



E~Mail Newsletter

13 September 2024

Volume 148, Number 2

Meeting Dates

SEPTEMBER

16th ~ Tourism ~~Canceled~~
17th ~ BOA ~~Canceled~~

OCTOBER

7th ~ TEAM Blanchard
7th ~ BPS Bd of Education
8th ~ BMIA
8th ~ City Council
10th ~ Planning Commission
15th ~ Tourism Board
16th ~ 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, September 21st**. The cost is \$7. Proceeds will benefit the Middleberg School Cheer.

Autumnal Equinox



Fall begins **Sunday, September 22nd** 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.

BMIA Action

The Trustees of the Blanchard Municipal Improvement Authority (BMIA) met on **Tuesday, September 10th** and discussed, considered and took appropriate action on the following:

► Voted to approve an Engineering Agreement with GSA to

Special Events

SEPTEMBER

14th~OK Great State Fair
14th~Farmers Market
15th~OK Great State Fair
15th~Constitution Week
16th~OK Great State Fair
16th~Constitution Week
17th~OK Great State Fair
17th~Citizenship Day
17th~Constitution Week
18th~OK Great State Fair
18th~Constitution Week
19th~OK Great State Fair
19th~Constitution Week
19th~Chamber Luncheon
20th~OK Great State Fair
20th~Constitution Week
21th~OK Great State Fair
21st~Constitution Week
21st~Farmers Market
21st~AYCE Breakfast
22nd~FALL BEGINS
28th~Farmers Market
28th~Mufflers on Main

OCTOBER

5th~Farmers Market
12th~Yom Kippur
14th~Columbus Day
16th~National Boss Day
17th~Chamber Luncheon
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 @
<https://pioneer.libnet.info/events?l=virtual,blanchard>

design a 12-inch water line along 70th Street NE from OK-76 east, then south to existing 12-inch water line on US-62.

- ▶ Discussed the priority projects.
 - ▶ Discussed sewer improvements.
 - ▶ Approved the Consent Agenda, as presented.
- The next meeting will be Tuesday, October 8th.

Chamber Luncheon

The September Chamber luncheon will be **Thursday, September 19th** at **12 Noon**, sponsored by OED.

Citizenship Day

Formerly called Constitution Day, Citizenship Day will be observed on **Tuesday, September 17th**. However, September 17th 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.

City Council Action

The City Council met on **Tuesday, September 10th** and discussed, considered and took appropriate action on the following:

- ▶ Adopted Ordinance No. 824 amending Section 22-107 of the Municipal Code concerning exceptions to the Subdivision Regulations.
- ▶ Adopted Emergency Clause for Ordinance No. 824.
- ▶ Adopted Ordinance No. 825 adding a new Section 4-209 providing requirements for permitting all alteration of ground cover within the City Limits.
- ▶ Adopted Emergency Clause for Ordinance No. 825.
- ▶ Adopted Ordinance No. 826 amending Sections 21-724 – 21-728 concerning the regulations of residential zoning districts.

- ▶ Adopted Emergency Clause for Ordinance No. 826.
- ▶ Adopted Ordinance No. 827 amending certain Sections in Chapter 15, Chapter 21 and Chapter 22 concerning fees for development activity.
- ▶ Adopted Emergency Clause for Ordinance No. 827.
- ▶ Adopted Resolution No. 2024-66 accepting \$13,000 CENA grant.
- ▶ Adopted Resolution No. 2024-67 awarding the bid to TLS Group Inc. to repair signal lite pole at Main and US-62.
- ▶ Adopted Resolution No. 2024-68 accepting OMAG's recommendation to deny Tort Claim submitted by Jamie Hendrix.
- ▶ Adopted Resolution No. 2024-69 to approve Budget Supplement for \$112,535.20 to hire 2-fulltime firefighters.
- ▶ Adopted Resolution No. 2024-70 to approve Budget Supplement for \$329,230 for the purpose of paying certain pay raises.
- ▶ Adopted Resolution No. 2024-71 approving ODOT Agreement for Bridge Replacement on 85th Street west of OK-76.
- ▶ Adopted Resolution No. 2024-72 accepting DEQ Permit Applications for water & sewer to serve Section 6 of Oasis Ranch.
- ▶ Adopted Resolution No. 2024-73 requesting ODOT Study on a 2-mile corridor along US-62 in Grady County.
- ▶ Adopted Resolution No. 2024-74 accepting Fire Grant in the amount of \$10,017.32.
- ▶ Adopted Resolution No. 2024-75 accepting DEQ Permit Application for water to serve Allsup's commercial development.
- ▶ Adopted Resolution No. 2024-76 requesting ODOT Study to lower speed limit on OK-76 for approximately 4.28 miles.
- ▶ Adopted Resolution No. 2024-77 approving Fire Marshal to carry a gun on duty SUBJECT to CLEET certification.
- ▶ Approved payment of invoice to SWH Construction in the amount of \$12,030.88 less amount of water usage.
- ▶ Discussed the Central Business District and voted to stripe a round-about at the flag pole.
- ▶ Discussed Local Streets and will set priorities in subsequent meeting(s).
- ▶ Approved Change Order No. 1 regarding Section Line Roads.
- ▶ Authorized City Manager and City Attorney explore options to include but not limited to Public Safety Protection District.
- ▶ Consent Agenda.
- ▶ No Executive Session.

The next meeting of the City Council will be **Tuesday, October 8th, 2024.**

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.

Constitution Week

Constitution Day and Citizenship Day is a combined event that is annually observed in the United States on September 17th. 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 women of the First United Methodist Church of Blanchard will host the annual Fall Bazaar on **Saturday, October 5th** from **9am to 4pm** at 1101 North Main Street.

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

Farmers Market

The final day for the Blanchard Farmers Market will be **Saturday, October 5th**.

Fire Prevention Week

Fire Prevention Week is recognized nationally during the week of **October 9th** 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.

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

Golf Tournament

The 20th annual golf tournament for the Blanchard Lions Baseball Team is coming up **Sunday, October 20th**. The tournament will raise additional much needed funds to support their team's uniform, equipment, and travel needs. One donor is generously matching all proceeds that the team raises!

Donations are accepted by QR Code, email or mail a check to PO Box 964, Blanchard, OK, 73010, or they can pick up a check or cash donation.

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 12th** and runs thru **Sunday, September 22nd**.

Discount Days on:

Thursday, September 12th

- TFCU Thrifty Thursday; and
- College Day.

Monday, September 16th

- Tractor Bob's Military Monday.

Tuesday, September 17th

- Taste of the Fair Tuesday.
- **Wednesday, September 18th**
- Senior Day.

Thursday, September 19th

- TFCU Thrifty Thursday.

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

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.

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

Oil 'n Gas

The Oklahoma Corporation Commission reported that no new oil wells permitted or completed in Blanchard since **Friday, September 6th**.

On the BOA Agenda

The September meeting of the Blanchard Board of Adjustment has been canceled due to a lack of agenda items.

On the Tourism Agenda

The September meeting of the Blanchard Tourism Board has been canceled due to a lack of agenda items.

Oil 'n Gas

The Oklahoma Corporation Commission reported that no new oil wells permitted or completed in Blanchard since **Friday, September 6th**.

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

Planning Commission Action

The Planning Commission of the City of Blanchard met on **Thursday, September 12th** and discussed, considered and took appropriate action on the following:

► Approved 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

▶ Adopted Resolution No. 2024-22, establishing regular meeting dates for the planning commission in calendar year 2025.

▶ Adopted Resolution 2024-23, recommending approval to the City Council of the zoning map dated September 12th, 2024.

▶ Approved Consent Agenda, as presented.

The next meeting of the Planning Commission is Thursday, **October 10**, 2024.

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 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).

MENU:

(September 16TH – September 20TH)

Monday ~ Spaghetti, Mixed Vegetables, Bread, Dessert.

Tuesday ~ Hot Dogs with Bun, Cole Slaw, 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, 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.

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.

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.

2024 Election Dates

November 5th ~ General Election

PLEASE EXERCISE YOUR RIGHT TO VOTE!

POLLS ARE OPEN FROM 7am – 7pm.



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.

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 2nd, 4th, 6th, 8th, 10th, 12th, 14th, 16th, 18th, 20th, 22nd, 24th, 26th, 28th, and 30th of each month.

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

Please call City Hall or email us complaints of possible violations anonymously 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.



