

**POLSON CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP-FOR COUNCIL MEMBERS
SPONSORED BY: LOCAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES, MSU AND
MONTANA MUNICIPAL INSURANCE AUTHORITY
CITY HALL - COUNCIL CHAMBERS
THURSDAY, JANUARY 24, 9:30 A.M. - 12:00 NOON**

ATTENDANCE: Council Present: Bruce Agrella, Jim Sohm, Tom Jones, Mike Lies, Elsa Duford, Fred Funke, and Lou Marchello. City Manager Jay Henry present. City Attorney James Raymond present. Assistant City Clerk Kala Parker, City Clerk Aggi Loeser and City Treasurer Bonnie Manicke attended. Officials from other western Montana cities were also present.

2008 CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP WAS PRESENTED BY THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS FROM MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY, JANE JELINSKI AND DAN CLARK: Ms. Jelinski and Mr. Clark presented materials for newly elected officials from Polson, Hot Springs, Kalispell, Eureka, and Ronan. They gave a detailed summary of the difference between Mayor/Council government and City Manager Charter government. They explained the roles and responsibilities of Council and Mayor in the different forms of government. They also gave advice on how Council members can avoid making illegal mistakes.

Ms. Jelinski and Mr. Clark informed the officials on various rules of ethics, conflict of interest and a code of conduct in their elected position. They emphasized that transparency, consistency, diversity and being inclusive were the hallmarks to creating a good relationship between the City governments and the public.

Ms. Jelinski and Mr. Clark gave a comprehensive description of open meetings and ex-parte communications. They explained that the public had a right to know, to participate and be allowed to comment. They also emphasized that government officials encourage public participation and engage the community in commenting on issues that affect them, prior to making a decision.

The workshop adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Lou Marchello, Mayor

**ATTEST: _____
Kala Parker, Assistant City Clerk**