**WHO MONITORS ROAD DISTRICT SPENDING**

**STORY?**

The two sources of financial support for the highway maintenance are the State Motor Fuel Tax and the Local Tax.

The State Motor Fuel Tax dollars (MFT) are collected on fuel used on the roads of Illinois and sent to Springfield. From Springfield the dollars are divided and sent to the county highway departments throughout the state for each township road district to use in the maintenance of the highways of that township.

MFT monies are designated to be spent on the maintenance and upkeep of roadways. The County Engineer may guide the MFT budget set up by the Township Highway Commissioner. Approval of the spending of these MFT dollars by the Township Highway Commissioner is approved by the County Transportation Board. All expenditures go through the County Board for approval.

The local tax dollars are allocated to be used for the maintenance of roads, equipment and buildings that are a part of the township as required by law. These monies also require the Township Highway Commissioner to set up a budget for the year. That budget is approved by the Township Board of Trustees.

Expenditures that are a part of the local Road District Budget go to the Township Board members for approval. The Township Supervisor writes the checks for payment. Again, the local tax dollars are spent by the Highway Commissioner, but are approved by the township board.

At the end of the day many interested elected official over see the spending of budgeted tax dollars. The Highway Commissioner operates within the confines of an already approved budget.