

Wyoming Hires Finance Director

Robert C. Luders has accepted the position of finance director and will begin his service to the City on Oct. 13.

In his new role with the City, Luders will be responsible for directing the planning, organization and maintenance of finance services which include the City budget, audit, accounts payable and receivable, payroll, revenue administration, investment programs and fixed assets. He will assess and manage finance department operations, staffing levels, equipment and software to achieve the strategic goals of the department and the City as a whole.

Luders will assist the City's leadership team and its individual departments to set and achieve financial goals. He will be responsible for developing, implementing and maintaining policies, procedures, internal controls,

capital improvement plans, grant reporting and fee and rate setting for the City and its departments, among other responsibilities.

"We are very pleased Bob has decided to serve as finance director for Wyoming," said Wyoming City Manager Curtis Holt. "His expertise will be a key component in our leadership team and help Wyoming continue on its course of streamlined, economically responsible growth."

Luders brings more than 30 years of experience in directing the functions of municipal and private operations, most recently as director of finance and purchasing for Portage, Mich. He holds a bachelor's degree from Valparaiso University and a master's degree from Seton Hall University. A native of Chatham, N.J., he currently resides in Caledonia with his wife, Cathy.

TORNADO RECOVERY CONTINUES

Recovery from extensive property damage caused by the July 6 EF1 tornado touch-down in the Ideal Park neighborhood is still underway.

Residents of the neighborhood remain the City's priority, as does the work to get homeowners and businesses back up and running, remove trees and debris from their yards, and expedite the permitting process for repairs. The City has created the Tornado Recovery Assessment Case Team in partnership with World Renew, Salvation Army, local churches and the City of Kentwood to serve the most vulnerable and needy in the affected area.

Ideal Park remains closed as cleanup efforts continue. The City is working with a contractor to install a bridge to reach the primary park area west of Buck Creek. The City has applied for required Department of Environmental Quality permits that ensure bridge design minimizes damage to the creek banks and allows unrestricted flow of water.

More than 90 percent of the trees in Ideal Park were destroyed by the tornado. While groups and individuals have offered to assist with initial park cleanup, fallen trees and limbs still hang under tension and the work is unsafe for untrained volunteers. Initial estimates for professional tree removal in the park came in close to \$1 million. After a second round of bidding, the Wyoming City Council approved a \$421,479 bid on Sept. 2.

The City will seek resident feedback this fall and early winter to develop a new Ideal Park master plan that will prioritize capital investment and return Ideal Park to a safe, enjoyable recreation area.



MAYOR'S

Message

As teachers, administrators and support staff in our Wyoming schools continue to settle into the routine of the school year, I would like to invite our residents to take part in supporting the children of Wyoming by volunteering to mentor a child in Wyoming.

There are a number of resources available to those who wish to be a mentor. The One Wyoming program began last year and is still working toward the goal of providing mentors to 1,000 children in our City. You can find more information at <http://onewyoming.org/>. Homework House™, a tutoring and mentoring program, is looking for people who are willing to volunteer one day a week for two hours with elementary school students in our area. For more information on the program, visit http://ucomgr.org/homework_house.

Your small investment can mean the world to kids in our community. I encourage you to volunteer your time to make Wyoming a great place live, work and play by being involved and being informed.

Mayor Jack Poll

News Briefs

PUBLIC SAFETY

Car seat inspections will be available Thursday, Oct. 9 and Thursday, Nov. 13 at Wyoming Fire Station #1, 1500 Burton St. S.W. from 5 to 8 p.m. Pre-register by calling Safe Kids of Greater Grand Rapids at 391-7233 ext. 2.

BOARD OF REVIEW

The City of Wyoming is looking for a Board of Review member. Applicants must be a property owner in the City and a public accountant. The board meets for one to two weeks in March, one day in July and one day in December. For more information, contact Karen Oppenheer at 530-7235. Applications can be made in the City Clerk's office.

PUBLIC WORKS

The Wyoming Yard Waste Site is open Monday through Friday, from 7:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. and on Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. through Dec. 13.

LEAF REMOVAL TRAILERS

Trailers will be available Sept. 29 to Nov. 26. A trailer is delivered to a home and picked up the next business day for delivery to the Yard Waste Site. The City offers trailers in two sizes. A small trailer holds three to four cubic yards of leaves and is available for five dollars on a weekday and \$10 on a weekend. A large trailer holds six to eight cubic yards and costs \$10 on a weekday or \$20 on a weekend. Reservations are required at least 24 hours in advance and can be made by phone by calling 530-7260 with a Visa or Master Card or by visiting the office to pay with cash or a check.

CURBSIDE LEAF PICK-UP

Curbside leaf pick-up will be held on Saturday, Dec. 6. Leaves must be in paper yard-waste bags by 6 a.m. Saturday. There is no limit to the number of bags residents can put out. The City will pick up branches that are tied together in a bundle no longer than four feet long. Call 530-7260 for more information.

PARKS AND RECREATION

The Wyoming Parks and Recreation Department annual Pumpkin Path event will be held on Saturday, Oct. 11 in Lamar Park. This free family event will take place from 5 - 7 p.m., with local businesses, clubs and organizations hosting spaces along the path and handing out goodies including candy, coupons and prizes. Costumes are optional for the Pumpkin Path. For more information, contact the Wyoming Parks and Recreation Department at 530-3164 or email Valarie at mesterv@wyomingmi.gov.

LIBRARY

ADULT BOOK CLUB

A friendly, informal book discussion is held on the third Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. in the Kent District Library Wyoming Branch conference room. This month's selection is "The Orphan Master's Son" by Adam Johnson, followed by John Grisham's "The Testament" in October.

ESL CONVERSATION CLUB

Práctica con otros adultos que están aprendiendo Inglés. Presentado en colaboración con el Centro de Alfabetización de West Michigan. La registraci3n est3 limitada, favor de llamar al Centro de Alfabetizaci3n al n3mero 459-5151 ext. 20 para m3s informaci3n. Para los adultos, debe tener 18 a3os o m3s para asistir. Cada Martes, 23 de Sept. a trav3s de 28 de Oct. a las 10 a.m.

For details on these and many other programs, pick up a program guide at the library, check out www.kdl.org or call 784-2007. KDL is now on Twitter! Follow <http://twitter.com/KDLnews> for updates on programs, events and resources at your library.

Telephone Numbers

Mayor's Office	530-7227
City Manager.....	530-3173
City Clerk	530-7296
Police Department.....	530-7300
Fire Department	530-7250
Public Works	530-7260
Utilities	261-3550
Planning & Community Development.....	530-7258
Parks & Recreation.....	530-3164
Building Inspections.....	530-7285
Assessor	530-7231
District Court.....	257-9814
Treasurer	530-7280
Utility Billing.....	530-7389
Wyoming Senior Center.....	530-3190
Wyoming Public Library.....	784-2007

Meetings

City Council Meeting | on the first and third Mondays of the month at 7 p.m. at City Hall in Council Chambers.

City Council Work Sessions | on the second Monday of the month at 7 p.m. at City Hall in Council Chambers.

Planning Commissions Meetings | on the third Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall in Council Chambers.

Zoning Board Of Appeals | on the first and third Monday afternoons of the month at 1:30 p.m. at City Hall in Council Chambers.

Parks & Recreation Commission | on the second Wednesday of every month at 7 p.m. at City Hall in the West Conference Room

Wyoming City Council

Jack Poll, Mayor

Sam Bolt, Mayor Pro tem,

Council Member-at-Large

Dan Burrill, Council Member-at-Large

Kent Vanderwood, Council Member-at-Large

Bill VerHulst, 1st Ward Council Member

Richard K. Pastoor, 2nd Ward Council Member

Joanne Voorhees, 3rd Ward Council Member

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