

Courthouse Building and Grounds, 175 Main Street, Burlington, VT
Fiscal year, February 1, 2019 to January 31, 2020



We continued to follow the 20-year engineer's report to accomplish level funding of expenses for building upkeep and maintenance.

- Second Floor Window Restoration Project

Our plan was to uncover the three windows that were previously sheet rocked-over in the second-floor courtroom to allow sunlight into the room.

You can imagine our surprise when we saw a cinderblock wall behind the sheetrock. We surmise that this was done to conserve energy costs given the year it was done (1975) and additional fact that the blocks are filled with insulation.



For budgetary reasons we then decided to only uncover two of the three windows this year due to the additional cost of dismantling the cinderblocks. We decided to uncover the window with the wooden scaffolding and the window to the right of it pictured below.



We couldn't reuse the tinted glass that was covering the window. So, we contacted the National Parks Service, which we are required to do when the outside of the building is involved.



We now have two windows uncovered with sunlight coming into the courtroom, with bi-directional, horizontal blinds to cover the sunlight when needed for evidentiary slideshows and the like.

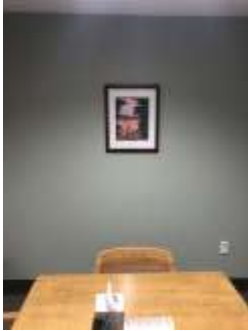


Each window has three storm windows affixed to the outside each window. The exterior trim was painted courthouse beige and the glass was cleaned.



View looking up from the parking lot. Only the 3rd floor windows are visible.

- Second floor carpeting was replaced, and new rubber edging was installed. This included two judges' chambers, two staff attorneys' offices, the jury deliberation room and hallway.
- Fourteen new ergonomic chairs were purchased for the jury deliberation room, as well as a white erase board, and water cooler for juror use while deliberating.
- The second-floor conference/witness rooms were made more inviting and comfortable with artwork, pens, paper, and magazines.



- Third floor carpeting was replaced, and new rubber edging was installed. This included two judges' chambers, the jury deliberation room, hallway and elevator.
- A new Sienna Maple tree on the courthouse grounds was dedicated to Assistant Judge Elizabeth McSweeney Gretkowski for her 24 years of service to the people of Chittenden County as an Assistant Judge. We held a well-attended ceremony which included her co-workers and family.
- Last year's grounds project was very successful. The grass, trees and plantings took root, the new granite walkways are working well, the county and state flags are flying on the once bare flag poles, and the storm water goes away from the building as planned.
- Probate Clerks' area is working well with a new glassed in area which is an upgrade to security, and an area for the public to sit and fill out paperwork.



- Swearing-in ceremonies were hosted at the county courthouse. People sworn-in for their four-year terms were: Incumbents Gregory Glennon, Probate Judge; Kevin McLaughlin, Sheriff; Sarah George, State's Attorney; Connie Ramsey, Assistant Judge, along with newly elected Suzanne Assistant Judge, Suzanne Brown.
- Second floor conference/witness rooms and hallways were re-painted and rubber edges were installed.
- A new weed whacker was purchased.
- A new elevator cable was installed.
- The public elevator telephone was repaired.
- The public elevator wheels were replaced so the elevator runs much more smoothly now.
- A new condenser motor fan to the HVAC was purchased and installed.
- A new combustion air fan to the HVAC was purchased and installed.
- The Audio / Visual in one zone in the fire alarm panels was replaced.
- Rubber ramps were installed in the doorways of the Passport area and Employee Break room. This is a help to handicapped users of the court as well as its' vendors.
- The outside handicapped cement entrance was repaired at no cost to the county.
- Air handling units one and two, and duct work to the combustion unit was cleaned.
- The deal we researched and negotiated with Unified Parking Partners continues to be beneficial to the County. This enables us to offer parking in the county parking lot to the public during non-working hours. This deal has increased the County revenue by an extra \$2-4,000 a month, and has been advantageous to the community by providing downtown parking, while not affecting the employees of the building's parking.
- The parking lot deal is especially timely because we have no longer been getting revenue from Notaries as of December 1st, 2018. The Secretary of State has taken over these duties, as well as the income.
- One-time, annual maintenance duties were performed. These include outside window washing, slate floor protective sealant application and jetting of water and sewer lines, and steam cleaning of carpets.



County Sheriff's Building, 70 Ethan Allen Drive, South Burlington, VT
Fiscal year, February 1, 2019 to January 31, 2020.



- Installed a new kitchen; including microwave, counter tops, cupboards, sink, trash, recycling, and coffee maker.



- A tree split on the property and was removed.
- A large number of old documents were sorted through and shredded.
- A new file server was added.
- The hot water heater was repaired.
- The floor was repaired.
- The floors were waxed and coated.
- Performed window maintenance.
- Steam cleaned the carpets in the spring and fall.
- Added new plants to the perennial gardens on grounds. These gardens continue to beautify the grounds while saving money to the county on planting annuals.

Respectfully Submitted,

Connie Ramsey & Suzanne Brown
Assistant Judges, Chittenden County