



E-Mail Newsletter

14 July 2023

Volume 133, Number 2

Meeting Dates

JULY 25th

6pm ~ BMIA

6pm ~ City Council

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

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

Blanchard's Bluegrass Festival

Plans for the City's annual 2023 Bluegrass Festival is scheduled for the middle of August. Activities will include:

- * Friday Gospel Night;
- * Saturday is traditional Bluegrass;
- * Food;
- * Vendors; and
- * FREE Entry.

BOA Action

The Blanchard Board of Adjustment held their regular session **Tuesday, July 18th** and discussed, considered and took appropriate action on the following agenda items:

- Held Public Hearing to solicit comments regarding the approval or denial of a variance to allow the applicant to apply a side yard setback of eleven (11) feet to their property located at 3853 Bluestem Circle;
- Approved the Finding of Facts on the application as submitted.
Their next meeting will be **Tuesday, August 15th**.

Consumer Confidence Report

The Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) is a document community water systems are required to provide annually to its customers.

This report is a snapshot of the quality of the water that we provided last year (2022) from the City of Oklahoma. Included are the details about where your water comes from, what it contains,

Special Events

July 23rd

~ Parents' 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>

and how it compares to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and state standards.

We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies. If you would like more information, the reports can be accessed on the DEQ website and the link was provided in the June billing.

Farmers Market

The 2023 Blanchard Farmers Market is open for business every **Saturday** beginning at **8am** until **12 Noon** thru October.

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



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;
- 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.

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.

Oil 'n Gas

There were **NO** oil wells permitted or completed in Blanchard according to the Oklahoma Corporation Commission since **Friday, July 14th**.

On the BMIA Agenda

The Board of Trustees of the Blanchard Municipal Improvement Authority will meet in regular session on **Tuesday, July 25th**, at **6p.m.** to discuss, consider and take appropriate action on the following agenda:

- Water Service Agreement with City of Newcastle.
- Regional Water Trust.
- Additional Water Material Purchase.
- Joint Pre-Meeting with Blanchard City Council.
- Joint Special Meeting with Blanchard City Council.
- Consent Agenda.

The complete Agenda Packet can be accessed on the City's website at www.cityofblanchard.us for reviewing and/or downloading.

On the City Agenda

The City Council of the City of Blanchard will meet in regular session on **Tuesday, July 25th**, at **6p.m.** to discuss, consider and take appropriate action on the following agenda:

- Resolution nominating and appointing Scott Miller to an unexpired term on the Board of Adjustment.
- Joint Pre-Meeting with the Board of Trustees of the BMIA.
- Joint Special Meeting with the City Council.
- Vehicle purchase for the Fire Marshal.
- Vehicle purchase for the Police Department.
- 2-radio console purchase for the Blanchard's Emergency Communications Center.
- Heavy Equipment Trailer purchase for the Public Works Department.
- Discussion and possible action on street projects.
- Discussion and possible action re: Council Handbook.
- Discussion and possible action re: Phase I & II Section Line

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

improvements.

- Discussion and possible action re: fire station completion.
- Consent Agenda.
- Executive Session.

The complete Agenda Packet can be accessed on the City's website at www.cityofblanchard.us for reviewing and/or downloading.

Park Events

The upcoming 2023 events are:

- * August ~ Bluegrass Festival
- * September ~ Mufflers on Main
- * October ~ Ride for the Memorial Poker Run
- * October ~ Pumpkinfest
- * November 11th ~ Veterans Day Parade
- * December ~ Christmas Events & Parade of Lites

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

Pet Care

IF IT'S TOO HOT FOR YOU, IT'S TOO HOT FOR YOUR PET!

Keep your pets safe and cool in the summer by remembering that if it's too hot for you, it's too hot for them. Bring pets inside, when it's hot, and provide them with plenty of shade and fresh water when they're outside.

Walk your pets at cooler times of the day and never leave an animal in a car. Contact Animal Control at 405-485-9392 if you see an animal in distress.

Police Blotter

- **7-17 ENGLISH**, Stacie arrested on Domestic Charges.

Sales Tax Holiday

Oklahoma's annual sales tax holiday will begin at **12:01** am on **Friday, August 4, 2023** and ends at **12:01** am on **Sunday, August 6,**

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.

2023.

Certain clothing and shoe purchases are exempt from sales tax for this time period only. Qualified items are exempt from state, city, county and local municipality sales taxes.

Retailers are required to participate and may not collect state and local sales or use tax on most footwear and clothing that are sold for less than \$100 during the holiday.

For more information and answers to common questions on the sales tax holiday, as well as a listing of sales tax exempt items, please refer to the Oklahoma Tax Commission website at www.tax.ok.gov.

School Begins

Thursday, August 17th, for Blanchard students.

Please drive carefully in posted school zones. The speed limit is 25 mph ... and fines are double for speeding.

Senior Nutrition Center

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

(July 24th - July 28th)

Monday ~ Chef's Salad, Fruit, Crackers, Dessert.

Tuesday ~ Chili Pie, Salad, Corn, Corn Chips, Dessert.

Wednesday ~ Tetrizzini, Carrots, Peas, Dessert.

Thursday ~ Stew, Okra, Cornbread, Dessert.

Friday ~ Ribbette, Potato Salad, Green Beans, Bun, 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.

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.

Tourism Action

The Blanchard Tourism Board met in regular session **Monday (July 17th)** and discussed, considered and took appropriate action on the following agenda items:

- Discussed the Wine/Beer Festival for Saturday, October 21st;
- Discussed promotion of Blanchard Events;
- Discussed beautification activities; and
- Approved Consent Agenda.

Their next meeting will be **Monday, August 14th**.

