



# E-Mail Newsletter

25 August 2023

Volume 134, Number 4

## Meeting Dates

**AUGUST 29<sup>th</sup>**

**5:30pm** ~ Sp Council

**6pm** ~ Special  
BMIA/Council

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

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[citymanager@cityofblanchard.us](mailto:citymanager@cityofblanchard.us)

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

## Appeal of the BOA Decision

A Notice of Appeal has been filed in the Blanchard Board of Adjustment case denying a variance sought by Richardson's Homes to meet a rear yard setback of 9 feet to the property line located at 838 Windmill Avenue (Silo Acres).

The appeal will be heard and tried de novo in McClain County District Court.

The district court may reverse or affirm, wholly or partly, or modify the decision brought up for review. Costs shall not be allowed against the board of adjustment unless it shall appear to the district court that the board acted with gross negligence or in bad faith or with malice in making the decision appealed from.

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## BMIA Action

The Blanchard Municipal Improvement Authority met in regular session on **Tuesday, August 22<sup>nd</sup>**, and discussed, considered and took appropriate action on the following items:

- **Discussed** to insert 1 or 2 insta-valve(s), as needed, to the 12-inch water line from Newcastle to isolate the line from OKC.
- **Discussed** and **voted** to grant a request to extend a water line to a new 44-home development on the north side of 40<sup>th</sup> Street NE between Rockwell and US-62 for property located in the SE4 of Section 9-T8N-R4W of McClain County.
- **Discussed** and **voted** to exempt water line extension to serve a proposed short form subdivision (lot splits) of 20 acres located north of 3rd Street SW and east of Morgan Road, Grady County.
- **Approved** Consent Agenda.

The Agenda Packet is available on the city's website located at

# Special Events

## AUGUST

26th ~ Farmers  
Market

## SEPTEMBER

2nd ~ Farmers  
Market

4th ~ Labor Day

9th ~ Farmers  
Market

11th ~ Patriot  
Day

15th ~ Rosh  
Hashanah Begins

16th ~ Farmers  
Market

17th ~ Rosh  
Hashanah Ends

23rd ~ Farmers  
Market

23rd ~ First  
Day of Autumn

24th ~ Yom  
Kippur Begins

25th ~ Yom  
Kippur Ends

30th ~ 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.com](http://www.cityofblanchard.com)

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

## Cleveland County Free Fair

The annual Cleveland County Free Fair for 2023 will begin on **Thursday, September 7<sup>TH</sup>** and will end on **Sunday, September 10<sup>TH</sup>** in Norman.

The annual Free Fair offers four (4) days of non-stop family fun. Come to this traditional county fair for everything from goat roping to carnival rides. Enjoy a variety of tasty fair food, kick back and listen to endless live entertainment or browse through livestock displays.

Kids will enjoy a petting zoo filled with a variety of furry and feathered friends, a baby crawling contest and the Oklahoma Pedal Pull Championship, an event that features youth from all over Oklahoma competing to pedal child-powered tractors the quickest with weighted sleds in tow.

The Cleveland County Free Fair will also offer visitors endless home economics displays including baked goods and canning category winners, as well as artistic displays featuring crafts, drawings, sculpture, photography and fabric art. Don't forget to attend the fair's much-anticipated horse show to witness a variety of equestrians compete for top honors.

## Constitution Week



Constitution Day and Citizenship Day is a combined event that is annually observed in the United States on September 17.

[ard.us](http://ard.us)

Library Events:  
Please visit their  
website at  
[https://pioneer.lib  
net.info/events?l=  
virtual,blanchard](https://pioneer.libnet.info/events?l=virtual,blanchard)

## 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

This event commemorates the formation and signing of the Constitution of the United States on September 17, 1787.

It also recognizes all who, by coming of age or by naturalization, have become US citizens.

The City Council proclaimed the week of September 17 - 23 for observance of National Constitution Week.

## Council Action

The Blanchard City Council met in regular session on **Tuesday, August 22<sup>ND</sup>**, immediately following the BMIA meeting and discussed, considered and took appropriate action on the following items:

- **Held** a Public Hearing regarding the Planning Commission's recommendation to approve a Zoning Application for a PUD Overlay.
- **Adopted** Ordinance No. 789 approving a PUD Overlay, as recommended by the Planning Commission.
- **Approved** Emergency Clause for Zoning Ordinance No. 789.
- **Held** Public Hearing to rezone property from S-1 to R-E.
- **Adopted** Ordinance No. 790 approving rezoning of property from S-1 to R-E, as recommended by the Planning Commission.
- **Approved** Emergency Clause for Zoning Ordinance No. 790.
- **Held** Public Hearing on Zoning Application from S-1 to R-E.
- **Adopted** Ordinance No. 791 approving rezoning of property from S-1 to R-E, as recommended by the Planning Commission.
- **Approved** Emergency Clause for Zoning Ordinance No. 791.
- **Held** Public Hearing to rezone property from A-1 to C-1.
- **Adopted** Ordinance No. 792 approving rezoning of property from A-1 to C-1, as recommended by the Planning Commission.
- **Approved** Emergency Clause for Zoning Ordinance No. 792.
- **Adopted** Resolution No. 2023-53 approving the Blackberry Pond Estates Final Plat, as recommended by the Planning Commission.
- **Accepted** Engineering RFQ's and selecting Freese & Nichols for engineering services for TIF No. 2.
- **Accepted** Electrical Bids and awarding contract for electrical services to Chase Electric to wire new Parks building.
- **Approved** Pay Incentive for CDLs.
- **Denied** Tort Claim as recommended by OMAG.
- **Approved** Plan Review Agreement.
- **Approved** Release of Letters of Credit for IH Development LLC.
- **Discussed** Road Improvements.
- **Discussed** Fire Station Bonds/Subcontractors payments.

regarding the incident.

## 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

- **Approved** Consent Agenda.
  - **Held** Executive Session to discuss economic development.
- The next meeting of the City Council will be Tuesday, September 26<sup>th</sup>.

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## 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.



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## Grady County Free Fair

Grady County Fair will end Saturday, **August 26<sup>th</sup>**.

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## Great State Fair of Oklahoma

The annual 2023 Great State Fair of Oklahoma will begin **Thursday, September 14<sup>TH</sup>** and run thru **Sunday, September 24<sup>TH</sup>** at the OKC Fairgrounds on May Avenue.

From family entertainment, horse shows and educational exhibits to all the delicious fried treats in between, enjoy this "best of the best" showcase of our state's agriculture, manufacturing and commerce at the OKC Fairgrounds.

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## 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;



infrastructure, less maintenance, and 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.

- 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.

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## *McClain County Free Fair*

The annual 2022 McClain County Free Fair begins **Tuesday, September 6<sup>TH</sup>** thru **Sunday, September 11<sup>TH</sup>** in Purcell.

The annual Free Fair includes 4-H, FFA, HCE and open class competition events, an antique tractor display featuring a five-gallon ice cream maker, kiddie tractor pull, best dressed pet contest and fun for the entire family. Browse through exhibits of local crops and farming and celebrate the agricultural abundance of the area. Exhibits on clothing construction, food preservation, baked goods, science projects, photography and more will also be featured.

Don't miss the fair's popular horse show or the all-you-can-eat bean and cornbread supper. Visitors to the McClain County Free Fair will also enjoy live entertainment throughout the event, a beef and dairy show and a children's rodeo. Bid for tasty treats in the fair's pie, cake and salsa auction, or simply come to this Purcell fair for luscious barbecue and yummy homemade ice cream.

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**OFFICES CLOSED  
FOR HOLIDAY**

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

If you have a Police or Fire emergency, please call 911. If you have a water or sewer emergency, please call 485-9391 or 306.9532 for public works personnel on-call.

City offices will reopen **Tuesday, Sept 5<sup>th</sup>** at 8am. Trash service runs as usual.

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## *Oil 'n Gas*

There were **NO** oil wells permitted or completed in Blanchard according to the Oklahoma Corporation Commission since **Friday, August 18<sup>th</sup>**.

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## *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.

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## *Police Blotter*

- **No Arrests Reported.**

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## *School In Session*



The Blanchard Public Schools are in session!

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

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## *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 28<sup>TH</sup> - September 1<sup>ST</sup>)**

**Monday** ~ Goulash, Carrots, Peas, Dessert.

**Tuesday** ~ Smoked Sausage, Cabbage, Black-eyed Peas, Cornbread, Dessert.

**Wednesday** ~ Enchiladas, Salad, Beans, Chips, Dessert.

**Thursday** ~ Navy Beans, Potatoes, Beets, Cornbread, Dessert.

**Friday** ~ Pigs-in-a-Blanket, Mac & Cheese, Baked Beans, 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.

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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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## *Special Meeting*

The Board of Trustees of the Blanchard Municipal Improvement Authority and the City Council will meet in special session on **Tuesday, August 29<sup>TH</sup>**, at **5:30p.m.** to discuss, consider and take appropriate action on the following items:

- Presentation by Superintendent Brady Barnes on the upcoming Bond Election; and the adoption of Resolution supporting the Blanchard Public Schools Bond Issue.
- Discuss and possible action to increase the utility rates for water/sewer/sanitation services due to increases with the cost of services from water providers (OKCWUT and the City of Newcastle), sewer treatment costs and compliance with ODEQ Consent Order, and solid waste collection (Waste Connections). Action by the BMIA may include the adoption of a Resolution addressing utility fee increases and action by the City of Blanchard may include the adoption of a Resolution and/or an Ordinance changing utility rates, as desired.

The Agenda Packet is available on the city's website located at [www.cityofblanchard.us](http://www.cityofblanchard.us).

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## *Upcoming Special Events*

The upcoming 2023 events are:

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

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



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## *Water Restrictions*

The City of Oklahoma City is still 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.

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## *Zoning Case*

An application to re-zone property from A-1, Agricultural District to R-E, Residential Estates District from Richard Hamilton on the following described property:

A tract of land being a part of the East Half of the NE4 of the NW4 of Section 33-T9N-R4W of the Indian Meridian, McClain County, Oklahoma, being more particularly described as follows: The South 727.00 feet of the East  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the NE4 of the NW4 of Section 33.

The Blanchard Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on said application at 6:00p.m. on September 14, 2023, at the Blanchard Municipal Courthouse, 300 N. Main Street, Blanchard, at its regularly scheduled meeting.

The Blanchard City Council will hold a Public Hearing on the Planning Commission's recommendation at 6:00p.m. on Tuesday, September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023, during its regularly scheduled meeting immediately following the BMIA meeting held at the Blanchard Municipal Courthouse, 300 N. Main Street, Blanchard.

If the Planning Commission's recommendation is in favor of approving the rezoning request, at which time an Ordinance amending the Zoning Map may be considered and voted upon.