

# Palm Beach Daily News

---

## Rampells win lawsuit against town for rejecting their modern house

By Aleese Kopf

Posted Sep 4, 2016 at 12:01 AM

Updated Sep 4, 2016 at 9:39 PM

The Town Council was wrong in blocking a Palm Beach couple's plans to build a modern-style house in the North End, a court ruled Friday.

Attorney Paul Rampell and his wife, Rita, have won their lawsuit filed in November in Palm Beach County Circuit Court asking a judge to overturn the council's reversal of the Architectural Commission's approval of the contemporary single family home at 237 Ridgeview Drive.

"The court finds that the Town Council departed from the essential requirements of law by applying an incorrect standard of review," the opinion read.

The ruling said the council applied a "de novo" standard of review — meaning members based their decision on new evidence — as opposed to a "first-tier certiorari" review — meaning they only considered facts that were part of the ARCOM record.

The commission voted 4-3 to approve the house design last August. Resident William Cooley appealed the decision, which the council granted two months later.

*Please check back for updates on this story.*

