

Seneca Falls board votes to sue town ZBA

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SENECA FALLS — Following a 100-minute closed-door session Tuesday night, the Town Board voted to sue the town Zoning Board of Appeals over a recent decision regarding a downtown building.

The board takes issue with the ZBA's decision to grant a variance to the owner of The Arcade Building at 81-83 Fall St., allowing it to have up to eight apartments.

Board member Emil Bove made a motion to direct Supervisor Donald Earle to hire attorney Steven Getman of the Franklin & Gabriel Law Firm in Ovid to take legal action challenging the ZBA's Oct. 25 decision.

Getman would be paid \$110 per hour.

Town officials said the ZBA erred in granting the area variance to owner Jack Pross to convert the building, saying eight apartments is too many and there would not be sufficient parking for tenants.

Town Attorney Patrick Morrell said he cannot represent the Town Board or the ZBA. He said it is not known who will represent the ZBA in the litigation, which will be filed in Seneca County Court.

An Ithaca developer, Basil Vlahos, wants to buy the building from Pross and convert it to apartments on the building's four floors.