



E-Mail Newsletter

11 August 2023

Volume 134, Number 2

Meeting Dates

- AUGUST 14th**
2pm ~ Traffic Court
- AUGUST 15th**
6pm ~ BOA
- AUGUST 17th**
4pm ~ Juvenile-Code Court
- AUGUST 21st**
6pm ~ Sp Tourism
- AUGUST 22nd**
6pm ~ BMIA
6pm ~ City Council
- AUGUST 29th**
6pm ~ Sp BMIA
6pm ~ Sp Council

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

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

E-mail:
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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 **Friday, August 18th** and **Saturday, August 19th**. Activities will include:

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

Consumer Confidence Report



Water
Quality
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, 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.

Special Events

AUGUST

- 12th ~ Farmers Market
- 16th ~ National Airborne Day
- 17th ~ SCHOOL BEGINS
- 18th ~ Bluegrass Festival
- 19th ~ Farmers Market
- 19th ~ Bluegrass Festival
- 24th ~ Chamber Luncheon
- 26th ~ Farmers Market

For more info, visit the Parks Facebook Page regarding City sponsored events.

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>

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.

National Airborne Day

August 16th is a day designated by the United States Congress to honor the nation's airborne units of the armed forces. It was created in 2001 by President George W. Bush. August 16, 1940 marked the first official Army parachute jump, validating the innovative concept of inserting United States ground combat forces behind a battle line by parachute. During World War II, airborne

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.

tactics were critical to the success of important missions, including the D-Day invasion at Normandy, the Battle of the Bulge, the invasion of Southern France, and many others. In Korea and Vietnam, airborne soldiers played a critical combat role, as well as in later conflicts and peacekeeping operations, including Panama, Grenada, Desert Storm, Haiti, Somalia, and the Balkans. Most recently, airborne forces were vital to liberating the people of Afghanistan from the repressive and violent Taliban regime; and these soldiers continue to serve proudly around the world in the global coalition against terrorism.

The elite airborne ranks include prestigious groups such as the 82nd Airborne Division, "America's Guard of Honor," and the "Screaming Eagles" of the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault). Paratroopers in the Army's XVIII Airborne Corps, the 75th Infantry (Ranger) Regiment and other Special Forces units conduct swift and effective operations in defense of peace and freedom.

Airborne combat continues to be driven by the bravery and daring spirit of sky soldiers. Often called into action with little notice, these forces have earned an enduring reputation for dedication, excellence, and honor. All citizens are encouraged to recognize the contributions of these courageous soldiers to our Nation and the world.



**OFFICES CLOSED
FOR HOLIDAY**

City Offices will be closed on **Monday, September 4th** for Labor Day observance.

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

Oil 'n Gas

There were **NO** oil wells permitted or completed in Blanchard according to the Oklahoma Corporation Commission since **Friday, August 4th**.

On the BOA Agenda

The Blanchard Board of Adjustment will meet in regular session on **Tuesday, August 15th** beginning at **6pm** to discuss, consider and take appropriate action on the following agenda items:

A. Open, conduct, and close 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 11 feet to their property:

Applicant: Kyle Hogland
Address: 310 W Veterans Memorial HWY
Legal: See Staff Report

B. Approve or Deny by the Finding of Fact on the application as submitted.

C. Open, conduct, and close Public Hearing to solicit public Input regarding the approval or denial of a variance to allow the Applicant to apply a rear yard setback of 9 feet to the property:

Applicant: Doug Reese
Address: 838 Windmill Ave
Legal: See Staff Report

D. Approve or Deny by the Finding of Fact on the application as submitted.

E. Consent Agenda.

Planning Commission Action

The Blanchard Planning Commission met in regular session on **Thursday, August 10th**, at **6p.m.** and discussed, considered and took appropriate action on the following items:

- **Nominated** an Acting Chairman and table appointing a full-time chairman and vice chairman.
- **Discussed** Pre-Application on proposed PUD for Lots 1-8 of Block 129 in original town of Blanchard.
- **Adopted** Resolution recommending approval of a Zoning Application

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.

for a PUD Overlay.

- **Adopted** Resolution recommending approval of Blackberry Ponds Estate Final Plat.
- **Held** Public Hearing to rezone property from S-1 to R-E.
- **Adopted** Resolution recommending approval regarding rezoning of property from S-1 to R-E.
- **Held** Public Hearing on Zoning Application from S-1 to R-E.
- **Adopted** Resolution recommending approval regarding rezoning of property from S-1 to R-E.
- **Approved** Lot Split Application of 47.58 acres pending rezoning of property.
- **Held** Public Hearing to rezone property from A-1 to C-1.
- **Adopted** Resolution recommending approval of Zoning Application.
- **Discussed** proposed Tobacco Zoning Ordinance.
- **Nominated** and **appointed** Connie Armstrong to serve on the TIF 3 Review Committee.
- **Discussed** a date for a special meeting for training purposes.
- **Approved** Consent Agenda.

The next meeting of the Planning Commission will be Thursday, September 14th.

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

- **No Arrests Reported.**

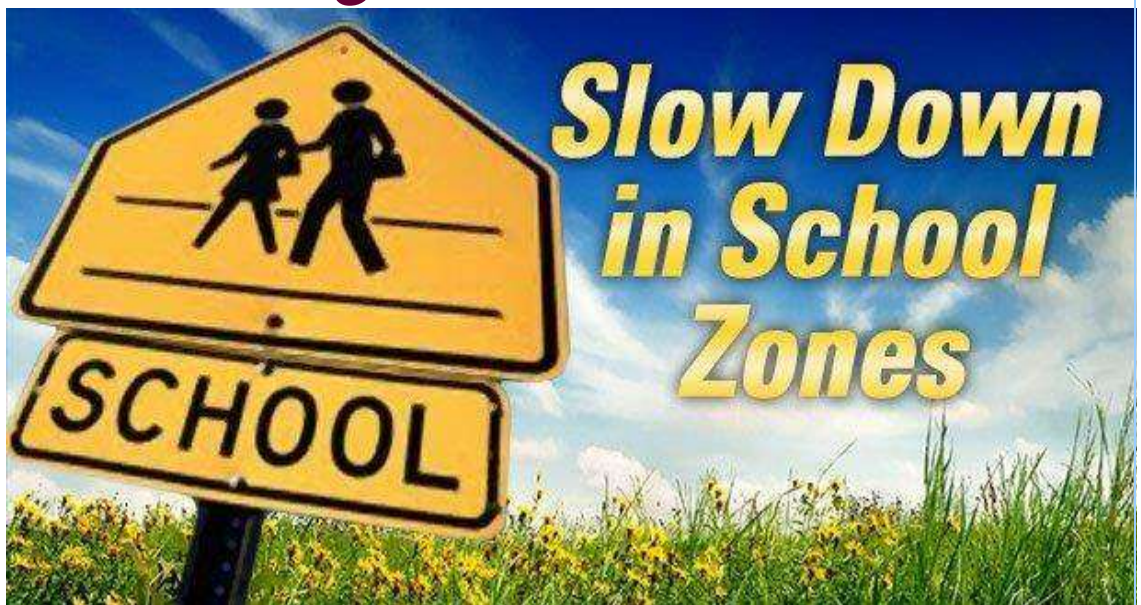
Sales Tax Collections

The sales tax collections for the month of August is more than

thirty-six percent (36.19%) of the monthly budgeted amount based on five (5%) of \$11,924,354.00 retail sales in Blanchard.

Month	\$ Amount	% +/-
Jul '23	464,658.68	19.73
Aug '23	596,217.70	36.19
Sep '23	0	0.00
Oct '23	0	0.00
Nov '23	0	0.00
Dec '23	0	0.00
Jan '24	0	0.00
Feb '24	0	0.00
Mar '24	0	0.00
Apr '24	0	0.00
May '24	0	0.00
Jun '24	0	0.00
Totals	1,060,876.38	27.96

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

(August 14th - August 18th)

Monday ~ Spaghetti, Mixed Veggies, Corn, Dessert.

Tuesday ~ Hot Dogs with Bun, Coleslaw, 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.

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.

Upcoming Special Events

The upcoming 2023 events are:

- * **August 18th & 19th** ~ Bluegrass Festival
- * **September 30th** ~ Mufflers on Main
- * **October 21st** ~ Ride for the Memorial Poker Run
- * **October 21st** ~ Wine Art Music Festival (Main Street)
- * **October 31st** ~ Pumpkinfest (Main Street)
- * **October 31st** ~ Halloween (City-wide)
- * **November 10th** ~ Veterans Memorial Dedication
- * **November 11th** ~ Veterans Day Parade (Main Street)
- * **December 9th** ~ Christmas Events & Parade of Lites

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

Use Tax Collections

The use tax collections for the month of August are more than four percent (4.89%) higher than the monthly budgeted amount based on \$2,650,298.408 of retail sales outside of Blanchard.

Month	\$ Amount	% +/-
Jul '23	140,366.68	11.10
Aug '23	132,514.92	4.89
Sep '23	0	0.00
Oct '23	0	0.00
Nov '23	0	0.00
Dec '23	0	0.00
Jan '24	0	0.00
Feb '24	0	0.00
Mar '24	0	0.00
Apr '24	0	0.00
May '24	0	0.00
Jun '24	0	0.00
Totals	272,850.94	7.995

Water Restrictions

The City of Oklahoma City is experiencing low water pressure issues in providing water across the river which results in lower pressure for Blanchard, Cole and Dibble customers.

As a result, outside watering restrictions are in place and **PROHIBITED** until either the issue is resolved by OKC or temperatures fall into the high eighties or low nineties.