



E-Mail Newsletter

28 April 2023

Volume 130, Number 4

Meeting Dates

- MAY 1st**
6pm ~ BPS Bd of Edu
- MAY 8th**
8am ~ TEAM Blanchard
- MAY 11th**
6pm ~ Planning Comm
- MAY 16th**
6pm ~ BOA
- MAY 23rd**
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 BMIA held their April meeting on **Tuesday, April 25th** and discussed, considered and took action as follows:

✓ **ACCEPTED** and **ACKNOWLEDGED** receipt of Water Line Permit for Construction, Technical Specs and Plans.

✓ **ACCEPTED** Consent Agenda.

The next Trust is Tuesday, May 23rd.

Council Action

The Blanchard City Council held their April meeting on **Tuesday, April 25th** and discussed, considered and took action on the following agenda items:

✓ **HELD** Public Hearing re: Planning Commission's recommendation to deny a Zoning Application submitted by the Chickasaw Nation Housing Authority c/o Owners, for property on North Main Street, reclassifying from A-1, Agricultural District to R-1, Single-Family Residential District.

✓ **ADOPTED** Ordinance No. 777 denying the Planning Commission's recommendation and approved the application to reclassify property from the R-1 to the A-1 District.

✓ **ADOPTED** Emergency Clause for Zoning Ordinance No. 777.

✓ **HELD** Public Hearing on Planning Commission's recommendation to approve Zoning Application submitted by Stephen & Regina Boulware, 915 Bell Lane from the S-1, Suburban District to the R-E, Residential Estates District.

✓ **ADOPTED** Ordinance No. 778 approving the Zoning application

Special Events

May 4th

~ Nat'l Day of
Prayer

May 5th

~ Cinco de Mayo

May 6th

~ Farmers Market

May 13th

~ Farmers Market

May 14th

~ Mother's Day

May 17th

~ Last Day of
School

May 19th

~ May Daze

May 20th

~ Farmers Market

May 20th

~ Armed Forces
Day

~ May Daze

May 27th

~ Farmers Market

May 29th

~ MEMORIAL DAY

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>

filed by Stephen & Regina Boulware.

✓ **ADOPTED** Emergency Clause for Zoning Ordinance No. 778.

✓ **HELD** Public Hearing on Planning Commission's recommendation to approve a Zoning Application submitted by Kimberly & Joe Rogers, 4933 Kitty Hawk Road from the S-1, Suburban District to the R-E, Residential Estates District.

✓ **ADOPTED** Ordinance No. 779 approving the Zoning Application filed by Kimberly & Joe Rogers.

✓ **ADOPTED** Emergency Clause for Zoning Ordinance No. 779.

✓ **HELD** Public Hearing on Planning Commission's recommendation to approve Zoning Application submitted by Kenny Stevens, 4615 SW 22nd Street, from the S-1, Suburban District to the A-1, Agricultural District.

✓ **ADOPTED** Ordinance No. 780 approving the Zoning Application filed by Kenny Stevens.

✓ **ADOPTED** Emergency Clause for Zoning Ordinance No. 780.

✓ **HELD** Public Hearing on Planning Commission's recommendation to approve Zoning Application submitted by Kenny Stevens, 1918 Bobwhite Trail from the S-1, Suburban District to the A-1, Agricultural District.

✓ **ADOPTED** Ordinance No. 781 approving the Zoning Application filed by Kenny Stevens.

✓ **ADOPTED** Ordinance repealing part of Ordinance No. 782 pertaining to permits for Oil and Gas trucking.

✓ **ADOPTED** Emergency Clause for Ordinance No. 782.

✓ **APPROVED** Resolution No. 2023-23 renewing an Agreement for financial services with Crawford & Associates for Fiscal Year 2023-2024.

✓ **APPROVED** Resolution N. 2023-24 renewing an Agreement for library services with Pioneer Library System for Fiscal Year 2023-2024.

✓ **APPROVED** Resolution 2023-25 approving a "Letter of Support" for Delta Public Transit.

✓ **APPROVED** Resolution No. 2023-26 approving a Road Repair & Maintenance Agreement with Native Exploration Operating, LLC.

✓ **APPROVED** Resolution No. 2023-27 approving a Road Repair & Maintenance Agreement with NextEra.

✓ **APPROVED** Resolution No. 2023-28 approving Special Event Permit for Good Old Days Mercantile for setup of food truck on Main Street for grand opening.

✓ **DELETED** Resolution approving Special Event Permit for Blanchard Education Foundation to hold a "wine/bourbon tasting" fundraiser at

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.

Old City Hall.

✓ **APPROVED** Resolution No. 2023-29 approving Special Event Permit for Parks Department to hold a Cinco de Mayo event.

✓ **APPROVED** Resolution No. 2023-30 accepting sealed bids and award contract to construct a new maintenance building to the lowest and best bidder.

✓ **APPROVED** Resolution No. 2023-31 approving a \$5,000 Budget Supplement for Blanchard Tourism Board to promote upcoming Special Events.

✓ **APPROVED** Resolution No. 2023-32 authorizing certain officers to sign checks, checking and saving accounts, MMDA accounts and other investments and transfer and authorizing certain officers access to Safety Deposit Boxes.

✓ **APPROVED** Change Order adding \$784,645 to Haskell Lemon Group's contract for NE 10th Street from SH-76 east to US-62.

✓ **APPROVED** changes to the City's Health, Dental, Vision and Life Insurance from OPEH&W to Municipal Health Solutions.

✓ **DISCUSSED** Road Improvement status with Haskell Lemon Group.

✓ **DISCUSSED** Fire Station No. 2 completion and acceptance.

✓ **APPROVED** Resolution No. 2023-33 renewing Senior Citizen's Reservation Agreement.

✓ **APPROVED** Consent Agenda items C2-C8.

The next meeting of the City Council will be Tuesday, May 23rd.

Employment Opportunities

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

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

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

- 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.

Farmers Market

The 2023 Blanchard Farmers Market opens **Saturday, May 6th**.

Please visit our website under RESIDENTS and make application to participate.

Graduation

CONGRATULATION to the 2023 BHS Seniors! Graduation will be **Monday, May 15th**. Ceremonies begin at 7 p.m. at the Blanchard H.S. Gym.

Holiday Observance

City offices will be closed **Monday, May 29th** in observance of Memorial Day. 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 will run as usual.

REMEMBER THOSE WHO SERVED



ALL GAVE SOME, SOME GAVE ALL

May Daze Festival

The 'unofficial' start to summer in Blanchard begins with the Chamber's 29th Annual May Daze Festival starting on **Friday, May 19th** thru **Saturday, May 20th**.

Promotional (non-profit) booths are available at no cost to Chamber members. Your business may also volunteer for a shift in the Chamber booth if you would like to promote your



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.

business at the festival, but can't commit to a booth for the whole weekend.

Call the Chamber office at 485-8787 to reserve your space!

Memorial Day

The custom of honoring our ancestors by cleaning cemeteries and decorating graves is an ancient and worldwide tradition, but the specific origin of Memorial Day, or Decoration Day as it was first known, are unclear.

In early rural America, this duty was usually performed in late summer and was an occasion for family reunions and picnics.

After the Civil War, America's need for a secular, patriotic ceremony to honor our military dead became prominent, as monuments to fallen soldiers were erected and dedicated, and ceremonies centering on the decorations of soldier's graves were held in cities and towns thru-out the nation.

No less than 25 places have been named in connection with the origin of Memorial Day, and for many years, states observed the holiday on different dates. However, by federal law, Memorial Day is now celebrated on the last Monday in May which will be **Monday, May 29th**.

Mother's Day

Sunday, May 14th will be Mother's Day. Although the custom of setting aside a day to honor mothers has ancient roots, our observance of Mother's Day originated in 1907 with the efforts of a devoted daughter, Anna M. Jarvis of Philadelphia, who conceived the idea of an annual nationwide celebration. The public and the press quickly embraced the idea, and villages, towns, cities, and states soon began unofficial Mother's Day observances. On May 8, 1914, President Woodrow Wilson signed a proclamation designating the second Sunday in May Mother's Day, and within a few years, the idea gained worldwide prominence. The day is now characterized by gift giving, sending greeting cards and flowers, and giving mother a "day off" by taking the family out to eat. In the United States, Mother's Day is celebrated on the second Sunday of May.

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Fax: (405) 485-3199

E-mail:
citymanager@cityofblanchard.us

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

Oil 'n Gas

There were **NO** oil wells permitted or completed in Blanchard according to the Oklahoma Corporation Commission since **Friday, April 21st**.

Oklahoma Recovers | Red Cross Updates

The Red Cross continues to support those impacted by the tornado that touched down last Wednesday, April 19, 2023. Their teams of trained disaster volunteers have been out in the impacted areas doing damage assessment, delivering emergency supplies and providing food and water.

With power continuing to be restored and the need for overnight sheltering diminished, our shelters are now pivoting to Resource Centers and will be open from 8am to 8pm in the following locations:

12 Corners Baptist Church
15601 E Etowah Rd.
Noble, OK 73068

Cole Volunteer Fire Department
27089 Main St.
Cole, OK 73010

Shawnee Resource Center
OBU Green Campus
Don & Peggy Sumner Field House--*NW of the museum
1900 W MacArthur
Shawnee Ok, 74804

Folks can stop in for a break and recharge devices or get some snacks or food, pick up supplies such as shovels, trash bags, tarps, etc.

Disaster workers will be in impacted communities tomorrow to continue delivering food and water and emergency supplies, and to assess damage to homes. Damage assessment is a critical step the Red Cross takes to help people begin planning their recovery. They continue to coordinate with local officials to ensure communities get the support they need.

If anyone you know has been impacted by this disaster, please they can contact 1-800-REDCROSS immediately. They will be connected to local teams for support.

Be weather aware! We have rain forecasted in the state next week. The Red Cross Emergency app is a free and easy tool you can use to plan accordingly.

Police Blotter

- 4.29.23 ~ KNOFF, Arron arrested for Assault & Battery.
- 4.28.23 ~ HANLEY, Robert arrested on Fraud, Fake ID and Unauthorized Use of Motor Vehicle.
- 4.17.23 ~ BREWER, Danny arrested on Outstanding Chickasaw Nation.

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, May 1st ~ Chicken Strips, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Vegetable, Dessert.

Monday, May 2nd ~ Pig-n-Blanket, Macaroni Salad, Coleslaw, Biscuit, Dessert.

Monday, May 3rd ~ Meatloaf, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Salad, Vegetable, Dessert.

Monday, May 4th ~ Navy Beans, Potatoes, Beets, Cornbread, Dessert.

Monday, May 5th ~ Pork Chops, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Vegetable, 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

Blanchard Emergency Management would like to take this opportunity to remind everyone that



severe storm season is fast approaching. We want to 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 and online www.cityofblanchard.us/document_center/storm_shelter_registration.pdf. Please return all registrations to the Blanchard City Hall, 122 North Main Street, Blanchard, OK 73010.

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.

Work Zone Awareness Month



The month of **May 17 - 23, 2023** has been declared Work Zone Awareness Months in Oklahoma to encourage residents to exercise

attentiveness and patience on public roadways.

Construction and maintenance of our streets, highways and utility infrastructure are critical to maintaining Oklahoma's economic vitality and keeping the state "open for business."

Accidents cause unexpected work zones along Oklahoma streets and highways, which places crews and first responders in direct contact with traffic.

By Oklahoma law, the fines for speeding in work zones are doubled and texting while driving is prohibited. In Blanchard, the fine is \$150.

Drivers should set aside distraction, be extra courteous and give work zones their individual attention when traveling.