



E-Mail Newsletter

10 November 2023

Volume 137, Number 2

Meeting Dates

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 Agenda

The Board of Trustees of the Blanchard Municipal Improvement Authority will meet in regular session on Tuesday, November 14th to discuss, consider and take action re:

- Resolution adopting the Holiday Schedule for BMIA employees.
- Resolution adopting the 2024 Calendar of Meetings.
- Sewer variance for proposed commercial building to be located on south Tyler Avenue.
- Consent Agenda.

The next regular meeting of the Blanchard Planning Commission will be **Tuesday, December 12th, 2023.**

Christmas on Main

- Pictures with Santa @ 2pm-4pm
- Shop Blanchard Giveaways @ 4:30pm
- Children's Christmas Concert
- Lighted Christmas Parade
- Parade starts at 6 PM

Come on down and enjoy Christmas on Main starting with pictures with Santa at the Old City Hall, then step onto Main Street for a Christmas concert followed by a lighted parade.

Blanchard's
Ecowboy
Christmas
Lighted Parade

Christmas on Main
December 9, 2023

Pictures with Santa 2-4 pm @ Old City Hall
Children's Concert 5 pm Main Stage

Free Rides on the
Christmas Express
Sponsored by:
Ovinativ

Lighted Parade 6 pm Main Street

OEC OECB OECM

Special Events

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/events?l=virtual.blanchard>

Council Agenda

The Blanchard City Council will meet in regular session on Tuesday, November 14th to discuss, consider and take action re:

- Ordinance amending the BMC pertaining to sign regulations.
- Emergency Clause for Ordinance.
- Ordinance amending the BMC pertaining to property maintenance – vegetation and trees on rights-of-way, alleys and closed streets.
- Emergency Clause for Ordinance.
- Ordinance adding regulations to the BMC pertaining to vagrancy, loitering, sleeping in parks and at memorials.
- Emergency Clause for Ordinance.
- Ordinance amending the BMC pertaining to ATVs/Golf Carts.
- Emergency Clause for Ordinance.
- Resolution approving the 2024 Holiday Schedule.
- Resolution approving the 2024 Meeting Calendar.
- Resolution approving the Workers' Comp reimbursement.
- Resolution accepting the FYE2024 CENA Grant award in the amount of \$12,000.
- Creation and development of a Community Garden.
- Remission of fines and court costs due to death of the defendant.
- Expenditure request by the BPD to outfit new 2023 Chevy Tahoe.
- Agreement with the Chickasha Nation for cross-deputization SUBJECT to City Attorney's review.
- Lexipol policies SUBJECT to City Attorney's review.
- Status of Phase I and II road improvements.
- Status of Fire Station completion.
- Consent Agenda.
- Executive Session.

The next regular meeting of the Blanchard Planning Commission will be **Tuesday, December 12th, 2023.**

Holiday Schedule

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**).

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.

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.

Moment of Silence

In 2016, the President of the United States, signed the Veterans Day Moment of Silence Act. The Proclamation calls for the American people everywhere to observe a two-minute national moment of silence on Veterans Day, **November 11th** at **1:11** p.m. Central Standard Time.

A century ago, America was fighting a war to liberate Europe. However, the U.S. involvement was relatively short in time compared to other countries ... but the sacrifices were enormous. A total of 116,516 Americans paid the ultimate price. Another 200,000 were wounded.

The Armistice signed on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month in 1918 was signed during the First World War between the Allies and Germany - also known as the Armistice of Compiegne after the location in which it was signed - and the agreement ended the fighting on the Western Front.

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.

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

New City Hall

The City of Blanchard offices will be relocated to the Riley Exploration building located at 2008 N. Council Avenue.

The Police Department and the Emergency Communications Center will be relocated to the current City Hall at 122 N. Main.

Plans for City Hall will be moved as soon as possible and both the Police Department and the Emergency Communications Center, move will occur on or before January 1st.

Oil 'n Gas

There were **NO** oil wells permitted or completed in Blanchard according to the Oklahoma Corporation Commission since **Friday, November 3rd**.

Oklahoma Heritage Week

The signing of the Statehood Proclamation on November 16, 1907, was the most significant action in the history of the State of Oklahoma. The week of **November 12th** through the **18th** has been declared 'OKLAHOMA HERITAGE WEEK' in the State of Oklahoma.

All Oklahomans should pause during this time and reflect on our Oklahoma heritage, as well as our national heritage. Blanchard has the obligation and privilege to play an important role in the observance of this great week! So the Blanchard City Council issued a proclamation declaring the

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.

week of **November 12th** thru the **18th** to be 'Oklahoma Heritage Week' in Blanchard and encourages all citizens, families, clubs, churches, business organizations and schools in Blanchard to give personal attention to all special Statehood Day observances, to fly the State Flag and the National Colors, to participate in and help sponsor programs, projects, and activities emphasizing the heritage of our great State.

Planning Commission Action

• **Held** Public Hearing to receive public comments on a Zoning Application submitted by:

Applicant: Bryce Binyon
Current Zoning: A-1 Agricultural District
Proposed Zoning: C-5 Residential Estates District
Location: 1072 S. State HWY 76

• **Discussed** and **voted** on a motion adopting Resolution No. 2023-26 recommending approval to the City Council regarding the Zoning application (Bryce Binyon)

• **Approved** Consent Agenda.

The next regular meeting of the Blanchard Planning Commission will be **Thursday, December 14th, 2023**.

Police Blotter

11.09.23 ~ POINDEXTER, Russell arrested for speeding, tag not registered, revoked license and controlled substances.

11.09.23 ~ DICKENS, Joey arrested for controlled substances.

Run Run Rudolph 5K

The 2nd annual event will take place on Saturday, December 9th.

The run begins at 10 a.m. Registered by December 1st to get a t-shirt.

Sales Tax Collections

The sales tax collections for the month of November is more than twenty-five percent (25.99%) of the monthly budgeted amount based on five (5%) of \$9,993,874.20 retail sales in Blanchard.

| Month | \$ Amount | % +/- |
|---------|--------------|-------|
| Jul '23 | 464,658.68 | 6.14 |
| Aug '23 | 596,217.70 | 36.19 |
| Sep '23 | 464,184.72 | 6.95 |
| Oct '23 | 543,597.76 | 24.17 |
| Nov '23 | 499,693.71 | 14.14 |
| 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 | 2,572,352.77 | 17.52 |

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:

(November 13th - November 17th)

Monday ~ Frito Chili Pie, Salad, Corn, Chips, Dessert.

Tuesday ~ Chicken and Noodles, Carrots, Peas, Dessert.

Wednesday ~ Enchiladas, Rice, Beans, Chips, Dessert.

Thursday ~ Pinto Beans, Tomato Spoon Relish, Potato, Cornbread, Dessert.

Friday ~ Turkey, Dressing, Sweet Potato, Green Beans, Rolls,

Pie.

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

* **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.

Veterans Day

Originally Armistice Day, commemorating the signing of the agreement that ended World War



I at 11:00am, on November 11, 1918, this federal holiday was changed to Veterans Day in 1954 by Congress. At that time, it became a day to honor all the men and women who have served in the armed forces of the United States. Each year, special ceremonies are held around the nation honoring our veterans.

Please consider spending some time on-line learning more about our nation's true HEROES [the American Veteran] who have served our country in time of peace and war. Each year we take time to thank, honor and remember our Veterans.

The Parade is tomorrow (Saturday, November 11th) beginning at 10:30am on Main Street and proceed south to Yarbrough Heat & Air.

Anyone that would wish to participate may do so by filling out a form and emailing it to parks@cityofblanchard.us.

Use Tax Collections

The use tax collections for the month of November more than fourteen percent (14.14%) more than the monthly budgeted amount based on five (5%) of \$3,183,592 retail sales outside of Blanchard.

| Month | \$ Amount | % +/- |
|---------------|-------------------|--------------|
| Jul '23 | 140,366.68 | 11.10 |
| Aug '23 | 132,514.92 | 4.89 |
| Sep '23 | 161,802.84 | 28.07 |
| Oct '23 | 168,818.86 | 30.62 |
| Nov '23 | 159,179.60 | 26.69 |
| 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 | 762,682.24 | 20.73 |
| | | |