



E-Mail Newsletter

Blanchard Together ... Today & Tomorrow

17 January 2025

Volume 152, Number 3

Meeting Dates

January 20th

6pm ~ Tourism Board

January 21st

6pm ~ BOA (~~Canceled~~)

January 23rd

6pm ~ Planning Comm

January 28th

6pm ~ Special Council

Carbon-Monoxide Warning

Due to extreme cold and power outages, please be aware of the hazards of the following types of heating:

- ◆ Never use gas grills, propane grills, charcoal grills in a house, garage or enclosed area;
- ◆ All gas fire heaters **MUST** be vented to the outside to remove carbon monoxide from an enclosed area; and
- ◆ Please read and follow all manufacturer instructions for any heater. Also, be careful with your heaters, fireplaces and candles.



Home and apartment fires are more common during the winter because of improperly used heating equipment, fireplaces and candles. Be sure anything that can burn is at least three (3) feet away from fireplaces or space heaters. Fireplaces should be inspected by a professional every year and cleaned when necessary, and make sure fires are fully extinguished before you go to bed.

It's important your home has working smoke alarms and your family knows how to escape a fire safely.

Code Enforcement

Help beautify Blanchard! It is a violation of the Municipal Code of any of the following:

- * Allow the accumulation of trash and/or debris and our junk on your property.
- * Allow tall weeds or grass (including edges along the street and sidewalk) to exceed 12-inches or higher.
- * Accumulation of inoperable and/or junk vehicles and parts on your property.
- * Parking of trailers, boats, and RVs in alleyways or in front of the building line.

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

City of Blanchard
P.O. Box 480
2008 N. Council Avenue
Blanchard, OK 73010
Phone: (405) 485-9392
Fax: (405) 485-3199

Special Events

JANUARY

20th ~ MLK Day

For more info, visit the Parks Facebook Page or the City's website regarding City sponsored events.

- * Allowing tree limbs over hang the street with less than 8-foot clearance.
- * Failure to trim trees, grass and weeds in alleys or between sidewalk and pavement.
- * Leaving grass in the street after mowing.
- * Watering lawn every day or out of odd/even sequence.

Any questions, please contact Mike Henning, Code Enforcement Officer at City Hall, 405.485.9392 or file a complaint on the City's website at www.cityofblanchard.us.

Municipal Election

The City of Blanchard will hold a municipal election, if needed, on **Tuesday, April 1st**.

The filing period will be three (3) days starting **Monday, February 3rd** running thru **Wednesday, February 5th**.

Wards 3 & 4 positions along with the At-Large position are up for re-election.

Oil 'n Gas

The Oklahoma Corporation Commission reported that no new oil wells permitted or completed in Blanchard since **Friday, January 10th**.

BMIA Action

The Board of Trustees of the Blanchard Municipal Improvement Authority met in regular meeting on Tuesday, January 14th and discussed, considered and took action on the following items:

- Adopted Resolution No. 2025-01 approving an application for ODEQ permit for NAPA Valley, Section 1;
- Approved a contract for engineering services with Glenn Sullivan & Associates associated with TIF No. 3; and
- Approved Consent Agenda.

The next regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Blanchard Municipal Improvement Authority will be Tuesday, February 11, 2025.

City Action

The City Council of the City of Blanchard met in regular meeting on Tuesday, January 14th, following the BMIA meeting

After Hours

For Public Works/Streets 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.

and discussed, considered and took action on the following items:

- Adopted Ordinance No. 835 creating a new Policemen's Board of Review; declaring repealer; providing for severability;
- Adopted an Emergency Clause for Ordinance No. 835;
- Adopted Resolution No. 2025-01 approving an Agreement with Grady County Criminal Justice Authority for inmate housing;
- Adopted Resolution No. 2025-02 accepting the recommendation of OMAG in denying a Tort Claim;
- Adopted Resolution No. 2025-03 adopting the ACOG's Regional Safety Action Plan;
- Adopted Resolution No. 2025-04 acknowledging the receipt of Permit No. SLO00044240938 serving Allsup;
- Approved Out of State Travel for two (2) firefighters to attend training in Pearland Texas;
- Tabled prioritization of waterline replacement funded with CDBG funds;
- Approved freezing capital expenditures until 6/30/25;
- Approved an Agreement with Haskell Lemon for paving improvement to local street projects for Phase 1;
- Discussed section line road improvement projects status;
- Discussed status of Central Business District improvements to include making the intersection of Main and Broadway a 4-way stop (at Flag Pole);
- Discussed the status of Veterans Memorial and the approval of limited parking at the Memorial and approved Michael Scalf to be the permanent chairman overseeing its operation and upkeep;
- Approved Consent Agenda; and
- Held Executive Session with NO action taken.

The next City Council meeting will be Tuesday, February 11, 2025.



Martin Luther King Holiday

Blanchard City Offices will be open on Monday, January 20th during Martin Luther King Day.

However, the Federal Government, U.S. Post Office, Oklahoma State Offices, and both McClain County and Grady Counties will be closed on Martin Luther King Day.

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.

Postal Rate Increase

The United States Postal Service (**USPS**) has announced new postal rates, are set to take effect on Sunday, January 19, 2025.



The new rates will raise shipping services' prices by approximately 3.2 percent for Priority Mail service and Priority Mail Express service, 3.9 percent for USPS Ground Advantage, and 9.2 percent for Parcel Select, according to the announcement on the service's website.

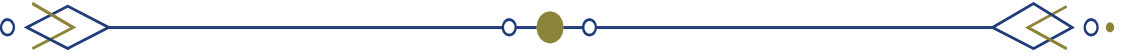
The new pricing action is part of "Delivering for America," the agency's 10-year plan for "achieving financial sustainability and service excellence."



Prayer at the Flagpole

The American Legion Commander welcomes all Veterans and citizens to "Pray at the Flagpole" every Monday morning.

Prayers have been inside the Post due to some of the citizens' inability to stand for long periods of time. The Post is located next door South of the Senior Citizens Center at 103 South Main. After prayer at 8:45am, the Post has a social with coffee and donuts.



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** (except City Observed Holidays).

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.

MENU

(January 20 - January 24)

January 20th ~ Creamed Chicken on Biscuit, Carrots, Green Beans, Dessert

January 21st ~ Ham & Potato Soup, Salad, Crackers, Dessert

January 22nd ~ Meat Loaf, Mashed Potatoes, Veggie, Bread Dessert

January 23rd ~ Chili Beans, Salad, Corn Cornbread, Dessert

January 24th ~ Sloppy Joe, Salad, Pea Salad, Bun, Dessert

Citizens under the age of 60 may participate but are required

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.

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, please 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.

Veterans Memorial

There are more than 500 individual bricks still available for purchase and to be show-cased at this incredible Memorial. Individual bricks are \$125 apiece or 3 bricks for \$300. An Order Form can be found on the City's website at www.cityofblanchard.us.

Weatherization Assistance

PSO offers to its customers a 'Home Weatherization Assistance Program'.

Homeowners and renters with an annual household income of \$55,000 or less in a home less than 2,200 square feet and built prior to 2010 may be eligible for FREE home upgrades such as attic insulation, air and duct sealing, and more.

PSO's service provider, Titan ES, will perform an energy assessment at your home. If your home qualifies, Titan will schedule and complete the necessary home upgrades.

The services are completed at NO cost to you. PSO pays Titan ES for any approved upgrades completed on you home.

For more information, contact the PSO Customer Services Account Representative at 405.222.7615.

We're on the Web!

www.cityofblanchard.us