**Resolution #5-2024 – Calling for an Increase in AIM Funding**

 **Whereas**,the Aid and Incentives for Municipalities (AIM) program plays a critical role in funding essential municipal services for cities and villages across New York State; and

 **Whereas**, city and village officials share the same priorities as our state leaders which is to make New York safer and more affordable; and

 **Whereas**, New York’s local governments, who are on the frontlines of controlling property tax affordability and ensuring public safety, are integral to achieving those goals; and

 **Whereas**, the State has not increased AIM funding in 15 years and according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, inflation has increased by nearly 45% during that same period; and

 **Whereas**, this neglect from the State has led to rising municipal tax burdens and harmful disinvestment in essential municipal services and staff; and

 **Whereas**, the property tax cap further limits the ability of local governments to properly fund the services their residents need; and

 **Whereas**, the challenges of rising inflation, the increasing costs of labor and supplies, and the end of extraordinary federal aid, only accentuate the need for an increase in AIM funding; and

 **Whereas**, the Governor’s 2024-25 Executive Budget proposes to keep AIM funding flat; and

 **Whereas**, an increase in AIM funding would reduce the local tax burden and help revitalize communities across New York.

 Therefore, **Be it Resolved**, that the Village of Middleburgh Board of Trustees urges Governor Hochul to work with the leaders of the Senate and Assembly to increase AIM funding for the 2024-25 adopted State Budget.

A copy of this resolution shall be sent to Governor Kathy Hochul, Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins, Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie, Senator Peter Oberacker, Assemblymember Chris Tague and the New York State Conference of Mayors