



E-Mail Newsletter

29 September 2023

Volume 135, Number 5

Meeting Dates

October 2nd

8am ~ TEAM Blanchard

6pm ~ BETA

6pm ~ BPS Board of Ed

October 3rd

6pm ~ Special BMIA

6pm ~ Special Council

October 10th

6pm ~ Special BMIA

6pm ~ Special Council

October 12th

6pm ~ Planning Comm

October 16th

6pm ~ Tourism

October 17th

6pm ~ BOA

October 24th

5:30pm ~ PreMeeting

6pm ~ BMIA

6pm ~ Council

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

Action Required

Pioneer will be replacing the traditional copper wire network with fiber-optic technology! Your Pioneer service(s) must be moved to the fiber network **BEFORE OCTOBER 16, 2023, OR YOU WILL NOT HAVE SERVICE FROM PIONEER.**

Pioneer provides service to your home over traditional copper wire network. They are in the final stages of upgrading their entire network with new fiber-optic technology. Fiber-optic technology can bring you additional services, and more reliable performance.

Fiber-optic technology uses cables made of glass or plastic strands that transmit light. This technology is more efficient than standard copper wiring. Fiber-optic technology can transfer more information, faster, with higher quality, and over greater distances. The fiber-optic cables aren't affected by electrical interference, making the upgraded network more reliable, and secure.

To maintain their fiber-optic networks as their primary network, they will terminate the existing copper network on October 16, 2023. Once the copper network has been terminated, if you have NOT converted to the fiber-optic network you will NOT have service. Please visit the local Pioneer office or call 405.387.8155 to speak to a representative about getting upgraded to the new fiber network.

If you already have Pioneer Internet service, your current Internet plan will be upgraded to one of their fiber plans, providing you with upgraded features like: symmetrical download and upload speeds, enhanced experience, and more reliable service. Plus, your internet equipment will also be upgraded to their newest gateway, which offers amazing WiFi 6 technology providing increased coverages and enhanced WiFi performance.

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

BMIA Action

The Board of Trustees of the Blanchard Municipal Improvement Authority met in regular session on Tuesday, September 26th at 6pm and discussed, considered and took appropriate action re: the following:

- **Approved** request for water service outside the City Limits.
- **Approved** request for sewer exemption for new dental office.
- **Approved** Consent Agenda.

The next Board of Trustees of the Blanchard Municipal Improvement Authority regular meeting will be Tuesday, October 24th.

Council Action

The City Council of the City of Blanchard met in regular session on Tuesday, September 26th at 6pm and discussed, considered and took appropriate action re: the following:

- **Opened, conducted, and closed** Public Hearing to receive public Comments on a Zoning Application for a PUD overlay submitted by:

Applicant: Richard Hamilton
Current Zoning: A-1, Agricultural District
Proposed Zoning: R-E, Residential Estates District
Location: A part of the E/2 NE/4 NW/4 in Sec 33
T9N-R4W
PC Resolution No: 2023-23

- **Discussed and voted** on a motion adopting Ordinance No. 793 Accepting the recommendation of the Planning Commission and approve the above Zoning Reclassification from the A-1, Agricultural District to the R-E, Rural Estates District, as recommended by the Planning Commission, declaring repealer and providing for severability.
- **Adopted** an Emergency Clause for Ordinance No. 793.
- **Discussed and voted** on a motion adopting Ordinance No. 794 amending the Code of Ordinances; amending Sections 1-318 and 1-319 of Article 3 of Chapter 1; re-titling Chapter 15; repealing

Special Events

9th ~ Columbus Day

10th ~ Election Day

16th ~ Boss's Day

31st ~ PumpkinFest

31st ~ Halloween

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>

Articles 1 - 3 of Chapter 15; amending Articles 1 and 8 of Chapter 21; and adding a new section 22-332 of Article 3 of Chapter 22 of the Code of Ordinances, as amended, concerning the powers, roles, and responsibilities of the City Council, Planning Commission, and Board of Adjustment generally concerning the municipality's zoning power, and specifically concerning citizen planner training requirements; declaring repealer and providing for severability.

- **Adopted** an Emergency Clause for Ordinance No. 794.
- **Discussed** and **voted** on a motion adopting Ordinance No. 795 approving a replacement of the Official Zoning Map combined with the Municipal Boundaries in accordance with the BMC 20-201(3); declaring repealer and providing for severability.
- **Adopted** an Emergency Clause for Ordinance No. 795.
- **Discussed** and **voted** on a motion adopting Resolution No. 2023-55 approving the Bridge Inspection responsibility by Local Government for compliance with the National Bridge Inspection Standards for Bridge Inspection Contracts for April 1, 2024 to March 31, 2026.
- **Tabled** adopting Resolution approving a 4-Way stop at Main and Broadway for further study.
- **Discussed** and **voted** on a motion to enter into a Master Services Agreement with Freese and Nichols for Engineering Services for Tax Increment Financing District No. 2, and Task Authorization No. 1 concerning survey, scoping, and preliminary engineering for the project.
- **Discussed** and **voted** on a motion to accept the quote in the amount of \$10,600 submitted by Jeff's Plumbing for repairs to the restrooms at Lion's Park as requested by Councilman Whitt.
- **Discussed** the status of Phase I and Phase II of Section Line Road Improvements.
- **Discussed** the status of subcontractor payments; and bonds.

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.

- **Approved Consent Agenda.**

- **Held Executive Session.**

The next City Council's regular meeting will be Tuesday, October 24th.

Farmers Market

The 2023 Blanchard Farmers Market season has closed.

Please visit our website under **RESIDENTS** for information on the 2024 Farmers Market.



Halloween

Trick or Treat" nite in Blanchard will be **Tuesday, October 31st** from **6 pm to 9 pm**.

Please drive carefully with caution and watch out for little ghosts and goblins!

For Halloween safety tips for your kids, pets, etc. please go to

<https://nnw.org/halloween-safety-tips>.



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;

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 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

- 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.

Mufflers On Main

The City's 9th annual car and truck show was held on **Saturday, September** on Blanchard's Historic Main Street.

Visit the City's Facebook page to view the outstanding cars and the winners.

Now Hiring

The City of Blanchard has openings in MULTIPLE DEPARTMENTS for both full-time and part-time positions.

Please visit our website at www.cityofblanchard.us for all the current openings (postings will be available ASAP).

The City is an Equal Opportunity Employer (EOE).

Oil 'n Gas

There were **NO** oil wells permitted or completed in Blanchard according to the Oklahoma Corporation Commission since **Friday, September 22nd**.

Police Blotter

- **9/22/23** ~ MR. FORTUNA arrested on outstanding Garvin County Warrants.

School Bond Election

The Blanchard Public Schools will submit to the school patrons a

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.

proposed bond issue. The election will be **Tuesday, October 10th**.
Polls will be open from 7am to 7pm.

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.

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

(October 2ND - 6TH)

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

- * **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.
