



# E~Mail Newsletter

6 September 2024

Volume 148, Number 1

## Meeting Dates

### SEPTEMBER

- 9<sup>th</sup> ~ CBD Ad Hoc Comm
- 10<sup>th</sup> ~ BMIA/Council
- 12<sup>th</sup> ~ Planning Comm
- 16<sup>th</sup> ~ Tourism Board
- 17<sup>th</sup> ~ Board of Adjustment

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

City of Blanchard  
P.O. Box 480  
122 N. Main Street  
Blanchard, OK 73010  
Phone: (405) 485-9392  
Fax: (405) 485-3199

## *All You Can Eat Breakfast*

The Masonic Lodge (10th Street & Main Street) will host their AYCE Breakfast at the Lodge beginning at 7am, Saturday, May 21<sup>st</sup>. The cost is \$7. Proceeds benefit Middleberg School Cheer.

## *Autumnal Equinox*

Fall begins **Sunday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>** at **7:43** p.m. CST.



The Autumnal Equinox is defined as the point at which the Sun appears to cross the celestial equator from north to south. The celestial equator is the circle in the celestial sphere halfway between the celestial poles. Another definition of fall are nites of below-freezing temperatures combined with day of temperatures below 70 degrees Fahrenheit. The word equinox means “equal nite”; nite and day are the same length of time. The equinoxes are times when the Sun’s apparent motion undergoes the most rapid change. Around the time of the equinoxes, variations in the position on the horizon when the Sun rises and sets can be noticed from one day to the next by alert observers.

## *Chamber Luncheon*

The September Chamber luncheon will be **Thursday, September 19<sup>th</sup>** at **12 Noon**.

# Special Events

## SEPTEMBER

7<sup>th</sup>~McClain County Free Fair  
7<sup>th</sup>~Cleveland County Free Fair  
7<sup>th</sup>~Farmers Market  
8<sup>th</sup>~Cleveland County Free Fair  
12<sup>th</sup>~OK Great State Fair  
13<sup>th</sup>~OK Great State Fair  
14<sup>th</sup>~OK Great State Fair  
14<sup>th</sup>~Farmers Market  
15<sup>th</sup>~OK Great State Fair  
15<sup>th</sup>~Constitution Week  
16<sup>th</sup>~OK Great State Fair  
16<sup>th</sup>~Constitution Week  
17<sup>th</sup>~OK Great State Fair  
17<sup>th</sup>~Citizenship Day  
17<sup>th</sup>~Constitution Week  
18<sup>th</sup>~OK Great State Fair  
18<sup>th</sup>~Constitution Week  
19<sup>th</sup>~OK Great State Fair  
19<sup>th</sup>~Constitution Week  
20<sup>th</sup>~OK Great State Fair  
20<sup>th</sup>~Constitution Week  
21<sup>th</sup>~OK Great State Fair  
21<sup>st</sup>~Constitution Week  
22<sup>nd</sup>~Farmers Market  
22<sup>nd</sup>~FALL BEGINS  
28<sup>th</sup>~Farmers Market  
28<sup>th</sup>~Mufflers on Main

For more info, visit the Parks Facebook Page regarding City sponsored events.

For Blanchard City events: Please visit our website at [www.cityofblanchard.us](http://www.cityofblanchard.us)

Library Events: Please visit their website @ <https://pioneer.libnet.info/events?l=virtual.blanchard>

## Citizenship Day

Formerly called Constitution Day, Citizenship Day will be observed on **Tuesday, September 17<sup>th</sup>**. However, September 17<sup>th</sup> marks the anniversary of the date in 1787 when the final draft of the Constitution of the United States was signed by delegates to the Constitutional Convention after months of wrangling. The framers had been arguing constantly as they met in secret, but they had leaked reports to the press indicating that all was well. The Federalists [as they were called] argued thru June and most of July and reached an agreement on July 16. After deciding to leave out a bill of rights – because everyone was worn-out and they thought there was no need for such a list – the framers completed the final draft on September 17 and made it ready for submission to the states for ratification.

## Cleveland County Free Fair

The annual 2024 Cleveland County Free Fair in Norman began **Thursday, September 5<sup>th</sup>** and ends **Sunday, September 8<sup>th</sup>**.



## Community Food Bank

Fresh and frozen food items are available to anyone in need on the second **Tuesday** of each month. Food is distributed on a first-come, first served basis for the 73010 zip code area, at the First Baptist Church of Blanchard, 919 10th Street NE from **4:00 pm ~ 6:00 pm**.

## Constitution Week

Constitution Day and Citizenship Day is a combined event that is annually observed in the United States on September 17<sup>th</sup>. 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.

In addition, the week of September 15 – 21 is observed for National Constitution Week.

## Fall Bazaar

The annual Fall Bazaar will be held on **October 5<sup>th</sup>** from **9am** to **4pm** at 1101 North Main Street.

Homemade wares, holiday décor, and much, much more.

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## Fire Prevention Week

Fire Prevention Week is recognized nationally during the week of **October 9<sup>th</sup>** every year to help people of all ages learn how to stay from fire. In 2024, Fire Prevention Week will be held from **October 6-12**.

Take time during this week to learn or remind yourself of ways to prevent fires and what to do if there is one.

The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) announced “Smoke alarms: make them work for you!” as the official theme for **Fire Prevention Week**. This year’s focus on working smoke alarms comes in response to NFPA data, which shows that the majority of U.S. home fire deaths continue to occur in homes with no smoke alarms or no working smoke alarms.

For more general information about Fire Prevention Week and fire prevention in general, visit [www.fpw.org](http://www.fpw.org).

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## Great State Fair of Oklahoma



The Great State Fair of Oklahoma is a can't-miss family event. Enjoy carnival rides, concerts, handicrafts, shopping, and their famous fair food.

The Fair begins on **Thursday, September 12<sup>th</sup>** and runs thru **Sunday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>**.

Discount Days on:

**Thursday, September 12<sup>th</sup>**

- TFCU Thrifty Thursday; and
  - College Day.
- Monday, September 16<sup>th</sup>**
- Tractor Bob's Military Monday.
- Tuesday, September 17<sup>th</sup>**
- Taste of the Fair Tuesday.
  - **Wednesday, September 18<sup>th</sup>**
  - Senior Day.

**Thursday, September 19<sup>th</sup>**

- TFCU Thrifty Thursday.

<https://okstatefair.com> for more details and information.

## After Hours

- \* water leaks
- \* waterline breaks
- \* sewer backups
- \* sewer line breaks
- \* lift station alarms
- \* manholes over flowing
- \* 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.

## McClain County Free Fair

The annual 2024 McClain County Fair in Purcell began **Tuesday, September 3<sup>rd</sup>** and ends tomorrow (**Saturday, September 7<sup>th</sup>**).



## Mufflers on Main

The City's annual car and truck show will be held on Saturday, **September 28th** from **10am** to **2pm**, on Main Street.

There will be live music and food vendors. Some of the best classic cars & trucks in the area, with over 40 trophies awarded and \$500 awarded to the Grand Champion, Join as we take a look into the Past and the future!

For more information, contact Chris Wittenbach at 248-6521 or [parks@cityofblanchard.us](mailto:parks@cityofblanchard.us).



## Oil 'n Gas

The Oklahoma Corporation Commission reported that no new oil wells permitted or completed in Blanchard since **Friday, August 30<sup>th</sup>**.

## On the BMIA Agenda

The Trustees of the Blanchard Municipal Improvement Authority (BMIA) will meet on **Tuesday, September 10<sup>th</sup>** to discuss, consider and take appropriate action on the following:

▶ Discuss and vote on a motion to go forward with water improvements to include but not limited to constructing a 12-inch water line along 70<sup>th</sup> Street NE from OK-76 east to Dan Churchill's property to include but not limited to approving an Engineering Agreement for the design of the water line by GSA.

▶ Discuss and vote on a motion to take necessary actions instructing Staff and City Engineer to move forward with priority projects; discuss and vote on substituting projects.

▶ Discuss and vote on a motion to take necessary actions on sewer improvements as the Board of Trustees desire.

▶ Consent Agenda.

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

# 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

# On the Council Agenda

The City Council of the City of Blanchard will meet on **Tuesday, September 10<sup>th</sup>** to discuss, consider and take appropriate action on the following:

▶ Discuss and vote on a motion adopting an Ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances by amending Section 22-107 of Article One (1) of Chapter Twenty-two (22) of the Code of Ordinances, as amended, concerning exceptions to the Subdivision Regulation; declaring repealer; providing for severability; and declaring an emergency.

▶ Discuss and vote on a motion approving said Emergency Clause for Ordinance.

▶ Discuss and vote on a motion adopting Ordinance amending Chapter 4 of the Code of Ordinances, adding a new Section 4-209, providing requirements for permitting all alteration of ground cover within the City Limits of the City of Blanchard; repealing any ordinances or parts of ordinances that are in conflict; declaring repealer; providing for severability; and declaring an emergency.

▶ Discuss and vote on a motion approving said Emergency Clause for Ordinance.

▶ Discuss and vote on a motion adopting Ordinance amending Sections 21-724 thru 21-728 of Article Seven (7) of Chapter Twenty-One (21) of the Code of Ordinances of Blanchard, Oklahoma, as amended; amending the regulations of the residential zoning districts; declaring repealer; providing for severability; and declaring an emergency.

▶ Discuss and vote on a motion adopting said Emergency Clause.

▶ Discuss and vote on a motion adopting Ordinance amending certain Sections within Article One (1) of Chapter Fifteen (15); Articles Seven (7), Nine (9) and Ten (10) of Chapter Twenty-One (21); and Articles One (1) and Three (3) of Chapter Twenty-Two (22) of the Code of Ordinances, as amended, concerning fees for development activity; declaring repealer; providing for severability; and declaring an emergency.

▶ Discuss and vote on a motion adopting said Emergency Clause.

▶ Discuss and vote on a motion re: adopting Resolution accepting CENA Grant in the amount of \$13,000.00.

▶ Discuss and vote on a motion re: adopting Resolution accepting bids for the repair of the signal lite at Main and US-62 and award the contract to TSC Inc:

- |    |                       |              |
|----|-----------------------|--------------|
| a. | Midstate Traffic, OKC | \$ No Bid    |
| b. | TLS Group Inc, OKC    | \$18,912.03* |



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.

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

**c. SignalTek, Tulsa \$ No Bid**

▶ Discuss and vote on a motion re: adopting Resolution accepting OMAG's recommendation denying Tort Claim as follows: Claimant: Jamie Hendrix

Address: 18715 320<sup>th</sup> Street

Date of Loss: July 7, 2024

Alleged Incident: Damage to 2022 Honda Pilot

▶ Discuss and vote on a motion re: adopting Resolution approving the BUDGET SUPPLEMENT amending the FYE2025 Budget in the amount of \$112,535.20 for the purpose of hiring two (2) new fire fighters for the City of Blanchard.

▶ Discuss and vote on a motion re: adopting Resolution approving the BUDGET SUPPLEMENT amending the FYE2025 Budget in the amount of \$329,230 for the purpose of paying certain pay raises.

▶ Discuss and vote on a motion re: adopting Resolution approving the Agreement with ODOT for the Bridge Replacement on 85<sup>th</sup> just west of OK-76.

▶ Discuss and vote on a motion re: adopting Resolution approving the DEQ Permit Applications submitted by Ideal Homes for water and sewer to serve Section 6 of Oasis Ranch.

▶ Discuss and vote on a motion re: adopting Resolution requesting ODOT to study a 2-mile corridor from County Line Road west to Sara Road along U.S. 62, all in Grady County, in reducing the speed limit; adding a middle turn lane; and signalize the intersection of US-62 and Morgan Road.

▶ Discuss and vote on a motion re: adopting Resolution accepting a fire grant in the amount of \$10,017.32 granted by the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry.

▶ Discuss and vote on a motion re: adopting Resolution approving an application for a water/sewer permit to serve the new Allsup's Convenience Store in Blanchard.

▶ Discuss and vote on a motion re: adopting Resolution requesting ODOT to consider lowering the speed limit on Oklahoma Highway 76 from 65 to 55mph between 85<sup>th</sup> NW south approximately 4.28 miles to City Hall.

▶ Discuss and vote on a motion re: adopting Resolution authorizing the City's Fire Marshal to carry a weapon while on duty in compliance with Title 11 O.S. 22.139.

▶ Discuss and vote on a motion re: approving for payment of an invoice submitted by SWH Construction in the amount of \$14,437.06 or material costs of \$12,030.88 in accordance with an executed agreement.

▶ Discuss and vote on a motion re: the status to include but not limited to the identified goals for the Original Downtown, road repair and work on bidding, and grants focusing on the

Blanchard Historical Central Business District.

- ▶ Discuss and vote on a motion re: the status of other street evaluation and ranking of projects.

- ▶ Discuss and vote on a motion re: the status of Phase II Project of Section Line Road Improvements to include proposed Change Order(s) as proposed by the City Engineer and concurred by Haskell Lemon Group.

- ▶ Consent Agenda.

- ▶ Executive Session.

The agenda is available on the City's website at [www.cityofblanchard.us](http://www.cityofblanchard.us).

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## *On the Planning Commission Agenda*

The Planning Commission of the City of Blanchard will meet on **Thursday, September 12<sup>th</sup>** to discuss, consider and take appropriate action on the following:

- ▶ Discuss and vote on a motion to approve a Lot Split application filed by:

Applicant: Julie Bowring

Address: 841 N Aspen

Original Tract: One original tract: 20.05 Acres

Created Tracts: 3 tracts of 10.85 Acres, 4.19 Acres, and 5.01 Acres

- ▶ Discuss and vote on a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2024-22, establishing regular meeting dates for the planning commission in calendar year 2025.

- ▶ Discuss and vote on a motion to adopt Resolution 2024-23, recommending approval to the City Council of the zoning map dated September 12th, 2024.

- ▶ Consent Agenda.

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

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## *Park Events*

**9/28/24** ~ Mufflers On Main

**10/31/24** ~ PumpkinFest

**11/09/24** ~ Veterans Day Parade

**12/14/24** ~ Christmas Parade of Lights

**12/14/24** ~ Christmas on Main

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## *Police Blotter*

No new arrests reported.

## Prayer at the Flagpole

The American Legion Commander welcome 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 to the Senior Citizens Center and they are located at 103 South Main. After prayer at 8:45am, the Post has a social with coffee and donuts.

## Sales Tax Collections

The sales tax collections for the month of September are less than one (0.69%) percent higher than a year ago and six (6.59%) percent higher than last month’ collections. Sale Taxes are based on five (5%) of \$9,348,113.60 retail sales inside of Blanchard.

Month	\$ Amount	% +/-
Jul '24	463,695.31	-0.21
Aug '24	436,602.79	-26.77
Sep '24	467,405.68	0.69
Oct '24	-0-	-0-
Nov '24	-0-	-0-
Dec '24	-0-	-0-
Jan '25	-0-	-0-
Feb '25	-0-	-0-
Mar '25	-0-	-0-
Apr '25	-0-	-0-
May '25	-0-	-0-
Jun '25	-0-	-0-
Totals	1,367,703.78	-10.32

## 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).

### MENU:

(September 9<sup>TH</sup> – September 13<sup>TH</sup>)

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

**Tuesday** ~ Sausage Gravy, Potatoes, Biscuits, Dessert.

**Wednesday** ~ Ham & Potato Casserole, Green Beans, Fruit, Dessert.

**Thursday** ~ Navy Beans, Potatoes, Spinach, Cornbread,



**Dessert.**

**Friday ~ Chicken Salad, 3 Bean Salad, Jello Salad, Crackers, 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, please 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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## *Tall Weeds & Grass*



The City is committed to adopted regulations concerning the abatement of tall grass, weeds and trash.

The Blanchard Municipal Code concerning public nuisances and property enhancement requires that owners or responsible persons of property located within the municipal city limits are prohibited from allowing debris, junk, waste or trash to

accumulate, or weeds or tall grass over twelve (12”) inches in height, dead trees, bushes, and shrubs to grow or stand upon the premises. This regulation is based upon the Oklahoma State Law Title 11, Section 22-111 which sets forth the procedure and definitions for the cleaning and mowing of property. Property that abuts against public property (ie: alleys, streets, etc.) are responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of mowing of tall weeds and grass, trees, etc.)

For more information, contact the Code Enforcement Officer at 405.485.9392 or file an anonymous complaint on the City’s website at [www.cityofblanchard.us](http://www.cityofblanchard.us).

## 2024 Election Dates

**November 5<sup>th</sup>** ~ General Election

**PLEASE EXERCISE YOUR RIGHT TO VOTE!**

**POLLS ARE OPEN FROM 7am – 7pm.**



## Use Tax Collections

The use tax collections for the month of September are more than nine (9.76%) percent less than a year ago and thirty-three (33.12) percent less than last month’s collection. Use Taxes are based on five (5%) of \$2,920,295 retail sales outside of Blanchard.

Month	\$ Amount	% +/-
Jul '24	244,287.42	74.04
Aug '24	194,373.75	46.68
Sep '24	146,014.75	-9.76
Oct '24	-0-	-0-
Nov '24	-0-	-0-
Dec '24	-0-	-0-
Jan '25	-0-	-0-
Feb '25	-0-	-0-
Mar '25	-0-	-0-
Apr '25	-0-	-0-
May '25	-0-	-0-
Jun '25	-0-	-0-
Totals	584,675.92	34.51

## 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

## *Water Rationing*

**REMINDER!** The City of Blanchard receives 100% of our water from the City of Oklahoma City. As a result, we are on a full-time water rationing of odd-even days, as required by our Agreement with Oklahoma City.

This means if your address ends in an even number then you can legally water on the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup>, and 30<sup>th</sup> of each month.

If your address ends in an odd number, then you can legally water on the 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup>, and 31<sup>st</sup> of each month.

Please call City Hall or email us complaints of possible violations anonymously at [www.cityofblanchard.us](http://www.cityofblanchard.us).

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## *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 your home.

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

