Nutrition

The Blanchard Senior Nutrition Center is still delivering lunches to area seniors (60 years & older) who are currently on the Center's delivery list and to any other area seniors in need. If you are a senior adult in need who is not already on the delivery list (currently about 50

residents), can call the Center at 485.9260 to be added to the list.

The Center will remain closed until the Pandemic is declared over and all restrictions for vulnerable populations are lifted. Even after restrictions are lifted, new policies for keeping everyone healthy will stay in effect. However, curbside pickup and home delivery will still be provided until then.

LUNCH MENU

(August 3rd ~ August 7th)

Monday ~ Spaghetti, Salad, Hominy, Dessert.

Tuesday ~ Chicken and Rice, Broccoli, Carrots, Dessert.

Wednesday ~ Ham & Potatoes, Fruit, Green Beans, Bread, Dessert.

Thursday ~ Pinto Beans, Spinach, Potatoes, Cornbread, Dessert.

Friday ~ Hoagie Sandwiches, Pea Salad, Chips, Bun, 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. Please be advised, the home delivery will begin the next business day. The Center is still delivering lunches daily.

Shop Local!

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

1. More of your money will be kept in the Blanchard economy: For every \$100 you spend at a locally owned businesses, \$68 will stay in Blanchard. What happens when you spend that same \$100 at a national chain? Only \$43 stays in the community.*
2. You embrace what makes Blanchard unique: 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. You create local jobs: Local businesses are better at creating higher-paying jobs for your neighbors. When you shop locally, you help create jobs for teachers, firemen, police officers, and many other essential professions.
4. You help the environment: Buying from a locally owned business conserves energy and resources in the form of less fuel for transportation and less packaging.
5. You nurture community: 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. You conserve your tax dollars: Shopping in a local business district means less infrastructure, less maintenance, and more money available to beautify the

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

7. You create more choice: 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 take advantage of their expertise: 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. You invested in entrepreneurship: Creativity and entrepreneurship are what the American economy is founded upon. Nurturing local business ensures a strong community.

10. You made Blanchard a destination: The more interesting and unique Blanchard community, the more we will attract new neighbors, visitors and guests. This benefits everyone!

**Source: Civic Economics - Andersonville Study of Retail Economics.*

Splash Pad

The City's splash pad located at Lions Park is closed indefinitely due to water issues.

Tall Grass & Weeds

The City of Blanchard is committed to maintaining clean and attractive residential neighborhoods. To help accomplish this goal, the City of Blanchard has adopted regulations concerning the abatement of tall grass, weeds and trash.

The City of Blanchard Municipal Code concerning public nuisances and property enhancement requires that owners or responsible persons of property located within the municipal city limits are prohibited from allowing debris, junk, waste or trash to accumulate, or weeds or tall grass over twelve (12") inches in height, dead trees, bushes, and shrubs to grow or stand upon the premises. This regulation is based upon the Oklahoma State Law Title 11, Section 22-111 which sets forth the procedure and definitions for the cleaning and mowing of property.

2020 Election Dates



August 25th ~
Primary Runoff
Election

November 3rd ~
General Election

2020 SALES TAX HOLIDAY



Oklahoma's annual sales tax holiday will begin at **12:01 am on Friday, August 7, 2020** and end at **Twelve Midnight on**

Sunday, August 9, 2020. Certain clothing and shoe purchases are exempt from sales tax for this time period only. Qualified items are exempt from state, city, county and local municipal sales taxes.

Retailers are required to participate and may not collect state and local sales or use tax on most footwear and clothing that are sold for less than \$100 during the holiday.

For more information and answers to common questions on the sales tax holiday, as well as a listing of sales tax exempt items, please refer to the Oklahoma Tax Commission website at www.tax.ok.gov.



Census Takers to Start Follow Up With Nonresponding Households: The majority of census offices across the country will begin follow-up work on August 11th. All offices will conclude work no later than October 31st. Households can still respond now by completing and

mailing back the paper questionnaire they received, by responding online at 2020census.gov, or by phone at 844-330-2020. Those that respond will not be visited to obtain their census response.

Variance Case

The Blanchard Board of Adjustment will conduct a Public Hearing on the Blanchard Public Schools request for a variance from the off-street parking requirements in Section 506(G) of the Blanchard Municipal Code.

The meeting will be Tuesday, August 18th beginning at 6pm. For more information, please contact Ryan Conner, City Planner, at 405-485-9392.

Zoning Cases

The Blanchard Planning Commission will conduct Public Hearings on reclassification of zoning of property:

- * Application by DuBois Funeral Service, LLC to rezone a portion of property from C-3 to R-E;
 - * Application by Gary Gallant to rezone a portion of property from S-1 to A-1;
- The meeting will be Thursday, August 13th beginning at 6:30pm. For more information, please contact Ryan Conner, City Planner, at 405-485-9392.