

**VILLAGE OF CHAGRIN FALLS  
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COUNCIL  
April 25, 2022**

Members present: DeBernardo, Grube, Drum, Rockey, Rogoff, Subel, Corkran  
Also present: Mayor Tomko, Lannon, Jamieson

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Erinn Grube.

Ms. Grube gave a brief overview of the project to-date before hearing comments from the audience.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS ON THE INITIAL DESIGN FOR THE RIVERSIDE PARK PLAYGROUND**

Craig Bauman, 46 E. Orange St., questioned if the Village would have to replace the rubberized surface, as it has half the expected life span of the playground. Mr. Mayor expressed that there are still unknowns and he cannot give an answer at this time. Ms. Grube shared that the rubberized surface is able to be repaired and they hope to be able to extend the life span with proper care and repairs.

Tara Martin, 60 Tartan Ct., shared that she likes the design very much and thinks that it is a unique design that will be a good addition to the Village.

Linda Schuster, 92 W. Washington St., is concerned with the amount of money being put into a new playground. She shared that she personally finds the design to be more “Colorado” and not at all a good fit for Chagrin Falls. She also expressed concerns with the enclosed spaces and worries that teenagers will use that space in irresponsible ways. Ms. Schuster shared that she strongly believes this money would be better put towards the fire station project as it is more important in her opinion.

Janine Bauman, 46 E. Orange St., questioned if someone would compile comments from all platforms for the designer to reference, as to have a wider view of comments and concerns from the community. Ms. Bauman also shared concerns for the enclosed spaces and what types of activities may go on in those spaces after dark. She is appalled by cost and also does not like the idea of getting rid of gathering areas for people to sit near the playground.

Larry Blaustein, 603 N. Main St., expressed that in his opinion, rubberized surfacing is a must!

Aaron Emig, 246 S. Franklin St., shared that he does not frequent the current playground much anymore due to the fact that other surrounding communities have playgrounds that are more entertaining to his children. His family is very excited about the new design and finds that it fits well with the park area.

Chelsea Whitman-Rush, 49 W. Washington St., shared that her older children are no longer

interested in the current playground, but they are excited for the upgrade that many age groups will be able to enjoy.

Mara Garcia, 429 Bentleyville Rd., shared that her family also does not spend much time at the current playground because it is not interesting to her kids. Her family is very excited about the new design and they think it is a unique design that will be a good fit for the town.

Chrissy Sukec, 270 N. Main St., expressed concern with the amount of money being put into the playground. She asked if money is being spent on this project, what other projects are being overlooked? Ms. Grube shared that at this time, her fund-raising group feels comfortable in their ability to raise the funds needed for this project.

Tara Martin, 60 Tartan Ct., shared that she is very excited for the separation of age groups in this new playground design as she is a mom of a 1-year-old, 4-year-old, 7-year-old, 10-year-old, and 13-year-old.

The meeting adjourned at 7:29 p.m.



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Erinn Grube, Council President  
MNM