



E~Mail Newsletter

Blanchard Together ... Today & Tomorrow

29 November 2024

Volume 150, Number 5

Meeting Dates

December 2nd

8am - TEAM Blanchard

6pm - BETA

6pm - Bd of Education

December 3rd

6pm - BOA

December 9th

8:30am - CBD

December 10th

6pm - BMIA

6pm - City Council

December 14th

6pm - Planning

Commission

December 16th

6am - Tourism Board

*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

Advertisement for Bids

The City of Blanchard|Blanchard Municipal Improvement Authority will receive separate sealed bids for Effluent Discharge Piping - Materials Only. Bids will be received at City Hall, located at 2008 N. Council Rd., Blanchard, OK 73010, until 11:00 AM, Thursday, December 12, 2024. Bids will be publicly opened and read aloud, at 11:00 AM at City Hall.

Project to include supplying 300 L.F. of 8" and 12" PVC pressure pipe, miscellaneous valves, fittings, and appurtenances.

All material furnished shall be in accordance with the Contract Documents prepared by Glenn Sullivan & Associates, Inc., and on file in the office of the City Clerk, located at City Hall.

The Notice to Bidders, Form of Bid, Form of Contract, Plans and Specifications, and other Contract Documents may be examined at the following:

1. City Hall
2008 N. Council Rd.
Blanchard, OK 73010
(405) 485-9392

A complete set of Plans and Specifications to prospective bidders may be obtained at the office of Glenn Sullivan & Associates, Inc. upon receipt of a non-refundable deposit of \$50.00. An electronic set of plans and specifications is available at no cost. Please contact the engineer at planroom.gsa@gmail.com.

Each bidder shall accompany his bid with a sworn statement in writing that the Bidder has not directly or indirectly entered into an agreement, express or implied, with any other bidder or the price or amount of such bid or any bids, the limiting of the bids or bidders, the paying to anyone any money for promotion expenses, the parceling or farming out to any

Special Events

DECEMBER

7th ~ Pearl Harbor Day

14th ~ Christmas on
Main

14th ~ Christmas Lited
Parade

21st ~ Winter Begins

24th ~ Christmas Eve

25th ~ Christmas Day

31st ~ New Year's Eve

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

bidder or bidders or other persons of any part of the contract or any part of the subject matter of the bid or of the profits thereof.

A one (1) year warranty will be required for the faithful performance of the contract.

All bids shall remain on file at least forty-eight (48) hours. Bids received more than ninety-six (96) hours prior to the Bid Opening will be returned.

Contract to be awarded to low responsive responsible bidder. The Owner reserves the right to waive any informalities in the bidding and the right to reject any and all bids in accordance with the Oklahoma Competitive Bidding Act. Conditional bids shall not be accepted.

Advertisement for Bids

The City of Blanchard|Blanchard Municipal Improvement Authority will receive separate sealed bids for Sanitary Sewer Improvements – Gravity Sewer Replacement/Extension. Bids will be received at City Hall, located at 2008 N. Council Rd., Blanchard, OK 73010, until 11:00 AM, Thursday, December 12, 2024. Bids will be publicly opened and read aloud, at 11:00 AM at City Hall.

Project to include replacing 1125 L.F. of 8-inch gravity sewer on a new vertical alignment, 186 L.F. of 8-inch gravity sewer extension, remove and replace five (5) manholes, construct one (1) new manhole, and appurtenances.

There will be a mandatory pre-bid meeting held on Tuesday, December 3, 2024, at 11:00 am, at City Hall, located at 2008 N. Council Rd., Blanchard, OK.

All work shall be performed, and all construction and material used and furnished shall be in accordance with the Contract Documents prepared by Glenn Sullivan & Associates, Inc., and on file in the office of the City Clerk, located at City Hall.

The Notice to Bidders, Form of Bid, Form of Contract, Plans and Specifications, Forms of Bid Bond, Performance and Statutory Payment Bond, and other Contract Documents may be examined at the following:

1. City Hall
2008 N. Council Rd.
Blanchard, OK 73010
(405) 485-9392

A complete set of Plans and Specifications to prospective bidders may be obtained at the office of Glenn Sullivan & Associates, Inc. upon receipt of a non-refundable deposit of

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.

\$50.00. An electronic set of plans and specifications is available at no cost. Please contact the engineer at planroom.gsa@gmail.com.

Each bidder shall accompany his original bid, with a certified or Cashier's Check on a solvent bank located in Oklahoma or a Bidder's Bond, in the amount of five (5) percent of the amount bid, as a guarantee of his ability to perform the contract bid upon, and that he will enter into a written contract with the Owner to perform said work and/or furnish said materials in accordance with said plans and specifications and furnish the required bonds within seven (7) days after the acceptance of his bid.

The deposit will be retained by the Owner as, and for, liquidated damages in case the successful bidder fails to enter into said contract and furnish the required bonds provided for in the specifications within the time required. Deposit of the unsuccessful bidders will be returned upon the execution of the Contract and required bonds.

Each bidder shall accompany his bid with a sworn statement in writing that the Bidder has not directly or indirectly entered into an agreement, express or implied, with any other bidder or the price or amount of such bid or any bids, the limiting of the bids or bidders, the paying to anyone any money for promotion expenses, the parceling or farming out to any bidder or bidders or other persons of any part of the contract or any part of the subject matter of the bid or of the profits thereof.

A Performance, Maintenance and Statutory Bond in the amount of 100% of the contract price with a Corporate Surety licensed in Oklahoma and approved by the Owner and Engineer, will be required for the faithful performance of the contract, and the bidder shall state in the proposal the name and address of the Surety or Sureties who will sign this bond in case the contract is awarded to him. The Maintenance Bond required will guarantee the repair of all damage due to improper materials or workmanship for a period of two (2) years after the acceptance of the work by the Owner.

All bids shall remain on file at least forty-eight (48) hours. Bids received more than ninety-six (96) hours prior to the Bid Opening will be returned.

Contract to be awarded to low responsive responsible bidder. The Owner reserves the right to waive any informalities in the bidding and the right to reject any and all bids in accordance with the Oklahoma Competitive Bidding Act. Conditional bids shall not be accepted.

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.

Christmas

The ancient Celts divided the year into four sections marked by Quarter Days - the days of the second solstice and second equinoxes, on which the seasons

begins. Gradually, to conform more

closely to the liturgical year of the Christian

church, the Quarter Days became identified with the church's high seasonal festivals, which occurred close to the astronomical dates. Christmas, the fourth Quarter Day, was both the culmination of the old year and the first festival of the new year. The day originated as a solstice festival and signaled a time of resting and gathering fertility for a new round of sowing and reaping. This festival merged easily with the Christian celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ, which occurred at this time of year.



BOA Meeting

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

Christmas On Main

Each December, the City comes alive with lights and fun for the whole family. Old City Hall will be a great place to see and visit with your friends and get a FREE picture with the jolly ole elf, himself. Then step outside for more festivities:

- » Pics with Santa from 2 - 4pm
- » Food Trucks and Train Rides from 2 - 4pm
- » Shop Blanchard Give Away at 4pm
- » Blanchard Kindergarten Kids performance at 5pm

The Blanchard Annual Lighted Christmas Parade will step off at 6pm on **Saturday, December 14th**. The theme of the Parade is "A Peanuts Christmas." Come dressed as your favorite character.

For more information, please visit the City's facebook. The Parade Entry Form is on the site for downloading.

Code Enforcement

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

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.

- * 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.
- * 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.

F.O.G.

The holiday season is upon us, with lots of delicious holiday meals filled with fats, oils and grease, known as FOG. The City reminds residents to "prevent clogs" do NOT toss these fats, oils and grease down the drain. If tossed down the sink, FOG can clog sewer lines and cause costly repairs not only to the homeowner, but to the City as well.



To prevent clogs, pour your liquid fats, oil and grease such as turkey grease, gravy, cooking oil or melted butter into a lid container, place it in the freezer until it becomes solid. You can safely toss the container in the trash.

Holiday Closing

City offices will be closed on **Tuesday, December 24th** and **Wednesday, December 25th** for the observance of Christmas. If you have a police or fire emergency, please call 911. If you have a water or sewer emergency, please call 485.9391. Trash service will not rih on Thanksgiving Day.

Offices will reopen on **Thursday, December 26th**, at 8am.

Holiday Schedule

Thanksgiving, **November 28th** ~ City Offices **Closed**

Thanksgiving After, **November 29th** ~ City Offices **Closed**

Christmas Eve, **December 24th** ~ City Offices **Closed**

Christmas Day, **December 25th** ~ City Offices **Closed**

Trash service will **NOT** run on **Thanksgiving** (**Thursday, November 28th**) and **Christmas Day** (**Wednesday, December 25th**).

No School

The Blanchard Public Schools will be closed for the Christmas and New Year's from **Monday, December 23rd** thru **Friday, January 3rd**. Classes resume **Monday, January 6th**.

Oil 'n Gas

The Oklahoma Corporation Commission reported that no new oil wells permitted or completed in Blanchard since **Friday, November 22nd**.

Oklahoma's Growing Adventure

Did you know we are only 39 days away from Christmas? Oklahoma is home to more than 20 Christmas tree farms ready to host an authentic Christmas experience for you. There, you can cut your own tree or buy a pre-cut evergreen tree and wreath. Visit the list below to find a Christmas Tree farm near you!

The following is a list of Christmas tree farms within a close proximity to Blanchard:

- November 29 ~ All Pine Christmas Tree Farm (Yukon)
- November 29 ~ Cross Timbers Christmas Tree Farm & Pumpkin Patch (Harrah)
- November 23 ~ Leafer Lodge Farms (Stillwater)
- November 29 ~ Martinbird Tree Farm (Tuttle)
- November 29 ~ Pioneer Homestead Christmas Tree Farm (Oklahoma City)
- November 29 ~ Silver Bells Christmas Tree Farm (Tuttle)
- November 23 ~ Sorghum Mill Christmas Tree & Blackberry Farm (Edmond)

- November 29 ~ Wells Christmas Tree Farm (Norman)
- November 23 ~ Wonderland Farms (Harrah)

On the BETA Agenda

The Blanchard Economic Trust Authority (BETA) will hold their December meeting on **Monday, December 2nd** beginning at 6pm, Municipal Courthouse to discuss, consider and take appropriate action regarding the following agenda items:

- 1 ~ Economic Development.
- 2 ~ Farmer's Market.
- 3 ~ 2021 Schedule of Meetings.
- 4 ~ Consent Agenda.

The next meeting of the Trust will be Monday, February 3rd, 2025.

Park Events

- 12/14/24 ~ Christmas on Main
- 12/14/24 ~ Christmas Parade of Lights

Pearl Harbor Day

The National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day, which is annually on December 7th, commemorates the attack on Pearl Harbor, in Hawaii, during World War II.

Many American service men and women lost their lives or were injured on December 7, 1941. Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day is also referred to as Pearl Harbor Day.



Planning Commission Meeting

The December meeting of the Blanchard Planning Commission has been canceled due to a lack of agenda items.

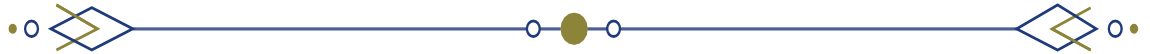
Police Blotter

No arrests reported.

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.

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.



Shop Blanchard Promotion

Shop Blanchard kicked off in **November** and runs thru **Dec 14Th**. We encourage citizens to stay local and spend their money where they live all year, however, during this time, they can keep the receipts and turn them into the Chamber on **December 14Th** to win multiple items donated by local businesses and Chamber members.



Small Business Saturday

Small Business Saturday is celebrated on **November 30, 2024**. It is a day dedicated to supporting and celebrating small business and their contributions to local communities.

Now more than ever, small businesses need our support. Please join SBA and organizations across the country as they celebrate small business contributions to their communities by

shopping at a small business on November 30, Small Business Saturday.

Small Business Saturday was founded by American Express in 2010 and officially cosponsored by SBA since 2011. It is an important part of small businesses' busiest shopping season.

- In 2023, the reported projected spending in the U.S. from those who shopped at small businesses on Small Business Saturday was around **\$17 billion**([Link is external](#)).
- Since 2010, the total reported U.S. spending at small businesses during the annual Small Business Saturday is an estimated **\$201 billion**([Link is external](#)).

Join the highly successful team of SBA, Women Impacting Public Policy (WIPP), and American Express in kicking off the 2024 holiday season. Support our nation's more than 34 million independent businesses this Small Business Saturday and all holiday season long.

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.

Water Rationing

The City of Blanchard reminds citizens that the City receives 100% of our water from the City of Oklahoma City. As a result,

we maintain a year-round, mandatory odd/even lawn watering schedule to facilitate the conservation of its ground water supply from OKC.

Addresses ending in an even number such as the 2nd, 4th, 6th, 8th, 10th, 12th, 14th, 16th, 18th, 20th, 22nd, 24th, 26th, 28th, and 30th may water on even-numbered days of the 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.

The City also encourages citizens to water before 10 a.m. and after 7 p.m. throughout the year.

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 your home.

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



Winter Begins



The winter solstice is one of the two times each year that the Sun is at its farthest point from the equator and appears to stand still. It occurs on **Saturday, December 21st** at **3:20** a.m. CST.

The word solstice is derived from the Latin sol, or "Sun," and stitium, or "stoppage." The Halcyon Days also occur around this time. According to ancient legend, a grieving wife named Alcyone, or Halcyon, threw herself into the sea upon discovering the drowned body of her beloved husband, Ceyx. The gods took pity on the pair, transforming them into kingfishers with the power to still the stormy seas for 14 days around the time of the winter solstice while they built their nest and hatched their young.

Xmas Parade

The City's annual Christmas Parade will be **Saturday, December 14th** beginning at **6pm**. We currently have over fifty (50) entries this year.

Parade Entry Forms are still available on the City's website at www.cityofblanchard.us.

