



E-Mail Newsletter

14 October 2022

Volume 124, Number 2

MEETINGS

October 18th
6pm - Board of Adjustment

October 20th
4pm - Juvenile/Code Court

October 25th
6pm - BMIA Board of Trustees

October 25th
6pm - City Council

Board of Adjustment

The October meeting of the Blanchard Board of Adjustment will be 6pm on **Tuesday, October 18th** to discuss, consider and take possible action on the following agenda items:

- 2023 Calendar Year Board Meetings;
- Oklahoma and U.S. Supreme Court decisions on board of adjustments and/or planning and zoning issues; and
- Consent Agenda.

Daylite Saving Time Ends



FALL BACK SUNDAY, November 6th, when Daylight Saving Time ends at 2 a.m. Clocks will "fall back" one-hour.

Credit for Daylite Saving Time belongs to Benjamin Franklin,

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

SPECIAL EVENTS

October 17th

- **BOSS'S DAY**

October 31st

- **HALLOWEEN**

- **PUMPKINFEST**

who first suggested the idea in 1784. The idea was revised in 1907, when William Willett, an Englishman, proposed a similar system in the pamphlet 'The Waste of Daylight'.

The Germans were the first to officially adopt the light-extending system in 1915 as a fuel-saving measure during World War 1. The British switched one year later, and the United States followed in 1918, when Congress passed the Standard Time Act, which established our time zones. This experiment lasted only until 1920, when the law was repealed due to opposition from dairy farmers [cows don't pay attention to clocks]. During World War II, Daylight Saving Time was imposed once again [this time year around] to save fuel.

SO REMEMBER! When you change the clocks, change your batteries in your smoke and CO² detectors.

Employment Opportunities



The City of Blanchard is looking for qualified applicants to fill the following positions:

- ☐ **Police Officers** (full-benefits).
- ☐ **Reserve Police Officers** (no benefits).
- ☐ **Volunteer Firefighters** (pension and stipend per call).
- ☐ **Street Laborers** (full-benefits).
 - Benefits for full-time employment include but not limited to:
 - Medical benefits paid on behalf of employee.
 - Nationwide Retirement Solutions Plan (City/BMIA employees only).
 - OK Police Pension and Retirement System (police officers).
 - 10 paid vacation days per year.
 - 10 paid sick days per year.
 - 9 paid holidays per year.
 - 1-floating holiday.

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

**Library Events:
Please visit their
website at**
www.pioneer.lib.ok.us

City of Blanchard
P.O. Box 480
122 N. Main Street
Blanchard, OK 73010

Phone:
(405) 485-9392

Fax:
(405) 485-3199

E-mail:
citymanager@cityofblanchard.us

We're on the Web!
www.cityofblanchard.us

- Life Insurance (paid by the City).
- Employee Assistance Program (EAP).

The City of Blanchard is an Equal Opportunity Employer (EOE). For more information, please contact the Human Resources Officer at 405.485.9392 or download an application from www.cityofblanchard.us.

Halloween



'Trick or Treat' nite in Blanchard will be **Monday, October 31st** from **6 pm to 9 pm**.

Please drive carefully with caution and watch out for little ghosts and goblins!

For Halloween safety tips for your kids, pets, etc. please go to <https://nnw.org/halloween-safety-tips>.

Household Hazardous Waste

The Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality (ODEQ) has approved the City's Household Hazardous Waste Event for **Saturday, October 29th, 2022**.

Items that will be accepted will include tires, batteries, oil, paints, etc.

More information was sent to all citizens in the October utility billing.

Memorial Poker Ride

The 3rd Annual Veterans Memorial Poker Chip Run will be held in Blanchard, OK on **October 22nd**. Flexible registration times are between **7 - 10 AM** at City Hall located at 122 N Main St. The \$30.00 individual registration fee includes a free sit down "All You Can Eat" breakfast, cooked and served by the local Masonic lodge,



AFTER HOURS

For Public Works after-hour incidents:

- *water leaks
 - *waterline breaks
 - *sewer backups
 - *sewer line breaks
 - *lift station alarms
 - *manholes overflowing
 - *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 Center is 24-7 and will contact the on-call personnel regarding the incident.

of eggs, bacon, sausage, biscuits and gravy, pancakes, juice and coffee before you leave.

The 175 mile, 5 stop route will take you through some beautiful back roads to and thru the Arbuckle Mountains. At each stop, you will draw a poker chip and the color will be recorded on your player card. No one knows the point value of the colors until you arrive at the final stop by 4 PM. The highest score will win \$500 cash and the lowest score will win \$200 cash plus there will be many additional door prizes handed out at the last stop. Any ties will be broken by drawing an additional poker chip.

You can ride individually, with a group or set a time and plan for your club to meet between 7 and 10 AM. After registering, you will go eat breakfast and can plan your KSU as a group at the Masonic lodge after eating. Each entry will receive a free annual rocker patch for the event. We have a colorful event patch available, you may purchase, for your vest, showing your support of the Veterans Memorial. Register on site that morning or you will be able to pre-register online at www.cityofblanchard.us under the Veterans Memorial Park link to skip the waiting line. Rain date will be the following Saturday, October 29th.

Oil 'n Gas

The Oklahoma Corporation Commission reported since **October 7th** that **NO (0)** oil wells was permitted within the City limits of Blanchard.

Planning Commission Action

The Blanchard Planning Commission held their October meeting on **Thursday, October 13th** and discussed, considered and took the following action re:

- **OPENED, CONDUCTED** and **CLOSED** Public Hearing to receive public comments on a Zoning Application from:
Applicant: Corey Deskin
Location: 189 Parkland Ranch

Current Zoning: S-1 Suburban District

Proposed Zoning: A-1 Agricultural District

Legal: A tract of land located in Section 6-T8N-R4W of the Indian Meridian, McClain County, Oklahoma.

- **ADOPTED** Resolution No. 2022-12 recommending approval to the City Council regarding the Zoning application (Corey Deskin).
- **TABLED** an Ordinance of the City of Blanchard, Oklahoma amending Section 21- 401, Article 4, of Chapter 21, Section 21-702, Article 7, of Chapter 21, Section 21-712, Article 7, Division 2 of Chapter 21, Section 21-722, Article 7, Division 3 of Chapter 21, Section 21-732, Article 7, Division 4 of Chapter 21, of The Blanchard Municipal Code pertaining to farmers market; declaring repealer; providing for severability; and declaring an emergency.
- **TABLED** Resolution No. 2022-13 recommending approval or denial to the City Council in regards to an ordinance pertaining to farmers markets.
- **APPROVED** Consent Agenda.

The November Planning Commission meeting will be **Thursday, November 10th**.

Park Events

The upcoming **2022** events are:

- **October 22nd** ~ Memorial Poker Ride.
- **October 31st** ~ PumpkinFest.
- **November 12th** ~ Veterans Day Parade.
- **December 10th** ~ Christmas Events
- **December 10th** ~ Christmas Parade of Lites.

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

Police Blotter

10.14.22 ~ HARRIS, Tony C arrested on Outstanding Municipal Warrants and McClain County Warrants.

10.11.22 ~ CREEL, Connor arrested on Possession of Drug

Paraphernalia, Possession of Marijuana and Resisting Arrest.

PumpkinFest

Are you ready for a real **SPOOKY GOOD TIME?**



The City's annual PumpkinFest will be held on **Monday, October 31st** from **6pm to 9pm** on Main Street.

Activities include:

- Costume Contest (Ages 0-10) (11-18) & (19-over)
- Pet Costume Contest (all pets must be on a leash)
- Face Painting
- Free Candy &

Refreshments

- Games and Trunk or Treats
- Safe Candy Walk & Music

For more information, please contact Chris Wittenbach at 405.248.6521 or parks@cityofblanchard.us.

Road Projects

The City Council awarded the contract for section line road improvements to Haskell Lemon Construction in the total amount of \$7,158,655.00. The project for Phase I includes the rebuilding and paving of approximately 6.77 miles of the following section line roads:

- **3.68** miles of South County Line Road from U.S. 62 south to 250th;
- **1.59** miles of Morgan Road from U.S. 62 north to 10th Street NW;
- **1.0** mile of County Line Road from 10th Street NW north to 25th; and
- **0.5** miles of 55th Street from O.K. 76 east to $\frac{1}{2}$ mile.

However, Haskell Lemon has to wrap up a project for ODOT (OK-37) before starting on Phase I beginning the first week of November.

The sales tax approved by voters at a special election on February 8th took effect July 1st with the first collections in September.

The following chart tracks the one penny sales/use tax earmarked for section line road improvements:

Month	\$ Amount	% +/-
Jul '22	-0-	-0.00-
Aug '22	-0-	-0.00-
Sep '22	126,122.44	-0.00-
Oct '22	114,727.10	-0.00-
Nov '22	0	0.00
Dec '22	0	0.00
Jan '23	0	0.00
Feb '23	0	0.00
Mar '23	0	0.00
Apr '23	0	0.00
May '23	0	0.00
Jun '23	0	0.00
Totals	240,849.54	00.00

Sales Tax Collections

The sales tax collections for the month of October is more than thirty-four percent (34.18%) than the monthly budgeted amount based on \$9,080,146.60 of retail sales in Blanchard.

Month	\$ Amount	% +/-
Jul '22	341,443.27	19.73
Aug '22	433,295.74	26.51
Sep '22	493,098.78	100.09
Oct '22	454,007.33	40.16
Nov '22	0	0.00
Dec '22	0	0.00
Jan '23	0	0.00
Feb '23	0	0.00
Mar '23	0	0.00
Apr '23	0	0.00
May '23	0	0.00
Jun '23	0	0.00
Totals	1,721,845.12	45.04

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 NOT AVAILABLE!

If you are 60 years of age or older, you are eligible to participate free of charge. However, a 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, 101 S. Main Street, please call 1-866-THAT-BUS. The City contracts with Delta Transit to provide bus services.

For more information regarding the Senior Center, please call 405.485.9260.

Shop Local

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

1. More of your money will be kept in the Blanchard local economy: 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 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 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.

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.

2022 Election

November 8th ~ General Election.

PLEASE EXERCISE YOUR RIGHT TO VOTE ~ POLLS ARE OPEN FROM 7am - 7pm.

Use Tax Collections

The use tax collections for the month of October is more than twelve percent (12.41%) more than the monthly budgeted amount based on \$2,392,263.00 of retail sales outside of Blanchard.

Month	\$ Amount	% +/-
Jul '22	100,869.95	22.75
Aug '22	94,050.49	-3.45
Sep '22	137,513.39	55.31
Oct '22	119,613.15	40.95
Nov '22	0	0.00
Dec '22	0	0.00
Jan '23	0	0.00
Feb '23	0	0.00
Mar '23	0	0.00
Apr '23	0	0.00
May '23	0	0.00
Jun '23	0	0.00
Totals	452,046.98	28.06



