



E-Mail Newsletter

27 October 2023

Volume 136, Number 4

Meeting Dates

October 30th

7:30pm ~ BMIA Special
7:30pm ~ Council Special

November 6th

8am ~ TEAM Blanchard
6pm ~ BPS Board of Ed

November 7th

6pm ~ Board of Adjustment

November 9th

6pm ~ Planning Commission

November 14th

2pm ~ Traffic Court

November 14th

6pm ~ BMIA
6pm ~ City Council

November 16th

4pm ~ Juvenile/Code Court

November 20th

6pm ~ Tourism

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

City of Blanchard
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BMIA Action

The Board of Trustees of the Blanchard Municipal Improvement Authority met in regular session at their October meeting on **Tuesday, October 24th** and discussed, considered and took appropriate action re:

- **APPROVED** Development Agreement with Shaz Investment Group, LLC to provide water to a 225 lot subdivision on 180 acres.
- **ADOPTED** Resolution No. 2023-04 setting aside 8% of water revenues for infrastructure improvements; establishing \$7 sewer infrastructure fee; and a \$0.27 per water meter for mandated testing as required by EPA/DEQ.
- **ADOPTED** Resolution No. 2023-05 increasing utility rates of water, sewer and solid waste disposal.
- **ADOPTED** Resolution No. 2023-06 amending the BMIA Fee Schedule for FYE2024.
- **TABLED** sewer connection exemption for proposed commercial development located at 801 S. Tyler Avenue.
- **AUTHORIZED** City Engineer and Public Works Director to file response to the DEQ Notice of Violation for sewer bypasses.
- **APPROVED** Consent Agenda, as presented.

The regular November meeting of BMIA Board of Trustees will be Tuesday, November 14th, 2023.

CENA Grant

The City was awarded a state fiscal year 2024 CENA Grant in the amount of \$12,000 for senior nutrition on Thursday, October 26th by ASCOG's Areawide Aging Agency.

This grant funding runs from 7.01.2023 through 6.30.2024.

Special Events

OCTOBER

31st ~ PumpkinFest

31st ~ Halloween

NOVEMBER

5th ~ Daylite Savings
End

11th ~ Veterans Day

15th ~ Nat'l Recycling
Day

23rd ~ Thanksgiving
Day

24th ~ Thanksgiving
After

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/eve
nts?l=virtual,blanchard](https://pioneer.libnet.info/events?l=virtual,blanchard)

Council Action

The Blanchard City Council met in regular session on **Tuesday, October 24th** and discussed, considered and took appropriate action re:

- **DISCUSSED** Ordinance amendments pertaining to ATVs and UTVs, golf carts, etc.
- **DISCUSSED** an Ordinance establishing regulations re: political sign in public rights-of-way.
- **ADOPTED** Ordinance No. 796 ratifying, affirming and approving utility rates approved by the BMIA Board of Trustees by Resolution No.2023-05.
- **ADOPTED** Emergency Clause for Ordinance No. 796.
- **ADOPTED** Resolution No. 2023-56 amending the City's FYE2024 Fee Schedule.
- **ADOPTED** Resolution No. 2023-57 approving a round-about at Main & Broadway; and authorized City Engineer to design.
- **AUTHORIZED** City Manager to work with Developer re: TIF No. 2 Engineering Consultant contracts for a Traffic Impact Analysis required by ODOT and Task No. 2 engineering for water infrastructure NOT TO EXCEED \$15,500.00 with Freese & Nichols.
- **APPROVED** Special Event Permit for the Blanchard Running Club to hold a Run Run Rudolph Fun Run on Saturday, December 9th.
- **APPROVED** Halloween Observance for Tuesday, October 31st from 6 - 9pm.
- **APPROVED** Job Requisition to hire an Emergency Vehicle Mechanic for Fire, Police and Public Works.
- **DISCUSSED** Status of Phase I and II Road Improvements.
- **DISCUSSED** Status of Subcontractor Payments for the Fire Station No. 2.
- **APPROVED** Consent Agenda.
- **HELD** Executive Session.

The regular November meeting of the Blanchard City Council will be Tuesday, November 14th, 2023.

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.

Daylite Saving Time Ends



FALL BACK SUNDAY, November 5th, when Daylight Saving Time ends at 2 a.m. Clocks will "fall back" one-hour. Credit for Daylite Saving Time belongs to Benjamin Franklin, who first suggested the idea in 1784. The idea was revised in 1907, when William Willett,

an Englishman, proposed a similar system in the pamphlet 'The Waste of Daylight'.

The Germans were the first to officially adopt the light extending system in 1915 as a fuel-saving measure during World War 1. The British switched one year later, and the United States followed in 1918, when Congress passed the Standard Time Act, which established our time zones. This experiment lasted only until 1920, when the law was repealed due to opposition from dairy farmers [cows don't pay attention to clocks]. During World War II, Daylight Saving Time was imposed once again [this time year around] to save fuel.

SO REMEMBER! When you change the clocks, change your batteries in your smoke and CO² detectors.

Halloween



Trick or Treat" nite in Blanchard is set by the City Council for **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>.

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

Holiday Schedule

Veterans Day, observed **November 10th** ~ City Offices **Closed**

Thanksgiving Day, **November 23rd** ~ City Offices **Closed**

Day After Thanksgiving, **November 24th** ~ City Offices **Closed**

Trash service will **NOT** run on Thanksgiving (**Thursday, November 23rd**) and Christmas Day (**Monday, December 25th**).

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 Recycling Day

Wednesday, November 15th is National Recycling Day. Only 31% of items that customers put in their recycling cart cannot be recycled and must be sent to a landfill. Reduce contamination in recycling carts with these tips:

- Do empty, clean and dry jars and bottles;
- Don't bag recyclables. Put all items loose in your cart. Plastic Bags are considered contamination and delay the recycling process;

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.

- Don't use your recycling cart for household, yard waste or construction trash.

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, October 20th**.

Police Blotter

- **10/20/23** ~ BRANNON, Brian arrested on Breaking and Entering and Possession of Controlled Substance.
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PumpkinFest

Are you ready for a real SPOOKY GOOD TIME?

The City's annual PumpkinFest will be held on **Tuesday, October 31st** from **6pm to 9pm** on Main Street.

Activities include:

- Costume Contest (Ages 0-10) (11-18) & (19-over)
- Pet Costume Contest (all pets must be on a leash)
- Face Painting
- Free Candy &

Refreshments

- Games and Trunk or Treats
- Safe Candy Walk & Music

For more information, please contact Chris Wittenbach at 405.248.6521 or parks@cityofblanchard.us.



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 30th - November 3rd)

Monday ~ Chicken & Dumplings, Sweet Potato, Green Beans, Dessert.

Tuesday ~ Pizza, Salad, Corn, Dessert.

Wednesday ~ Sausage Gravy, Potato, Biscuit, Dessert.

Thursday ~ Navy Beans, Beets, Spinach, Cornbread, Dessert.

Friday ~ Stroganoff, Carrots, Peas, 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 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.
