



E-Mail Newsletter

19 May 2023

Volume 131, Number 3

Meeting Dates

MAY 23rd

6pm ~ BMA

6pm ~ City Council

JUNE 5th

8am ~ TEAM Blanchard

6pm ~ BETA

6pm ~ School Board

JUNE 8th

6pm ~ Planning Comm

JUNE 12th

2pm ~ Traffic Court

JUNE 13th

6pm ~ Special Council

JUNE 15th

6pm ~ Juvenile Court

JUNE 20th

6pm ~ BOA

JUNE 27th

6pm ~ BMA

6pm ~ City Council

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

Armed Forces Day

President Harry S. Truman led the effort to establish a single holiday for citizens to come together and thank our military members for their patriotic service in support of our country.

On August 31, 1949, Secretary of Defense Louis Johnson announced the creation of an Armed Forces Day to replace separate Army, Navy, Marine Corps and Air Force Days.

The single day celebration stemmed for the unification of the Armed Forces under the Department of Defense. **Saturday, May 20th** will be Armed Forces Day in the United States.



BOA Action

The Blanchard Board of Adjustment met in regular session on **Tuesday, May 16th** and discussed, considered and took action on the following agenda items:

- **HELD** Public Hearing to solicit public input regarding the approval or denial of a variance to allow the applicant to apply

Special Events

May 20th

~ Farmers Market
~ Armed Forces Day

~ May Daze

May 27th

~ Farmers Market

May 29th

~ MEMORIAL DAY

June 3rd

~ Farmers Market

June 6th

~ D-Day

June 10th

~ Farmers Market

June 11th ~ 17th

~ Flag Week

June 14th

~ Flag Day

June 17th

~ Farmers Market

June 18th

~ Father's Day

June 21st

~ Summer Begins

June 24th

~ Farmers Market

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>

a side yard setback of 15 feet to match the placement of the house:

Applicant: Donald & Connie Wood
Address: 381 Turtledove Court
Legal: See Staff Report

- **APPROVED** the Finding of Fact on the application as submitted.

- **HELD** Public Hearing to solicit public input regarding the approval or denial of a variance to allow the applicant to apply a side yard setback of 10 feet to match his subdivision's covenants.

Applicant: Jason & Emily French
Address: 1273 Blackjack Circle
Legal: See Staff Report

- **APPROVED** the Finding of Fact on the application as submitted.

- **APPROVED** Consent Agenda.
The next meeting is June 20th.

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).
- Employee Assistance Program (EAP).

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.

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 is opened for business every Saturday until October.

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

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



House Numbering

In an emergency, first responders (fire, police and ambulance) and utility service technicians depend on clearly marked addresses to find the right home as quickly as possible. Finding a residence can be challenging if street addresses (house numbers) are unreadable, hidden, unlit or missing. You can help emergency responders and service technicians locate your home by following these tips:

- Replace aging or faded numbers;
- Clear all obstructions (hanging plants, bushes, flags, etc.) from blocking your house number;
- Post large numbers to allow visibility from the street;

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

- Place your numbers near the street or on the curb, with a reflective coating and contrasting background;
- Allow numbers to be seen from all directions (if your home is on a corner, have numbers posted on all sides).

The BMC §4-402 requires all building and houses to be numbered. The even numbers (2,4,6, etc.) shall be on the east side of the streets extending north and south, and on the south side of the streets extending east and west; the odd numbers (1,3,5, etc.) shall be on the opposite side of streets.

May Daze Festival

The "unofficial" start of summer in Blanchard has begun with the Chamber's 29th Annual May Daze Festival. The last day of the Celebration is tomorrow (**Saturday, May 20th**).



Call the Chamber office at 485-8787 for more information!

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

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.

which will be **Monday, May 29th**.

Oil 'n Gas

There were **NO** oil wells permitted or completed in Blanchard according to the Oklahoma Corporation Commission since **Friday, May 12th**.

On the BMIA Agenda

The Board of Trustees of the Blanchard Municipal Improvement Authority will meet in regular session on **Tuesday, May 23rd** to discuss, consider and take appropriate action on the following agenda items:

- Emergency declaration for sewer line and manhole repair on 2nd Street and Van Buren pursuant to BMC Section 1-401.
- Consent Agenda.

The complete Agenda Packet can be found on the City's website at www.cityofblanchard.us.

On the Council Agenda

The Blanchard City Council will meet in regular session on **Tuesday, May 23rd** to discuss, consider and take appropriate action on the following agenda items:

- Proclamation declaring Flag Day (**June 14th**) and Flag Week (**June 11th - 17th**);
- Presentation on proposed Highway 62 Economic Development Project Plan;
- Public Hearing on proposed Highway 62 Economic Development Project Plan;
- Public Hearing to solicit public input regarding the approval of Zoning Application as recommended by Planning Commission:

Applicant: Kary & Karla Jessup

Address: 2530 N MacArthur Avenue

Zoning: A-1, Agricultural District

Zoning to: C-4, Restricted Commercial District

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

Legal: A part of SW4 SW4 of Section 15-T8N-R4W of the I.M., McClain County, Oklahoma.

Acreage: 4.69 acres MOL;

- Ordinance approving Zoning Reclassification as recommended by the Planning Commission;

- Emergency Clause of Zoning Ordinance;

- Public Hearing to solicit input regarding the Planning Commission's recommendation to approve rezoning application submitted by:

Applicant: Rob & Lisa Standridge

Address: 349 Imperial Drive

Zoning: R-3, Multi-Family Residential District

Zoning to: C-5, Automotive & Commercial Recreation District;

Legal: A part of Lots 24 & 25, Block 3 of Kendall Heights Addition, being a subdivision of the City of Blanchard of a part of Section 19-T8N-R4W of the I.M., McClain County, Oklahoma.

Acreage: 1.08 acres MOL

- Ordinance approving Zoning Reclassification as recommended by the Planning Commission.

- Emergency Clause of Zoning Ordinance;

- Ordinance amending Article 10, Chapter 13 pertaining to Youth Access to Tobacco Products;

- Emergency Clause of Ordinance;

- Resolution accepting McClain County ARPA funds in the amount of \$120,000.00 for a 12-inch water line with appurtenances serving the Blanchard High School;

- Resolution renewing three (3) Interlocal Agreements with McClain County;

- Resolution approving Service Agreement with Merchant McIntyre & Associates in the amount of \$24,000.00;

- Resolution nominating and appointing Christina Short to fill an unexpired term on the City Council representing At-Large seat;

- Resolution nominating and appointing Kristi Johnson to serve a 3-year term on the Pioneer Library Board representing Blanchard;

- Resolution directing the publication of Notice of Public

Hearing of proposed Consent to Annexation of approximately 370 acres;

- Request to purchase or lease-purchase 2022 Ford PI Utility AWD vehicle for Blanchard Fire Department in the amount of \$36,235 off of state contract with Bill Knight Ford of Tulsa;
- Road Improvements status;
- Fire Station completion status;
- Consent Agenda.

The complete Agenda Packet can be found on the City's website at www.cityofblanchard.us.

Police Blotter

- 5/18/23 ~ PHILLIPS, Sean Thomas arrested for Paraphilia and Outstanding McClain County Warrant.

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

(MAY 22nd - MAY 26th)

Monday ~ Chicken Strips, Mashed Potatoes, Vegetable, Dessert.

Tuesday ~ Hot Dog with Bun, Baked Beans, Potato Salad, Dessert.

Wednesday ~ Meatloaf, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Dessert.

Thursday ~ Pinto Beans, Tomato Spoon Relish, Spinach, Cornbread, Dessert.

Friday ~ Ham Salad, Tomato Soup, Green Salad, Bread, 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 In-Place

The season of unstable, severe weather is upon us. FEMA recommends that families create a plan of their own to implement in order to shelter in-place at home.

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.

Special Election

A Special Election is scheduled for **Tuesday, June 13th**. The voters of Blanchard will decide the fate of a proposed 5% Hotel/Motel Tax.

If approved, it only goes into effect, if and when, a hotel and/or motel locates in Blanchard.

It will be paid for by visitors staying overnight when visiting Blanchard for ballgames, events, etc. or overnite travelers.

Splash Pad

The City's Parks Department plans to open the water park on **Friday, May 26th**.

The Splash Pad is located in Lions Park at 415 SW 7th Street just west of Main Street.