

Councilman Calls On Carter To Save U.S. Cities

The loss of municipal revenues to growing debt service payments has prompted Yonkers City Councilman Fred Pisculli to submit this resolution to the Yonkers City Council:

WHEREAS, Thirty-three percent of our property taxes in Yonkers currently are used to pay interest due on bond service,

WHEREAS, this money is "guaranteed" for the reduction of debt and cannot be used for other purposes such as municipal operations,

WHEREAS, this situation arose from previous mismanagement of funds, comingling or fund roll overs and other gimmicks which brought Yonkers to the brink of default,

WHEREAS, state aid to Yonkers has been cut since 1977 from \$30,970,361 to \$26,098,105,

WHEREAS, Yonkers is once again faced with a default,

WHEREAS, noble state officials have offered to loan Yonkers \$10 million in order to avert default,

WHEREAS, repayment of this loan will no doubt necessitate another bond sale "guaranteed" by a certain portion of our property taxes,

WHEREAS, this will result in perhaps 50 percent of our total property taxes going for debt services and will leave only 50 percent for municipal services,

WHEREAS, this will irrevocably cripple our city and the standard of living and safety of our citizenry,

WHEREAS, the banks will eventually discover that they have invested in worthless paper, which although guaranteed by property taxes, we cannot guarantee the safety of the property or its owners.

WHEREAS, the only way Yonkers can resolve this difficulty is through outright state aid combined with long term low interest loans provided by the federal government in order to expand our industrial base by development of reclaimed land at the waterfront with installation of all the required facilities at Austin Avenue which will make it a desirable viable piece of property for industry,

BE IT RESOLVED therefore that we call on the Congress of the United States, President Carter and all national leaders to intervene to restore an economic growth and expansion policy for the entire New York Metropolitan Area as the only means of restoring public credit.

We also call on Congress to condemn the presently in vogue ideas by some national leaders that the nation needs a deflationary recession to stabilize its currency. Such a policy will hopelessly compromise this nation's potential for a return to the policies of rapid capital formations, industrial growth and technological exports which have been its greater distinctions.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Governor of New York and the New York State Assembly and Senate regard Yonkers in its true potential, that is as a port city whose inhabitants are highly skilled and resourceful diligent workers who if given the necessary aid in outright grants to build up to our industrial capacity can not only be self sufficient rather than the abject beggar city they have forced us to become but also a great contributor to the revitalization of this once proud Empire State.