



E-Mail Newsletter

23 December 2022

Volume 126, Number 4

Meeting Dates

January 9th

8am - TEAM Blanchard

6pm - BPS Bd of Ed

January 10th

5pm - Sp City Council

6pm - Tourism Board

January 13th

6pm - Planning Comm

January 18th

6pm - BOA

January 24th

6pm - BMIA

6pm - City Council

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



Animal Control Truck

Thanks to the City of Moore, they surplus a vehicle and provided the truck to the Blanchard Animal Control Officer to

replace our animal control truck.

The 2014 Ford F350 Super Duty Extended Cab truck was picked up on Tuesday and placed into service for Blanchard.

Carbon-Monoxide

Due to the extreme cold temperatures and the potential for

Special Events

December 23rd

– CITY OFFICES
CLOSED

December 24th

– CHRISTMAS EVE

December 25th

– CHRISTMAS

December 26th

– CITY OFFICES
CLOSED

– Senior Nutrition
CLOSED

December 31st

– NEW YEAR'S EVE

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

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



power outages, please be aware of the hazards of the following types of heating:

- ♦ **Never** use gas grills, propane grills, charcoal grills in a house, garage or enclosed area;
- ♦ All gas fire heaters **MUST** be vented to the outside to remove carbon monoxide from an enclosed area; and
- ♦ **Please** read and follow all manufacturer instructions for any heater.

Citizen Collection Center

The City of Blanchard's Citizen Collection Center will be closed for Christmas holidays on **Friday, December 23rd**, **Saturday, December 24th**, and **Monday, December 26th**.

It will reopen on **Tuesday, December 27th**.

The Center will be closed on **Monday, January 2nd** for observance of New Year's Day.

Employment Opportunities

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

- » **Chief of Police** (full-benefits).
- » **Police Officers** (full-benefits).
- » **Reserve Police Officers** (no benefits).
- » **Volunteer Firefighters** (pension and stipend per call).
- » **Dispatcher** (full-benefits).
- » **Street Laborers** (full-benefits).
- » **Utility 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).

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



- 10 paid vacation days per year.
- 10 paid sick days per year.
- 9 paid holidays per year.
- 1 -floating holiday.
- 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.

Holiday Closing

City offices will be closed for the observance of Christmas on **Friday, December 23rd (Christmas Eve Observed)** and **Monday, December 26th (Christmas Day Observed)**.

City offices will be closed for the observance of New Year's on **Monday, January 2nd (New Year's Day Observed)**.

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 collection as usual.

City Offices will reopen on the **Tuesday (January 3rd)** after New Year's Day Observed.

New Year's Day

In Scotland, **December 31st** is known as Hogmanay, the word children use to ask for their traditional present of an oatmeal cake (which is why this is also called Cake Day). The first person to cross the threshold into your home, called the first footer, is an indication of the year to come. Although the tradition varies, if the first footer is tall and dark, the year will be a good one.

To celebrate, the City allows the discharge of fireworks on

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.



Saturday, December 31st from 12:00 Noon to 12:00 Midnite;
and on Sunday, January 1st from 12:01 am to 12:30 am.

Oil 'n Gas

There were **NO** oil wells permitted or completed in Blanchard according to the Oklahoma Corporation Commission since **Friday, December 16th**.

Police Blotter

- No Arrests.
-

Road Improvements

The Haskell Lemon Group (Contractor) completed the leveling course for County Line Road between 10th Street NW for one-mile to 25th Street NW.

The current weather will not reach temperatures allowing them to place the surface course. So as soon as the weather cooperates, the Contractor plans to return and finish the surface course after the first of the year (**again weather permitting!**).

School Break

The Blanchard Public Schools will be closed for the Christmas Holidays, **NO CLASSES**. Students will be out of school from **December 21st, 2022** to **January 3rd, 2023**. Classes resume on **Wednesday, January 4th**.

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



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

Monday, December 26th ~ Center Closed

Tuesday, December 27th ~ Chili Pie, Salad, Vegetable, Chips, Dessert.

Wednesday, December 28th ~ Meatloaf, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Vegetable, Dessert.

Thursday, December 29th ~ Navy Beans, Potatoes, Beets, Cornbread, Dessert.

Friday, December 30th ~ Pigs-n-Blanket, Mac & Cheese, Coleslaw, Biscuit, Dessert.

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.

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

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.



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.

2023 Meeting Schedule

The BMIA Board of Trustees and the Blanchard City Council meets the fourth Tuesday of each month (except November & December due to the Holidays) beginning at 6pm, Municipal Court House, 300 North Main Street. The meeting schedule for both the Authority and the City in 2023 is as follows:

- Tuesday, January 24th
- Tuesday, February 28th
- Tuesday, March 28th
- Tuesday, April 25th
- Tuesday, May 23rd
- Tuesday, June 27th
- Tuesday, July 25th
- Tuesday, August 22nd
- Tuesday, September 26th
- Tuesday, October 24th
- Tuesday, November 14th
- Tuesday, December 12th

2023 Observed Holidays

City offices will be closed in 2023 for the observance of the following holidays:

- Monday, January 2nd ~ New Year's Day
- Monday, May 29th ~ Memorial Day

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.



- Tuesday, July 4th ~ Independence Day
- Monday, September 4th ~ Labor Day
- Friday, November 10th ~ Veterans Day
- Thursday, November 23rd ~ Thanksgiving Day
- Friday, November 24th ~ Thanksgiving Day After
- Friday, December 22nd ~ Christmas Eve
- Monday, January 25th ~ Christmas Day

Vacuum Truck



The Blanchard Municipal Improvement Authority is lease-purchasing the above 2020 Peterbilt Vacuum Truck with all equipment and tools from OK Water.

This vehicle is engineered for a wide variety of applications and designed with the operator in mind while being recognized for high quality, durability and ease of operations. It gives the



City access to the industry's most efficient and progressive vacuum excavators, combination sewer cleaners, industrial vacuum loaders, truck mounted jetter and liquid vacuum truck without buying individual equipment to accomplish the same tasks. It has all hydro x tools to dig with for water and sewer projects.

