



# E-Mail Newsletter

3 March 2023

Volume 129, Number 1

## Meeting Dates

### March 6<sup>th</sup>

6am ~ TEAM  
Blanchard  
6pm ~ Blanchard  
Board of  
Education

### March 7<sup>th</sup>

**CANCELED** ~ Board of  
Adjustment

### March 9<sup>th</sup>

6pm ~ Planning  
Commission

### March 20<sup>th</sup>

6pm ~ Blanchard  
Tourism Board

### March 24<sup>th</sup>

8am ~ TIF Review  
Committee

### March 28<sup>th</sup>

6pm ~ BMIA  
6pm ~ City Council

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

## BMIA Action

The Blanchard Board of Trustees of the Blanchard Municipal Improvement Authority met in regular session on February 28<sup>th</sup> and discussed, considered and took action on the following agenda items as follows:

**APPROVED** the submittal of plans, application and permit fee to ODEQ for the Original Town Phase 2 Water Line Replacement Project.

**ADOPTED** Resolution No. 2023-01 approving a Development Agreement with Southwind Hills Land Development LLC to provide water to Hux Grove Addition in Grady County.

**ADOPTED** Resolution No. 2023-02 approving a ten (10%) percent pay raise for all non-uniformed employees of the BMIA.

**APPROVED** Consent Agenda.

The next meeting will be on **Tuesday, March 28<sup>th</sup>**.

## BOA Meeting

The Blanchard Board of Adjustment's March meeting is **CANCELED** due to a lack of agenda items.

## Council Action

The Blanchard City Council met in regular session on February 28<sup>th</sup> and discussed, considered and took action on the following agenda items as follows:

**ISSUED** Proclamation declaring Friday as "Vollie Hines" Day in Blanchard.

# Special Events

**March 7<sup>th</sup>**

~ Special Election

**March 11<sup>th</sup>**

~ St Patty's Day Parade

**March 12<sup>th</sup>**

~ Daylite Saving Time Begins

**March 13<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup>**

~ Spring Break

**March 17<sup>th</sup>**

~ St Patty's Day

**March 20<sup>th</sup>**

~ 1<sup>st</sup> Day of Spring

For Blanchard

City events:

Please visit our website at

[www.cityofblanchard.us](http://www.cityofblanchard.us)

Library Events:

Please visit their website at

<https://pioneer.libnet.info/events?l=virtual,blanchard>

- ✓ **ISSUED** Proclamation for Autism Month & Day in Blanchard.
  - ✓ **HELD** Public Hearing on amending the Blanchard Municipal Code relating to Medical Marijuana regulations.
  - ✓ **ADOPTED** Ordinance No. 772 amending the BMC relating to Medical Marijuana regulations.
  - ✓ **ADOPTED** Emergency Clause for Ordinance No. 772.
  - ✓ **ADOPTED** Resolution No. 2023-06 approving a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Chickasaw Nation pertaining to roads and streets.
  - ✓ **ADOPTED** Resolution No. 2023-07 approving an Agreement for Engineering Services with Glenn Sullivan & Associates, Inc. for the Original Town Phase II CDBG water project.
  - ✓ **ADOPTED** Resolution No. 2023-08 approving a Special Event Permit for the BSA Troop 234 to conduct a mulch fundraiser (direct sales to the public) on April 1<sup>st</sup> from 8am to 4pm.
  - ✓ **ADOPTED** Resolution No. 2023-09 accepting the nomination of Amber Garrett by Councilman Joe Davis and approving said nomination to serve on the new Tourism Board for an unexpired term ending June 2026.
  - ✓ **ADOPTED** Resolution No. 2023-10 accepting the bids for the lease-purchase and awarded the purchase of 3-zero turn riding mowers Total Eqpt (Bobcat of Goldsby) in the amount of \$36,786.42.
  - ✓ **ADOPTED** Resolution No. 2023-11 accepting the bids for the lease-purchase and awarded the purchase of a used 2018 5-Yd Dump Truck to United Rentals in the amount of \$60,000.00.
  - ✓ **ADOPTED** Resolution No. 2023-12 accepting OMAG's recommendation to deny a tort claim filed by Amanda Barber of Norman.
  - ✓ **ADOPTED** Purchase Request for the acquisition of 2-pickup trucks for Parks and authorize the lease-purchase financing with other equipment.
  - ✓ **DISCUSSED** status of road improvements.
  - ✓ **DISCUSSED** status Fire Station improvements.
  - ✓ **DISCUSSED** status of making concession stand/press box renovations.
  - ✓ **DISCUSSED** status of a Public Safety Complex.
- ADDENDUM:**
- ✓ **ADOPTED** Resolution No. 2023-13 approving a ten (10%) percent pay raise for all non-uniformed employees (except fire, police and dispatch) of the City of Blanchard and the BMIA.
  - ✓ **ADOPTED** Resolution No. 2023-14 approving a Special Event

# 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.

Permit for a wine/beer festival in Blanchard, as recommended by the Tourism Board.

☑ **INSTRUCTED** City Attorney to prepare Ordinance, Election Resolution and Election Proclamation for submitting a hotel/motel tax to the voters.

☑ **APPROVED** Consent Agenda; and

☑ **HELD** Executive Session.

The next meeting will be on **Tuesday, March 28<sup>th</sup>**.

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## Daylite Saving Time



When we change our clocks ... change our smoke detector batteries on **March 12<sup>th</sup>** when most of the United States begins Daylight Saving Time at **2:00 a.m.** on the second **Sunday in March (12<sup>th</sup>)**.

The country reverts back to standard time on the first Sunday in November.

In the U.S., each time zone switches at a different time.

Three (3) bills were introduced in the Oklahoma Legislature in 2023 (SB7; SB69; HB2217), if passed, one would require daylight saving time to be observed the year-round (Passed Committee on a 8-2 vote; the 2<sup>nd</sup> will place the measure on a ballot referendum making Daylight Saving Time permanent; and the 3<sup>rd</sup> not observing Daylight Saving Time but adhere to Standard Time year around.

**Tick Tock:** Daylight-saving time isn't observed in Arizona or Hawaii.

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## Employment Opportunities

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

- » **Dispatcher** (full-benefits).
- » Reserve Police Officers (no benefits).
- » **Street Laborers** (full-benefits).
- » Utility Laborers (full-benefits).
- » **Transfer Site Laborer** (full-benefits).

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

## Shop Local

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

1. 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 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. 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. Buying from a locally owned business conserves energy and resources in the form of less fuel for transportation and less packaging.
5. 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. Shopping in a local business district means less infrastructure, less maintenance, and

- Medical benefits paid on behalf of employee.
- Nationwide Retirement Solutions Plan (City/BMIA employees only).
- 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](http://www.cityofblanchard.us).

## Municipal Election

Registered voters will choose 1 of 2 candidates to serve on the Blanchard City Council to represent Ward 1:

- Joe Davis\* (incumbent)
- Ben Whitt

The municipal election will be held on **Tuesday, April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023.**



## Oil 'n Gas

There were **NO** oil wells permitted or completed in Blanchard according to the Oklahoma Corporation Commission since **Friday, February 24<sup>th</sup>.**

## On the Planning Commission Agenda

The Blanchard Planning Commission will meet in regular session on **Thursday, March 9<sup>th</sup>.** They will discuss, consider and take appropriate action on the following agenda items as follows:

- Public Hearing on a Zoning Application from S-1 to A-1 in the W2 E2 SW4 SE4 of Section 36-T8N-R5W of the Indian Meridian.
- Resolution recommending approval or denial to the City

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. 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 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. Creativity and entrepreneurship are what the American economy is founded upon. Nurturing local business ensures a strong community.

10. The more interesting and unique Blanchard community, the more we will attract new neighbors, visitors and guests. This

**BENEFITS EVERYONE!**

\* Civic Economics - Andersonville Study of Retail Economics.

Council.

☑ Public Hearing on a Zoning Application from S-1 to A-1 in the NW4 NE4 NW4 of Section 25-T8N-R5W of the Indian Meridian.

☑ Resolution recommending approval or denial to the City Council.

☑ Public Hearing on a Zoning Application from A-1 to R-1 in the E2 SW4 NE4 of Section 19-T8N-R4W of the Indian Meridian.

☑ Resolution recommending approval or denial to the City Council.

☑ Public Hearing on a Zoning Application from S-1 to A-1 (applicant is now requesting R-E) in the SW4 SE4 SW4 of Section 25-T8N-R5W of the Indian Meridian.

☑ Resolution recommending approval or denial to the City Council.

☑ Lot Split Application of 10.02 acres into three (3) tracts located in the SW4 SE4 SW4 of Section 25-T8N-R5W of the Indian Meridian.

☑ Consent Agenda.

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

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## *Police Blotter*

- 3.02.23 - SMITH, Patricia arrested on Blanchard Municipal Warrants.

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## *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, March 6<sup>th</sup>** ~ Spaghetti, Salad, Corn, Dessert.

**Tuesday, March 7<sup>th</sup>** ~ Chili Pie, Salad, Vegetable, Chips, Dessert.

**Wednesday, March 8<sup>th</sup>** ~ Tetrizzini, Green Beans, Carrots, Dessert.

**Thursday, March 9<sup>th</sup>** ~ Hobo Beans, Pickle & Onion, Okra, Cornbread, Dessert.

**Friday, March 10<sup>th</sup>** ~ Chicken Patty, Baked Beans, Coleslaw, Bun, 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

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P.O. Box 480  
122 N. Main Street  
Blanchard, OK 73010  
Phone: (405) 485-9392  
Fax: (405) 485-3199

E-mail:  
[citymanager@cityofblanchard.us](mailto:citymanager@cityofblanchard.us)

We're on the Web!  
[www.cityofblanchard.us](http://www.cityofblanchard.us)

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, please call 405.485.9260.

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## *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.

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**SPRING  
BREAK 2023**

The Blanchard Public School District will be on Spring Break beginning **Monday, March 13<sup>th</sup>** thru **Friday, March 17<sup>th</sup>**.

**NO Classes for students.**



# State Question 820

One State Question will appear on the **Tuesday, March 7, 2023**, Special Election Ballot. This initiative petition was placed on the ballot by gathering enough signatures from Oklahoma citizens for the legalization of recreational use of marijuana for persons 21 or older.

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## St Patrick's Day

If you're inclined toward legend, lore and festivities of the Saint and how the Irish honor him, then check out this St. Patrick's Day site at [www.st-patricks-day.com](http://www.st-patricks-day.com), where you'll find everything from parades to recipes. In Dublin Ireland, the St. Patrick's Day Festival at [www.stpatricksday.ie](http://www.stpatricksday.ie) is described as four (4) days of "madness and mayhem." St. Patrick's Day will be **Friday, March 17<sup>th</sup>**.



## St Patrick's Day Parade



Plans are set for the annual St Patrick's Day Parade being held on **Saturday, March 11<sup>th</sup>**. Parade lineup begins at **3:30pm** at Legacy Bank and the parade kicks off at **4:30pm**.

If you would like to participate, please contact Chris Wittenbach @ 485.9392 or [parks@cityofblanchard.us](mailto:parks@cityofblanchard.us) or visit [www.cityofblanchard.us](http://www.cityofblanchard.us).

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## Vernal Equinox

Spring will begin on **Monday, March 20<sup>th</sup>** at **4:24p.m.** CDT and ends **Wednesday, June 21<sup>st</sup>** at **9:57a.m.** CDT.

The word equinox is derived from the Latin words meaning "equal nite." The Vernal, or spring, equinox is the point at

which the Sun appears to cross the celestial equator from south to north, signaling the beginning of nature's renewal in the Northern Hemisphere.

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To VOTE!  
On **Tuesday** [**March 7<sup>th</sup>**]  
Polls are open from **7am** to **7pm**.