

BLANCHARD E~NEWSLETTER

25 MARCH 2022

VOLUMN 117, ISSUE 4

Advertisement for Bids

Notice is hereby given that The City of Blanchard/Blanchard Municipal Improvement Authority here in after called the "Owner" will received sealed bids City Hall, located at 122 N. Main Street, Blanchard, OK 73010, until 11:00 am, Friday, April 1st, 2022, for **Water System Improvements Old Town Water Line Replacement, Phase 1 18226 CDBG 17**. Project to include replacing approximately 8,100 LF. of existing water lines and appurtenances.

All bids must include assurances that the following provisions will be complied with:

1. **Federal Labor Standards Provisions**
US Department of Labor, 29 CFR 5; Subpart A - Davis-Bacon Act; Subpart B - Fringe Benefit Provision.
2. **Section 3** Final Rule became effective on November 30, 2020, and is codified at 24 CFR Part 75. The regulation simplifies the Section 3 requirements and established that Section 3 requirements apply to housing rehabilitation, housing construction, and other public construction projects assisted under HUD program that provide housing and community development assistance when the

total amount of HUD assistance to the project exceeds a minimum funding threshold. The regulation also improves alignment with current business practices by requiring the reporting of labor hours rather than new hires. The Benchmark Notice establishes the current numeric goals for compliance with Section 3 requirements.

3. **Section 109** of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, which assures that no person shall, on the grounds of race, color, natural origin, or sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits or be subjected to discrimination.

4. **Non-Segregated Facilities** Certification that assures the bidder does not maintain or provide any segregated facilities.

5. **Executive Order 11246** EEO provisions require affirmative action and prohibits federal contractors from discriminating on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or natural origin.

6. **Minority Business Enterprise** and **Women Business Enterprise** provisions which encourage minority-owned business and women-owned businesses to bid on the project.

7. Circular 570 provide assurances that surety companies executing bonds appear on the Treasury Department's list and are authorized to transact business in the State where the project is located.

All bids received at said time will be publicly opened and read aloud, and all bids shall remain on file at least forty-eight (48) hours thereafter. Bids received more than ninety-six (96) hours prior to the Bid Opening will be returned. All work shall be performed, and all construction and material used and furnished shall be in accordance with the Contract Documents prepared by Glenn Sullivan & Associates, Inc., and on file in the office of the City Clerk, located at City Hall.

Contract to be awarded to the low responsive bidder. The Owner reserves the right to waive any informalities in the bidding and the right to reject any and all bids in accordance with the Oklahoma Competitive Bidding Act. Conditional bids shall not be accepted.

Notice to Bidders, Form of Bid, Form of Contract, Plans and Specifications, Forms of Bid Bond, Performance and Statutory Payment Bond, and other Contract Documents may be examined at the following:

1. City Hall, 122 N. Main St, Blanchard, OK 73010
2. Office of the Engineer, 103 N. Mercedes Drive, Suite A, Norman, OK 73069

A complete set of Plans & Specs, to prospective bidders, may be obtained from Glenn Sullivan & Associates, Inc. upon receipt of non-refundable fee of \$100.00.

Addenda will be mailed, faxed, e-mailed or delivered only to those potential bidders on the Plan Holders List for the project which maintained in the engineer's office. If obtaining bid documents from other sources, please contact Glenn Sullivan & Associates, Inc. to be added to the Plan Holder's List.

Each bidder shall accompany his original bid, with a certified or Cashier's Check on a solvent bank located in Oklahoma or a Bidder's Bond, in the amount of five (5) percent of the amount bid, as a guarantee of his ability to perform the contract bid upon, and that he will enter into a written contract with the Owner to perform said work and/or furnish said materials in accordance with said plans and specs and furnish the required bonds within seven (7) days after the acceptance of his bid.

The deposit will be retained by the Owner as, and for, liquidated damages in case the successful bidder fails to enter in said contract and furnish the required bonds provided for in the specifications within the time required. Deposit of the unsuccessful bidders will be returned upon the execution of the Contract and required bonds.

Each bidder shall accompany his bid with a sworn statement in writing that the Bidder has not directly or indirectly entered into an agreement, express or implied, with any other bidder or the price or amount of such bid or any bids, the limiting of the bids or bidders, the paying to anyone any money for promotion expenses, the parceling or farming out to any bidder or bidders or other persons of any part of the contract or any part of

the subject matter of the bid or of the profits thereof.

A Performance, Maintenance and Statutory Bond in the amount of 100% of the contract price with a Corporate Surety licensed in Oklahoma and approved by the Owner and Engineer, will be required for the faithful performance of the contract, and the bidder shall state in the proposal the name and address of the Surety or Sureties who will sign this bond in case the contract is awarded to him. The Maintenance Bond required will guarantee the repair of all damage due to improper materials or workmanship for a period of one (1) year after the acceptance of the work by the Owner.

After Hours

For Public Works after-hour incidents (ie: water leaks, waterline breaks, sewer backups, sewer line breaks, lift station alarms, manhole overflowing, low-water pressure, no water, potholes, road repairs, signs missing or down, roadway flooding, debris in road, street lite out, 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.

Animal Cruelty Prevention Month



Preventing animal cruelty starts with responsible pet ownership. The month of April is Animal Cruelty Prevention Month. Cruelty may include but not

limited to animal *neglect* of unreasonable deprivation of necessary food, care or shelter or *inhumane treatment* includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- ◆ Any physical punishment inconsistent with the health of such animal;
- ◆ Lack of food or water for more than a twenty-four (24) hour period;
- ◆ Knowingly permitting obvious nutritional deficiencies or other evident health problems involving any animal;
- ◆ Improper use of any collar or harness or a fixed leash for the purpose of confining any animal which results in flesh laceration, obvious pain or to cause choking to such animal;
- ◆ Depriving animal of adequate shelter; and
- ◆ Inhumane killing or attempting to kill any animal.

You can report instances of animal cruelty to the City of Blanchard to be investigated by calling 485-9392.

April Fools' Day



Friday, April 1st or All Fools' Day, a holiday of uncertain origin, is known for practical joking and celebrated on the first of April. Prior to the adoption of the Gregorian calendar in 1564, the date was observed as New Year's Day by cultures as varied as the Roman and the Hindu. The holiday is considered to be related to the festival of the Vernal Equinox, which occurs on March 20th. The English gave April Fools' Day its first widespread celebration during the 18th century.

April Meetings

- 4th ~ BETA (6pm)
- 4th ~ BPS Board of Education (6pm)
- 4th ~ Special City Council (7:30pm)
- 11th ~ Traffic Court (2pm)
- 14th ~ Planning Commission (6pm)
- 19th ~ BOA (6pm)
- 21st ~ Juvenile/Code Court (4pm)
- 26th ~ BMIA (6pm)
- 26th ~ City Council (6pm)

Authority Action

The Board of Trustees of the Blanchard Municipal Improvement Authority met in regular session on Tuesday, March 22nd and discussed, considered and took appropriate action as follows:

- **APPROVED** an Agreement to purchase property for the construction of a new Main Street lift station.
- **APPROVED** the submittal of plans and application to ODEQ for the replacement of the west Lift Station located on W. 7th and Main.
- **UPDATE** provided by the City Engineer on the sanitary sewer engineering report and authorized Chairman (Mayor) to sign the ODEQ submittal letter.
- **APPROVED** the Consent Agenda, as presented.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, April 26th.

AYCE Breakfast



The Blanchard Masonic Lodge No. 395, A.F. & A.M will host an All You Can

Eat Charity Breakfast tomorrow (**Saturday, March 26th**).

The Lodge is located at 10th (OK-76) and Main Street and serves an AYCE breakfast from 7am - 11am. The cost is paid at the door and proceeds benefit and supports the youth activities in and around Blanchard.

Burn Ban

ONLY Grady County remains under a burn ban in response to high fire danger as verified by Grady County fire chiefs.

This ban is effective immediately and prohibits all fires, campfires, bonfires, burning trash or other materials due to the tinder dry conditions.

Business & Employment Notice

The City of Blanchard is preparing to carry out the CDBG Grant Waterline Replacement Project through the use of Community Development Block Grant Funds. In the implementation of this project, the following job types may be available:

Laborers, Pipe Layers, Equipment Operators

All job openings will be posted at Blanchard City Hall. To the greatest extent feasible, employment and training positions will be made available to qualified persons who permanently reside in McClain County or in the City of Blanchard. Persons qualified for the jobs listed should register at the City of Blanchard, City Hall, 122 N. Main, Blanchard, OK 73010-0480.

Additionally, the following contracts and procurements will/may be made and to the greatest extent feasible, businesses located in and owned by persons residing in McClain County will possibly be utilized:

**Waterline Replacement Project
Equipment Rental
Materials- Waterline PVC Pipe,
Valves, Fire Hydrants**

All above-referenced procurements will be made on a competitive basis. The names of businesses who respond to this notice will be included on procurement lists for this project. Names of job seekers will be given to contractors.

Any person residing or firm located in the above-named areas may request to participate in procurement opportunities associated with this project by contacting City Hall, at 405-485-9392 within ten (10) days of this notice.

Carly's Kids Corner

Hey kids! This site is loaded with awesome games and activities that help you learn more about trees and why they're so important to our world.

There are plenty of fun and educational resources to keep the kiddo's busy while school is prematurely out.

Please visit <https://www.arboday.org/kids/>.

Council Action

The Blanchard City Council met in regular session on Tuesday, March 22nd and discussed, considered and took appropriate action as follows:

- **ISSUED** Proclamation proclaiming National Animal Care and Control Appreciation Week in Blanchard.
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- **DISCUSSED** prescriptive roads and draining on Pine Cove, etc.
- **ACCEPTED** bank interest rate quotes and **APPROVED** an Agreement with Liberty National Bank; and **AUTHORIZED** the City Manager to sign said Agreement and execute all necessary bank documents for the lease-purchase of 3-police vehicles.
- **APPROVED** an engineering agreement for engineering services with Glenn Sullivan & Associates for the engineering and design of section line roads and contract administration in the amount of \$225,500.
- **APPROVED** Resolution No. 2022-08 amending Resolution No. 2013-18 adding new activities to the St. Patrick's Day celebration and added a Cinco de Mayo celebration in Blanchard.
- **APPROVED** Resolution No. 2022-09 declaring April 2022 as "Fair Housing Month" in Blanchard.

- **APPROVED** a Letter of Support in the amount of \$18,000 for Delta Transit in providing transportation services to Blanchard.
- **RENEWED** Agreement with OPEH&W in providing healthcare coverage to include medical, dental and vision benefits to ALL employees of the City; and **APPROVED** a one-time surcharge in the amount of \$40,310.04 for past claims payable over a 6-month period.
- **AUTHORIZED** a letter to ODOT requesting either restoring the right-turn-lanes to Main Street onto US-62 or remove the turn signal heads.
- **DISCUSSED** the pending road improvements.
- **APPROVED** Resolution No. 2022-10 for the creation of the Street Construction Account within the BMIA Debt Service Fund.
- **APPROVED** Resolution No. 2022-11 accepting and approving the City's 5-year 2022-2027 Capital Improvement Plan.
- **APPROVED** a Special Event Permit for the local Boy Scout Troop #234.
- **APPROVED** Consent Agenda, as presented.
- **HELD** Executive Session to discuss the City Manager's employment; **APPROVED** the contract renewal of the 2022-23 Fiscal Year effective July 1, 2022.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, April 26th.

Easter Sunday

Many Christians celebrate Easter Sunday as the day of Jesus Christ's resurrection, which is written in the New Testament of the



Christian bible. According to the Gospel of John in the New Testament, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb where Jesus was buried and found it empty. An angel told her that Jesus had risen. Christians worldwide have celebrated Easter for centuries.

However, the roots of the Easter holiday's traditions and activities can be traced back to pagan celebrations. The name Easter is believed to come from *Eostara*, the goddess of rebirth. In early times the Feast of *Eostara* celebrated earth's resurrection and rebirth. Strict Puritans would have nothing to do with Easter - it was merely a human institution - in the past. Charles I, king of England, declared the day as scriptural as Sunday in 1647 but Parliament contradicted him in print and abolished it with other church festivals.

The Easter date depends on the ecclesiastical approximation of the March equinox. In 325CE the Council of Nicaea decided that the Easter date would be the first Sunday after the first full moon occurring on or after the March equinox. Easter is therefore delayed one week if the full moon is on Sunday, which lessens the likelihood of it falling on the same day as the Jewish Passover. Eastern Orthodox churches in many countries such as Greece still figure their Easter date based on the Julian calendar.

Easter eggs and the Easter Bunny are both fertility symbols, holdovers from the feast of Eostara. Other symbolic parallels include the pagan joy in the rising sun of spring, which coincides with Christians' joy in the rising Son of God, and the lighting of candles in churches, which corresponds to the pagan bonfires. The symbol of the cross and images of Jesus Christ, through paintings or statues, are remembered on Easter Day which is **Sunday, April 17th**.



Fair Housing Month



APRIL is 'Fair Housing Month'. The City encourages each citizen to implement the provisions of the City's

Fair Housing Ordinance and requests that any person, or group of persons, planning activities to promote fair housing to inform the City Clerk of such activities. A copy of the Ordinance may be obtained from the Office of the City Clerk.

Farmers Market

The 2022 Blanchard Farmers Market begins the first Saturday in April (2nd).

Currently, we have twelve (12) vendors for opening day! Please visit our website under RESIDENTS and make application to participate.



The City of Blanchard is looking for qualified

people to fill the following positions:

1. **Police Officers** (Full-time with Benefits).
2. **Reserve Officers** (No benefits).
3. **Volunteer Firefighters** (Pension Only).
4. **City Planner** (Full-time with Benefits).
5. **Utility (water/sewer) Laborers** (Full-time with Benefits).

Benefits for full-time employment include but not limited to:

- Health, Dental and Vision paid for by the City for the employee;
- Nationwide Retirement Solutions Plan;
- Oklahoma Police Pension and Retirement System (OPPRS) - Police Officers Only;
- 10 paid Vacation days per year;
- 10 paid Sick days per year;
- 9 paid Holidays per year;
- No cost Life Insurance paid by the City;
- Employee Assistance Program (EAP) provided by the City.

The City of Blanchard is an Equal Opportunity Employer (EOE). For more information, please contact the Human Resource Officer at 405-485-9392 or

download an application at www.cityofblanchard.us.

Nat'l Vietnam War Veterans Day

Five (5) years ago, President Trump signed into law the Vietnam War Veterans Recognition Act of 2017, establishing a National Vietnam War Veterans Day that will be observed every **March 29th** in perpetuity. The Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C. - known as "The Wall" - will again, and always, have a significant role in our nation's honoring of Vietnam War veterans on **March 29th**. The Wall is an arresting reminder to more than five (5) million annual visitors of the service and sacrifice of more than 58,000 Americans. There is something haunting, cleansing and healing about this hallowed site, and every American is encouraged to experience it.

Oil 'n Gas

The Oklahoma Corporation Commission reported since **March 18th** that NO oil or gas wells were completed or permitted within the municipal limits of the City.

Park Events

The upcoming 2022 events are:

- ***May 5th** • Cinco de Mayo
- ***Fridays in June** • Movies and Concerts in the Park
- ***July 2nd** • Independence Day Celebration
- ***August 19th & 20th** • Bluegrass Festival
- ***September 24th** • Mufflers on Main

***October 22nd** • Ride for the Memorial Poker Run

***October 31st** • Pumpkinfest

***November 12th** • Veterans Day Parade

***December 10th** • Christmas Events & Parade of Lites

***March - October** • Pop Up Parties (food truck & live music)

Details of each event will be posted on the City's Facebook page and the City's website.

Police Blotter

Blanchard Jail Activity:

3/25/22 ~ HARRIS, Tony arrested on Cleveland County Warrants.

3/25/22 ~ EFRID, Sage jailed for Outstanding Warrants.

Pre-Bid Conference

A mandatory pre-bid conference was held on Wednesday, March 23rd at 11:00 am, with twelve (12) potential bidders attending.

Purple Up! Day

Help Celebrate Military Kids on Purple Up! Day. April marks the nation's "Month of the Military Child," a time to honor our community youth impacted by deployment. It is no secret that our military children face many challenges before, during and after deployment of their loved ones. Parental separation, increased responsibilities at home, and frequent moves, are just a few areas that military kids must navigate like a

complicated obstacle course. However, if given enough support to get through these tough times, our military children can come through with great resilience and confidence, ever ready to face other life changing events. These kids are an inspiration and a source of pride, and it is fitting that we celebrate their spirits and commitments to our country.

In celebration, you're invited to join in showing your support by being part of "Purple Up! For Military Kids" Day.

Everyone is encouraged to wear something purple on **Wednesday, April 20th**. This will be a visible way to show support and thank military children for their strength and sacrifices. (Did you know: Purple is the color that symbolizes all branches of the military, as it is the combination of Army green, Coast Guard blue, Air Force blue, Marine red and Navy blue.) The hope is everyone will take this opportunity to appreciate and celebrate these young heroes. Be creative ... the goal is for military youth to witness a sea of "purple" on that day in order to visually witness the support of their community!

School Board Election

A run-off election for the Blanchard School Board will be held on **Tuesday, April 5th**. Voters will select one of the 2 top candidates for Office No. 2 serving a new 5-year term on the Board: Kristi Mitchell or Justin Smith.

Please exercise your constitutional right to **VOTE!** **Tuesday, April 5th, 7 am - 7 pm.**

School Bond Election

A Special Election on **Tuesday, April 5th, 7 am - 7 pm** to decide on the following School Bonds:

Proposition No. 1:

✓ to construct, equip, furnish and/or acquire athletic facilities improvements to include, but not limited to, football/soccer fieldhouse, baseball and softball fields, and associated facilities: \$31,045,000.00;

✓ to renovate, repair, remodel and/or acquire improvements to existing school sites: \$3,000,000.00;

✓ to acquire and install technology upgrades: \$1,000,000.00. TOTAL: \$35,045,000.00.

Proposition No. 2:

✓ to acquire vehicle(s) for pupil transportation from the proceeds of bonds maturing within five (5) years from their date: TOTAL: \$1,000,000.00.

PLEASE EXERCISE YOUR RIGHT TO VOTE!

Senior Dining



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:** **MENU**

- **28th** ~ Pigs-n-Blanket, Pea Salad, Coleslaw, Brisket, Dessert.
- **29th** ~ Ham and Potatoes, Green Beans, Cornbread, Fruit, Dessert.

- 30th ~ Enchilada Casserole, Chips, Beans, Salad, Dessert.
- 31st ~ Hobo Beans, Okra, Pickles and Onions, Cornbread, Dessert.
- 1st ~ Chef Salad, Crackers, Beets, Fruit, Dessert.

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, call (405) 485-9260.

Shelter Registration

The Blanchard Emergency Management wants to remind everyone that severe storm season is fast approaching. We express how important it is for everyone to register their home's storm shelters and safe rooms. The City of Blanchard storm shelter registry provides emergency services with information that allows them to locate citizens after a tornado or other natural disaster. Registration helps ensure that people in shelters affected by the storm are able to get help quickly with the potential of shelters' exits being blocked due to debris or structural damage. Registration is doubly important with the possibility of shelters flooding due to broken water lines or simply rain waters entering the shelter and

drowning people trapped inside. Registration forms include your address, list of persons who would normally be present at the home and could potentially be in the shelter, the location of the shelter/safe room on the property, and contact information for yourself and an emergency contact. If you have previously registered and some part of your information has changed, feel free to submit an updated form. If you have a question as to if your shelter is registered please contact the Emergency Management Director/Fire Chief Charlie Largent at the Blanchard Fire Department at 405.485.3939.

Registration forms available at Blanchard City Hall. Please return all registrations to City Hall, 122 North Main Street, Blanchard, OK 73010.

Special Council Action

The Blanchard City Council met in special session on Wednesday, March 23rd with the Blanchard Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors and discussed, considered and took appropriate action as follows:

- **AGREED** to work together for the betterment of the community.
- **APPROVED** a Beer Garden permit for May Daze Celebration under the same conditions as last year.

Special Events

March 30th ~ Town Hall Meeting (6pm)

April 1st ~ April Fool's Day

April 5th ~ Election Day

- 10th ~ Palm Sunday
- 15th ~ Good Friday
- 16th ~ Passover Begins
- 17th ~ Easter
- 18th ~ Tax Day
- 20th ~ Purple Up Day
- 22nd ~ Oklahoma Day
- 23rd ~ Passover Ends
- 27th ~ Administrative Professionals Day
- 29th ~ Arbor Day

Sprinkler Checkup

Conserve water and lower your utility bill by checking your yard sprinkler system for any damage from the winter freezing weather.

- Turn on your sprinkler system and walk thru each zone;
- Flag any broken pipes or heads for immediate repair; and
- Make sure sprinkler heads isn't spraying water on hard surfaces such as driveways, sidewalks or the street.

Town Hall Meeting

The Blanchard Public Schools will have a Town Hall meeting on **Wednesday, March 30th**, at 6pm, to be held at the High School Commons, 1440 N. County Line Road. https://files.gabbart.com/1902/bond_transparency_act_blanchard_school.pdf.

U.S. Submarine Force Day

The submarine force was established on April 11, 1900, when the United States Navy bought the submersible Holland VI from John Holland.

Since that historic day, submarines have been used with fortitude and creativity to sustain their superiority beneath the sea, and have become an indispensable asset that patrols and protects worldwide today.

Submarines and their underwater warfighting companions have commanded and operated by courageous men and women who have gone above and beyond the call of duty in service of their country.

Oklahoma has recognized the significance of the US submarine force and their crew for their defense of our most cherished freedoms.

April 11, 2022, has been proclaimed as United States Submarine Force Day.

Website

The City's website at www.cityofblanchard.us has been updated with a newer version.

It's still being updated and new information is being added to.

So please visit and navigate thru the new version where you can easily sign up for the City's weekly e-newsletter.