



# E~Mail Newsletter

Blanchard Together ... Today & Tomorrow

8 November 2024

Volume 150, Number 2

## Meeting Dates

**November 18<sup>th</sup>**

6pm - Tourism

**December 2<sup>nd</sup>**

8am - TEAM Blanchard

6pm - BETA

6pm - Bd of Education

**December 3<sup>rd</sup>**

6pm - BOA

**December 9<sup>th</sup>**

8:30am - CBD

**December 10<sup>th</sup>**

6pm - BMIA

6pm - City Council

**December 14<sup>th</sup>**

6pm - Planning  
Commission

**December 16<sup>th</sup>**

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

## BMIA Action

The Board of Trustees of the Blanchard Municipal Improvement Authority held their regular November meeting on **Tuesday, November 12<sup>th</sup>** and discussed, considered and took appropriate action re:

- **Discussed** of Water/Sewer Improvements;
- **Approved** Engineering agreement with GSA for bidding, etc;
- **Discussed** Utility Rates, Consumption, etc; and
- **Approved** Consent Agenda.

The next meeting of Board of Trustees of the BMIA will be **Tuesday, December 10<sup>th</sup>**.

## 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.
- \* 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](http://www.cityofblanchard.us).

# Special Events

## NOVEMBER

28<sup>th</sup> ~ Thanksgiving  
Day

29<sup>th</sup> ~ Thanksgiving  
After

## DECEMBER

7<sup>th</sup> ~ Pearl Harbor Day

14<sup>th</sup> ~ Christmas on  
Main

14<sup>th</sup> ~ Christmas Lited  
Parade

21<sup>st</sup> ~ Winter Begins

24<sup>th</sup> ~ Christmas Eve

25<sup>th</sup> ~ Christmas Day

31<sup>st</sup> ~ New Year's Eve

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

# Council Agenda

The Blanchard City Council held their regular November meeting on **Tuesday, November 12<sup>th</sup>** and discussed, considered and took appropriate action re:

- **Held** Public Hearing re: PC recommendation on Zoning Case.
- **Adopted** Zoning Ordinance No. 829 from A-1 to C-4.
- **Adopted** Emergency Clause for Zoning Ordinance No. 829.
- **Adopted** Ordinance No. 830 amending BMC 1-325 re: public works.
- **Adopted** Emergency Clause for Ordinance No. 830.
- **Adopted** Ordinance No. 831 amending BMC 1-322 re: parks and recreation.
- **Adopted** Emergency Clause for Ordinance No. 832.
- **Adopted** Ordinance No. 833 amending BMC 1-325 re: street and alley.
- **Adopted** Emergency Clause No. 833.
- **Adopted** Ordinance No. 834 amending BMC 17-502 re: truck routes.
- **Adopted** Emergency Clause for Ordinance No. 834.
- **Heard** concerns from the Rohers re: development next door, invasion of privacy, etc.
- **Heard** concerns from the Mrs. Hess re: drainage onto her property on north Washington.
- **Adopted** Resolution No. 2024-84 amending Project Plan re: TIF No. 3.
- **Adopted** Resolution No. 2024-85 adopting Section 3 Plan re: CDBG Grant.
- **Adopted** Resolution No. 2024-86 adopting Anti-Displacement and Relocation Plan re: CDBG Grant.
- **Adopted** Resolution 2024-87 authorizing City Manager to approve and sign invoices re: construction of CDBG project.
- **Adopted** Resolution No. 2024-88 awarding bid to Christmas Designers for new Christmas Tree.
- **Adopted** Resolution No. 2024-89 appointing Christina Short to OML Regional Council.
- **Adopted** Resolution No. 90 renewing OMAG's Municipality Liability Plan.
- **Adopted** Resolution No. 91 declaring certain property surplus for disposal.
- **Adopted** Resolution No. 92 designating alley in Block 70 as one-way direction from North to South.
- **Approved** "No Parking" signs posted on Main Street in certain locations in the Central Business District.
- **Approved** to add 3<sup>rd</sup> Street North from Jefferson east to

# 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.

Harrison and Broadway from US-62 east to Tyler Ave.

- **Tabled** the selection of addition Section Line Road Improvements.
- **Discussed** Public Safety Protection District status.
- **Approved** Consent Agenda, and
- **Held** Executive Session.

The next meeting of the City Council will be **Tuesday, December 10<sup>th</sup>**.

## Holiday Closing

City offices will be closed on **Thursday, November 28<sup>th</sup>** and **Friday, November 29<sup>th</sup>** for the observance of Thanksgiving. 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 run on Thanksgiving Day.

Offices will reopen on **Monday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>**, at 8am.

## Holiday Schedule

Thanksgiving Day, **November 28<sup>th</sup>** ~ City Offices **Closed**

Day After Thanksgiving, **November 29<sup>th</sup>** ~ City Offices **Closed**

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

## No School

The Blanchard Public Schools will be closed for the Thanksgiving holiday the week of **Monday, November 25<sup>th</sup>** thru **Friday, November 29<sup>th</sup>**. Classes resume **Monday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>**.

## Oil 'n Gas

The Oklahoma Corporation Commission reported that no new oil wells permitted or completed in Blanchard since **Friday, November 8<sup>th</sup>**.

## 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.

## 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)

## Park Events

12/14/24 ~ Christmas on Main

12/14/24 ~ Christmas Parade of Lights

## Police Blotter

11/10/24 ~ **COOPER**, Deven arrested fir Drives or Operates a motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol; Eludes or Attempts to Elude the Peace Officer, first offense; Carrying weapons under the influence of alcohol; and Reckless Drivings.

11/09/24 ~ **LeFORCE** Ronald arrested for outstanding warrants.

## 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

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.

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:**

**(November 18<sup>th</sup> – November 22<sup>nd</sup>)**

**Monday** ~ Tater tot Casserole, Salad, Corn, Dessert.

**Tuesday** ~ Ribbetts, Potato Salad, Green Beans, Bun, Dessert.

**Wednesday** ~ Chili Pie, Salad, Corn, Corn Chips, Dessert.

**Thursday** ~ Stew, Okra, Cornbread, Dessert.

**Friday** ~ Chef's Choice.

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.

We're on the Web!

[www.cityofblanchard.us](http://www.cityofblanchard.us)



BLANCHARD together  
today & tomorrow



## Thanksgiving

Our modern Turkey Day has its origins in two very different holidays; the harvest home feast and the formal day of thanksgiving proclaimed by church or government authorities in gratitude for a particular event, such as a military victory.

Very few days of thanksgiving coincided with harvest celebrations. Thanksgiving Day began in Plymouth Colony in 1621, when the Pilgrims gave thanks for their survival and crops.

In 1863, President Abraham Lincoln set aside the last Thursday in November for a national celebration of Thanksgiving Day. (In 1941, the U.S. Congress decreed that Thanksgiving shall fall on the fourth Thursday of November).

Roast turkey, stuffing, cranberry sauce, vegetables, and pumpkin pie were the main dishes of the New England harvest home feast and became popular because of their supposed connection to the Pilgrims.

## 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](http://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 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> may water on even-numbered days of the 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.

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](http://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.

