

## GRAFTON COUNTY COURTHOUSE BUILDING COMMITTEE

Via Teams

North Haverhill, NH 03774

January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2026

PRESENT: Maintenance Supt. Oakes, Commissioner Hedberg, CA Libby, Assistant CA Elsholz, Jill Myers, Doug Shilo – Lavalley Brensinger, Robert Robicsek – Lavalley Brensinger, Sarah Lineberry, Stephen Lorentzen, Rick Colbeth, Janice Novak, Nick De Mayo

J. Oakes called the meeting to order at 10:30 AM.

J. Oakes reported that the committee requested that the Commissioners reconsider pulling the Register of Deeds out of the courthouse project and the commissioners stuck to their position of keeping them in.

J. Oakes asked the committee members if they had a chance to look at the minutes from December 10<sup>th</sup> and December 19<sup>th</sup>. He stated that he had a few suggested edits.

J. Libby moved to approve the December 10<sup>th</sup> and December 19<sup>th</sup> Courthouse Building Committee minutes as amended. K. Hedberg seconded the motion and all were in favor.

J. Oakes stated that the Sheriff had concerns about security of the building and requested to look at reconfiguring the layout of the building to put courts on the first floor. He stated that from his understanding is that it will be challenging for Lavalley Brensinger to keep required paths of segregation between staff public and inmates.

B. Robicsek asked if the county has spoken to the courts and got their opinion on the suggestion. J. Oakes stated that he spoke with S. Lineberry from the courts and theoretically there is no opposition to moving to the first floor, provided that they have the proper segregation between the staff, inmates and public. S. Lineberry stated that they were not been able to figure out how to do that without having the courts on the second floor. D. Shilo explained that this might mean, the sally port would need to go to the basement level, if the courts are on the first level and the Sheriff has agreed to be on the 2<sup>nd</sup>. He noted that it would be a set up that LBA has done before. The drawback of this would be additional costs. Other than that, this would be the way to maintain the segregation necessary for security. J. Oakes noted that they are trying to reduce costs to the building but this request to change the layout may add costs to the project.

J. Libby stated that they have to not look at this only from a construction cost perspective but from a long-term perspective, if it will operationally cost the county more in the long run by having the courts on the second floor, it may make sense to have the building laid out in the most efficient way to save with the ongoing operational costs. J. Myers noted the additional costs associated with more deputies that will be needed in the new courthouse.

Lavalley Brensinger discussed the idea of the sally port coming up from the basement with the committee, the courts and the Sheriff's Department and reviewed different possibilities. After further discussions, J. Oakes stated that they will put everything back in the basement, make reductions where they can and see what that looks like.

J. Libby and J. Myers will figure out costs of deputies to support the new building.

**Public Comment:**

N. De Mayo asked if J. Myers has been to the Rochester Courthouse to see that model and if not, can she go there to view it. J. Myers stated that she has not been there but she could visit it. N. De Mayo stated that if J. Myers has concerns that are going to cost taxpayers money, it would be worth her while to view the building and see if it would meet their needs. B. Robicsek noted that the Rochester facility is still under construction but there are other locations that have a similar layout that she can visit.

11:53 am With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.